

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

Wednesday, 3rd June, 2009

The House met at 2.40 p.m.

PRAYERS

(The Speaker in the Chair)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Hon. Akogun Tunde (Akoko-Edo): I move that the House do resolve into Executive Session.

Hon. Shehu Baba Agie (Agai/Lapai): I second the Motion moved by the House Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the House do resolve into Executive Session.

Sitting suspended: 2.40 p.m.

Sitting resumed: 4.00 p.m.

(The Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Deputy Speaker: I have examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 2nd June 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Deputy Speaker: *Hon. Members are, please, informed that copies of the Report of Justice Uwais Electoral Reform Committee in two Volumes are available for distribution.*

Members are advised to pick up their copies at the Sergeant-at-Arms Desk in the Chamber or from the Secretary, Rules and Business Committee in Committee Room 6, White House.

(Signed)

*Hon. Ita Enang,
Chairman,
Committee on Rules and Business*

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC PETITIONS

The Deputy Speaker: Any Member who has a Petition to present to the House may, please, rise to do so.

**Unjust Termination of Appointment by the
Nigeria Export Promotion Council**

Hon. Olugbenga Onigbogi (Atakumosa East/Atakumosa West/Ilesa): Mr. Speaker, I have a Petition from a constituent of mine by name Mr. Aggrey Akinyemi Ajayi.

His appointment was terminated by the Nigeria Export Promotion Council for not advising the Chief Executive to travel abroad and he said that the matter was not referred to him. Notwithstanding this matter, his appointment was terminated and he is asking this House to, please, look into his matter, reinstate him and do justice to his case.

With your kind permission, I will present the Petition on the Table.

Petition laid.

**Unjust Cancellation of Licence by the
Ministry of Interior**

Hon. Sam-Tsokwa Albert Tanimu (Donga/Ussa/Takum): Mr. Speaker, I have a Petition from the National Unity and Peace Corps.

The National Unity and Peace Corps was founded in 1987. In 1992 it was registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission under the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA).

In 2008 the Hon. Minister of Interior, General Godwin Abbe in a military-like fashion purported to cancel the registration of this corporate body. The Corps has under it fifteen thousand trained corporers. All efforts by the Corps to dialogue with the Minister has been met with the Minister's rebuff

The Corp has, therefore, through its Commandant-General, Professor Humphrey Ogoigbenam, two Assistant Commandants-General, a National Trustee petitioned the National Assembly seeking the intervention of the National Assembly because they feel that the Minister does not have the power to revoke their registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission and having purportedly revoked it the Minister has not given them room to operate. That is why they are seeking the intervention of the House of Representatives.

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With your kind permission, Mr. Speaker, may I lay the Petition on the Table?

Petition laid.

The Deputy Speaker: The Petitions are referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

(Petitions accordingly referred to the Committee on Public Petitions)

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on the End-of-Year Report on the Millennium Development Goals

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the first Business of the Day is the Presentation of the Report of the Committee on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on the End-of-Year Report on the Millennium Development Goals.

Hon. Saudatu Sani is invited to move the Motion.

Hon. Saudatu Sani (Lere): Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do receive the End of Year Report of the House Committee on Millennium Development Goals.

Hon. Friday Itulah (Esan North /South East): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion moved by the Chairman of the MDG Committee.

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

Privileges of the Floor

The Deputy Speaker: The first Order of the Day is a Motion pursuant to Order XV, Rule 9(1) of our Standing Orders that this House do consent to the admission of Former Presiding Officers, Principal Officers of Post-Independence Nigeria and Former Members of the House of Representatives from 1999 to 2007 into the Chamber to mark the end of Second Session of the 3rd National Assembly on Thursday 4th June, 2009 standing in the name of Hon. Tunde Akogun.

Hon. Akogun is invited to move the Motion

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Hon. Tunde Akogun (Akoko Edo): Mr. Speaker, this Motion is coming with slight Amendment on what has appeared on the Order Paper. The Motion reads thus:

That this House pursuant to Order XV, Rule 9(1) do consent to the admission of former Presiding Officers, Principal Officers of Post-Independence Nigeria and former Members of the House of Representatives from 1979 to 2007 and Speakers from State Houses of Assembly, be admitted into the Chamber to mark the end of the Second Session of the 3rd National Assembly on Thursday, 4th June, 2009.

