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**Tuesday
28th April, 2009**

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FOURTH REPUBLIC

THIRD ASSEMBLY (SIXTH SENATE)

SECOND SESSION

THE SENATE OFFICIAL REPORT

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**SENATE OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

Tuesday 28th April, 2009

The Senate met at 10.35 a.m.

PRAYERS

(The President in the Chair)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The President: Distinguished Senators, we have the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 23rd April, 2009 before us for approval: Pages 663, 664, 665, 666, 667.

Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe (Abia South): Mr. President, I most respectfully move the Motion that the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 23rd April, 2009 be approved.

Senator Satty Davis Gogwim (Plateau Central): Mr. President, I rise to second the Motion ably moved by Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe that the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 23rd April, 2009 be approved.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 23rd April, 2009 be approved.

MESSAGE FROM MR. PRESIDENT

I have several letters from Mr. President. The first one reads thus:

*Distinguished Senator David Mark,
Dear Brother,*

AMBASSADORIAL NOMINEE

In accordance with Section 171(1)(c) and (4) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I have the honour to forward the nomination of Professor Tunde Adeniran, for the kind consideration of the Senate for Ambassadorial appointment. A photocopy of his Curriculum Vitae is attached herewith.

It is my hope that this would receive the usual prompt attention of the distinguished Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Yours sincerely,

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(Signed)

Umaru Musa Shehu Yar'Adua

ANNOUNCEMENT

**Special Mass for Roman Catholic Sectors and
other Senior Public Officers**

This is a letter from Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba (SAN) and it reads:

There would a Special Mass for Roman Catholic Senators and other Senior Public Officers, by the Catholic Archbishop of Abuja, Reverend Dr. John Oniyakan, at the Church of Assumption, Asokoro, on Wednesday, 29th April, 2009 at 7.00 pm.

All Catholic Senators are enjoined to attend and punctually, too.

(Signed)

Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba (SAN)
Deputy Senate Leader.

Meeting of PDP Caucus

There would be a meeting of the Caucus of the largest Party in Africa (PDP) in Senate Hearing Room 1, immediately after Plenary Session this morning.

(Signed)

Senator Teslim Folarin (OFR)
Senate Leader

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

Confirmation of Nomination

Senator Teslim Folarin (Oyo Central): Mr. President, the first Order of the Day is a Motion requesting this Senate to consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief, for the confirmation of the nomination of Basorun Jonathan Oladele Awofisayo, Osun State, as a member in the Federal Character Commission (FCC), in accordance with Section 154(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The purpose of this Motion in the Order Paper is for the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria be referred to the relevant Committee for further legislative action.

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I move that the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief, for the confirmation of the nomination of Bashorun Jonathan Oladele Awofisayo, Osun State, as a member of the Federal Character Commission (FCC) in accordance with Section 154(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Senator Adeleke Mamowora (Lagos West): Mr. Senate President, I rise to second the Motion that the request of Mr. President regarding the confirmation of the nomination of the candidate be referred as appropriate.

Question put and agreed to.

The request is hereby referred to the Committee on Federal Character Commission to report back in a week's time.

Request of Mr. President accordingly considered and referred to the Committee on Federal Character Commission to report back in a week's time.

Senator Teslim Kolawole Folarin: Mr. President, we still have the issue of outstanding Reports from our Committee. As you know, we are coming to the end of another legislative year and there is need for us to finish work on some of those Reports. For this reason, I want to move that we step down other items on the Order Paper; and suspend Plenary Session for today to enable the Committees complete work on those outstanding reports.

Senator Adeleke Olorunnimbe Mamowora (Lagos East): Mr. Senate President, pursuant to the reasons adduced by the Senate Leader, which I fully associate myself with, I hereby second the Motion and I do agree that this Plenary Session be suspended.

The President: Sorry, before I put the Question, actually there are quite a number of reports that are actually hanging with Committees; we would like to get them back as quickly as possible, please.

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There are some few Committee Members who were asked to complete their assignments so that we can get as many of them back as possible this week.

Senator Mamowora, I found that the AC Senators are not around. Are they still in Ekiti? Are they not back? They should have all come back from Ekiti by now.

Senator Mamowora: Mr. Senate President, no AC Senator was sighted in Ekiti for any reason, except during the campaign (*Interruptions*). I said, except during the campaign not during the election.

The President: All right the PDP Senators from Ekiti are also not here. I think they are tidying up the papers there. I put the Question on the suspension of the remaining items on the Order Paper.

Question put and agreed to.

By leave of the Senate, remaining items on the Order Paper suspended to enable Committee Members complete their respective Committee assignments.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Teslim Kolawole Folarin: Mr. President, I now move that this Senate do now adjourn till tomorrow Wednesday, 29th April, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. prompt.

Senator Olorunnimbe Mamowora: Mr. Senate President, I rise to second the Motion that this Senate do adjourn till tomorrow Wednesday, 29th April, 2009 at 10.00 a.m.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the Senate do adjourn till Wednesday, 29th April, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. prompt.

The Senate adjourned accordingly at 10.50 a.m.