



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 11 December, 2007

1. The House met at 10.45 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read Prayers.
2. Message:
Mr Deputy Speaker read a Message from the President, Commander-in-Chief, Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

PRES/134

December 7, 2007

Rt. Honourable Oladimeji Bankole,
Honourable Speaker,
House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.

Exc and dear brother,

**RE: ICJ JUDGEMENT: THE GREEN TREE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NIGERIA AND CAMEROON**

You may kindly note that having subscribed to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, Nigeria became duty bound to respect its judgment of 10th October, 2002 which confers the sovereignty of Cameroon over the Bakassi Peninsula.

Similarly, recall that in furtherance of that, and, as a responsible member of the Committee of Nations as directed by International Law and procedure, Nigeria entered into the Green Tree Agreement with Cameroon on the modalities of implementation of that judgment. A copy of the Agreement and all relevant appendices were then forwarded to the National Assembly for the necessary ratification as permitted by law. However, it has been observed that, the immediate past National Assembly could not actualize that.

Consequently, and in furtherance to the letter and request under reference, I am again forwarding the Agreement and the necessary attachments to you for ratification and appropriate action as demanded by the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Please accept the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Best Regards,

(Signed)

UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA

Copy to:

- *Secretary to the Government of the Federation*
- *Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs*
- *Hon. Minister of Justice & Attorney-General of the Federation*
- *H.E. The Governor of Cross River State.*

Announcements:

(i) Bereavements:

Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House of the following deaths:

- (a) The wife of Hon. Goni Bukar, a Member representing Busari/Geidam/Yunusari Federal Constituency;
- (b) Mrs Josephine Akuezu Onyejeocha, mother-in-law of Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha, which occurred on Monday, 10 December, 2007. She was aged 94 years, burial arrangements would be announced by the family later;

(ii) Obituary:

- (a) Late Chief Sunday Bolorunduro Awoniyi, the Chairman of Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) which occurred on Wednesday, 29 November, 2007. The celebration of the final funeral rites would take place on Saturday, 15 December, 2007 in his home town Mopa in Mopamuro Local Government Area of Kogi State;
- (b) HRH Eze Stephen Ikpoku Alete, Eze Rundele N'Ogbo 1 (NE-NEW-EU RUNDELE), Member House of Representatives (*Ikwerre/Etche Federal Constituency*) 1979 - 1983 which occurred on Saturday, 3 November, 2007;
- (c) HRH King H. M. J. Wachukwu, Member House of Representatives (*Ukwa Federal Constituency*) 1979 - 1983, he was aged 92 years. He would be buried on Friday, 14 December, 2007 at his home town, Umukalu Asa, Ukwa West Local Government Area, Abia State.

Prayers were rendered for the repose of the souls of the deceased by Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume and Hon. Igochukwu N. Aguma.

(iii) Assets Declaration:

Mr Deputy Speaker announced that Hon. Members who had not yet declared their Assets and Liabilities with the Code of Conduct Bureau as required by law to do so without further delay, because failure to comply would lead to prosecution.

Petitions:

Two petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

- (i) Hon. John Kalipa (*Okrika/Ogu/bolo Federal Constituency*), from Barr. Lekie Victor Gima, praying the House to intervene and cause the Philippines Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Massaranga R. Umpa to pay him the Professional legal fee and grant other reliefs sought therein;
- (ii) Hon. H. S. Dickson (*Ekeremor/Sagbama Federal Constituency*), from King Cadbury George Omich (Igoni XXI), the Amanyanabo of Old Odioama Kingdom, praying the House to urge the Bayelsa State Government to implement the recommendations of the Judicial Commission of Enquiry which it set up and grant other reliefs sought therein.

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Maternal New Born and Child Welfare Health Services Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*;
- (ii) Revolving Loans Fund for Industry (Amendment) Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*;
- (iii) Nigerian Children Trust Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*;
- (iv) Animal Health and Husbandry Technologist Registration, etc. Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*;
- (v) Tobacco Smoking (Control) Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*;
- (vi) National Assembly Budget and Research Office Bill, 2007 — *Read the First Time*.

6. Virement of the sum of Two Billion Naira (₦2,000,000,000.00) for the Nigerian Army:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes, the request by the Nigerian Army to vire the sum of ₦2 Billion from the 2007 Capital Budget meant for the procurement of floating foldable Bridge for use in the purchase of life saving items;

Further notes, the necessity of this virement to enable the Army procure floating foldable Bridge for use in the purchase of life saving items;

Resolves:

That the total sum of ₦2 Billion be vired by the Nigerian Army from its Capital Budget pursuant to Section 3 of the 2007 Appropriation Act (*Hon. Festus A. Adegoke and 5 Others*).