I so move.

Hon. Halima Hassan Tukur (Yauri/Shanga/Ngaski): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion moved by our Leader.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, I do not think this is a matter for debate. So, I will put the Question straightaway that we admit our former Colleagues into the Chamber tomorrow.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That this House pursuant to Order XV, Rule 9(1) do consent to the admission of former Presiding Officers, Principal Officers of Post-Independence Nigeria and former Members of the House of Representatives from 1979 to 2007 and Speakers from State Houses of Assembly, be admitted into the Chamber to mark the end of the Second Session of the 3rd National Assembly on Thursday, 4th June, 2009.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

National Agricultural Development Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2009

A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agricultural Development Fund and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 (HB.126) -

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the second Order of the Day is the third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agricultural Development Fund and Matters Connected Therewith, 2009. Hon. Members would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill on Thursday 14th May, 2009.

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I therefore call on the Leader of the House to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Speaker, I move that a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agricultural Development Fund and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be read the Third Time.

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: I rise to second the Motion moved by my Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

Full Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Society and National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (Establishment) Bills, 2009

A Bill for an Act to Ensure Full Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Society and to Establish a National Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Vest it with the Responsibilities for their Education, Healthcare and the Protection of their Social, Economic, Civil and Political Right, 2009 (HB. 37 and 46)

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The third Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Ensure Full Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Society and to Establish a National Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Vest it with the Responsibilities for their Education, Healthcare and the Protection of their Social, Economic, Civil and Political Right, 2009,

Hon Members would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, 5th May 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Speaker, I rise to move that a Bill of an Act to Ensure Full Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Society and to Establish a National Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Vest it with the Responsibilities for their Education, Healthcare and the Protection of their Social, Economic, Civil and Political Right, 2009 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Binta Masi Garba (Madagali/Michika): I rise to second the Bill moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

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Hydroelectric Power Producing Area Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2008

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Hydroelectric Power Producing Area Development Commission and Vest it with the responsibility of Managing the Ecological menace due to Operation Matters 2008 (HB. 160) -

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon Members, the fourth Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Establish the Hydroelectric Power Producing Area Development Commission and Vest it with the responsibility of Managing the Ecological menace due to Operation Matters, 2008.

Hon. Members would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill of Thursday, 14th May 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: I move that A Bill for Act to Establish the Hydroelectric Power Producing Area Development Commission and to Vest it with the responsibility of Managing the Ecological menace due to Operational Matters 2008 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: I rise to second the Motion moved by the House Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2007

A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria for the Strategic Planning and Co-ordination of National Policies in the Field of Climate Change and Energy and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 -

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The fifth Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria for the Strategic Planning and Co-ordination of National Policies in the Field of Climate Change and Energy and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008.

Hon. Members will recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill

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on Thursday, 28th May, 2009. I therefore call on the Leader of the House to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Speaker, I move that a Bill for An Act to Establish the National Climate Change Commission of Nigeria for the Strategic

Planning and Co-ordination of National Policies in the Field of Climate Change and Energy and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Nkiruka Onyejeocha (Isuikwuato/Umunneochi): I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

**National Agricultural Seeds Council Act, 1992
(Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2008**

A Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-Enact the National Agricultural Seeds Council Act, 1992 and for Other Related Matters, 2008 –

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The sixth Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the National Agricultural Seeds Council Act, 1992 and for other Related Matters, 2008.

Hon. Members would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill on Thursday, 21st May, 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon Tunde Akogun: I move that a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-Enact the National Agricultural Seeds Council Act, 1992 and for Other Related Matters 2008 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Gbenga Peter Mekanjuola (Ekiti/Isin/Irepodun/Oke-Ero): I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

**Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service
(Establishment) Bill, 2008**

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A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service and Matters Connected therewith 2008 (HB. 125) –

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The seventh Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for An Act to Establish the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service

and Matters Connected Therewith, 2008.

Hon. Members will recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill on Thursday, 19th May, 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: I move that a Bill for An Act to Establish the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service and Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Ike Chinwo (Obio/Akpor): I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

**National Primary Healthcare Development
Agency Act, 1997 (Amendment) Bill, 2008**

A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency Act, 1992 No. 29 and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 (HB. 134) –

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The eighth Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency Act, 1992 No. 29 and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008.

Hon. Members will recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill on Tuesday, 26th May, 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: I rise to move that a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency, Act 1992 No. 29 and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 be now read the Third Time.