Debate:

Question that the Virement be made, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted, the request by the Nigerian Army to vire the sum of N2 Billion from the 2007 Capital Budget meant for the procurement of floating foldable Bridge for use in the purchase of life saving items;

Further noted, the necessity of this virement to enable the Army procure floating foldable Bridge for use in the purchase of life saving items;

Resolved:

That the total sum of ₦2 Billion be vired by the Nigerian Army from its Capital Budget pursuant to Section 3 of the 2007 Appropriation Act (**HR. 20/2007**).

7. Virement of the sum of Fifteen Million Naira (₦15,000,000.00) for the National Human Rights Commission:

Motion made and Question proposed,

The House:

Notes, the request by the National Human Rights Commission to vire the sum of ₦15,000,000.00 (Fifteen Million Naira) being excess from Personnel Cost to Capital Allocation in the 2007 Budget;

Further notes, the necessity of this virement to enable the Commission purchase operational vehicles and computers for its investigative and advocacy work;

Resolves:

That the total sum of ₦15,000,000.00 (Fifteen Million Naira) be vired by the National Human Rights Commission from its Personnel Cost pursuant to Section 3 of the 2007 Appropriation Act (*Hon. Festus A.*

Debate:

Amendment request not in conformity with extant Financial Regulations.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Value Added Tax Act, 2003; and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2007 — Third Reading:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Value Added Tax Act, 2003; and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2007 be now read the Third Time (*Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie*)."

Question that the Bill be now read the Third Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

9. **Consideration of Reports:**

(i) **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Certain Political, Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries and Allowances, etc.) Act, 2002 and Other Matters Connected Therein, 2007.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider a Bill for an Act to Amend the Certain Political, Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries and Allowances, etc.) Act, 2002 and Other Matters Connected therein, 2007 (*Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie*)."

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE CERTAIN POLITICAL, PUBLIC AND JUDICIAL OFFICE HOLDERS (SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES, ETC.) ACT, 2002 AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREIN, 2007

Debate:

Consideration deferred.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole deferred Consideration of the Bill for an Act to Amend the Certain Political, Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries and Allowances, etc.) Act, 2002 and Other Matters Connected therein, 2007 till the next Legislative Day.

(ii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

(a) **Report on the Petition by Mr Kayode Hambolu:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Kayode Hambolu against Sageto Limited and approve the Recommendation therein (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*)."

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation:

Following the full settlement of the petitioner's disengagement benefits, the Committee on Public Petitions considers the subject matter closed (*Hon. C. I. D. Maduabum*).

Amendment Proposed:

In line 1, immediately after the word "benefits", leave out the words "the Committee on Public Petitions" and insert the words "the House" instead thereof (*Hon. Ita Enang*).

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Kayode Hambolu against Sageto Limited and approved the Recommendation as amended.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole, put and agreed to.

(b) Report on the Petition by Dr. V. E. Osayande:

Motion made and Question proposed. "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Dr V. E. Osayande against Federal Ministry of Health (*Hon. C. I. D. Madiabum*).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

Dr V. E. Osayande be recalled to the Service of the Federal Ministry of Health (*Hon. C. I. D. Madiabum*).

Question put and negatived.

Recommendation (ii):

Dr V. E. Osayande be demoted by one grade level (*Hon. C. I. D. Madiabum*).

Consequentially negatived.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in the Committee of Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Dr V. E. Osayande against the Federal Ministry of Health and rejected Recommendations (i) and (ii).

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole, put and agreed to.

10. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Wednesday, 12 December, 2007 at 2.00 p.m. (*Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1.17 p.m.

Usman Bayero Nafada
Deputy Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 29 November, 2007:

On page 198, paragraph 3 (d), immediately after the Memo from the Clerk to the National Assembly on Procedure for Virement, *insert* the following letter containing the directive on the subject-matter from the



The Secretary To The Government Of The Federation
The Presidency
Federal Republic of Nigeria
Federal Secretariat
Abuja.

Reference: CM.181/T/1

20th November, 2007

*Alhaji Nasir Arab,
Clerk to the National Assembly,
National Assembly,
Three-Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Sir,

APPROVAL FOR VIREMENT BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

As you are aware, it has been the practice for approval for virement by the National Assembly to be conveyed to the Ministries, Departments and Agencies by a letter jointly signed by the Chairmen of the appropriate Senate and House Committees. Government has reviewed the whole process of securing virement from the National Assembly and found the current procedure unsatisfactory especially within the context of due process and the rule of law.

Consequently, henceforth, only virement approval letters carrying the signature of the Clerk to the National Assembly would be acceptable and considered valid. Similarly, all requests to the National Assembly for virement by MDAs are to be conveyed to the Clerk to the National Assembly through the Federal Ministry of Finance.

Warm regards.

(Signed)

*Ambassador Baba Gana Kingibe
Secretary to the Government of the Federation.*