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Hon. Halima Hassan Tukur (Yauri/Shanga/Ngaski): I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

**National Programme on Immunisation Act, 1997
(Repeal) and Transfer of Functions to the National
Primary Health Care Development
Agency Bill, 2008**

A Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Programme on Immunisation Act, 1997 and Transfer the Functions of the National Programme on Immunisation to the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 (HB. 133) –

Order for Third Reading.

The Deputy Speaker: The ninth Order of the Day is the Third Reading of a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Programme on Immunisation Act, 1997 and Transfer the Functions of the National Programme on Immunisation to the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009.

Hon. Members would recall that the House adopted the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill on Tuesday, 26th May, 2009. I therefore call on the Leader to move that the Bill be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Tunde Akogun: I move that a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Programme on Immunisation Act, 1997 and Transfer the Functions of the National Programme on Immunisation to the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2009 be now read the Third Time.

Hon. Rufus Omeire (Ideato North/Ideato South): I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

**Report of the Committee on Water Resources
on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basins
Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.)
Act, 2008**

The Deputy Speaker: The tenth Order of the Day is the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Water Resources on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Act to provide for the Establishment of the Lower Anambra and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and list same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters, 2008.

Hon. Members would recall that the Report was laid on Wednesday, 20th May, 2009.

I now invite Hon. Terngu Tsegba to move for the consideration of the Report.

Hon. Terngu Tsegba: I rise to move that this House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Act; to provide for the Establishment of the Lower Anambra and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and list same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters, 2008 and approve the Recommendations therein.

Hon. Peter Linus Umoh (Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruk): I rise to second the Motion moved by Hon. Tsegba.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That this House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Act; to provide for the Establishment of the Lower Anambra and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and list same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters, 2008 and approve the Recommendations therein.

**Federal Capital Territory Water Board
(Establishment) Bill, 2009**

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ita Enang, are you the sponsor of the second Report?

Hon. Ita Enang: It is the Committee of Whole.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Binta Garba, are you ready with your Report?

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Hon. Binta Masi Garba: I am ready but I do not know if my Colleagues are ready.

Report of the Joint Committee on Women Affairs and Youth Development on National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependant Children etc (Establishment) Bill, 2008

The Deputy Speaker: The twelfth Order of the Day is consideration of the Report of the Joint Committee on Women Affairs and Youth Development on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependant Children and Orphans and to provide for Other Matters Relating Thereto, 2008 standing in the name of Hon. Binta Masi Garba.

Hon. Members would recall that the Report was laid on Tuesday, 26th May 2009. I now invite Hon. Masi to move for the consideration of the Report.

Hon. Binta Masi Garba: I rise to move that this House do consider the Report of the Joint Committee on Women Affairs and Youth Development on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependant Children and Orphans and to provide for Other Matters Relating Thereto, 2008.

Abubakar Shehu Bunu (Bungudu/Maru): I rise to second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That this House do consider the Report of the Joint Committee on Women Affairs and Youth Development on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependant Children and Orphans and to provide for Other Matters Relating Thereto, 2008

Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management on National Institute of Credit Administration (Establishment), Bill 2008

The Deputy Speaker: The fourteenth Order of the Day is consideration of the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Institute of Credit Administration and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008.

Hon. Members would recall that the Report was laid on 26th May, 2009. I now invite Hon. Abubakar Abdullaziz Yari, to move for the consideration of the Report.

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Hon. Abdullaziz Yari Abubakar (Anka/Talata Megena): I rise to move that this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Institute of Credit Administration and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 and approve the Recommendations therein.

Hon. Friday Itulah (Esan North East/South East): I rise to second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Institute of Credit Administration and for Matters Connected Therewith, 2008 and approve the Recommendations therein.

Report of the Committee on Communications on: Registration of Mobile Telephone Lines for Security Reasons Bill 2008

The Deputy Speaker: The fifteenth Order of the Day is the consideration of the Report of the House Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to provide for the Registration of Mobile Telephone Lines for Security Reasons and for Matters Related Thereto, 2008.

Hon. Members would recall that the Report was laid on 12th May 2009. I now invite Hon. Dave Salako or any Member of the Committee to move for the consideration of the Report.

Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari (Yabo/Shagari): I rise to move that this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Registration of Mobile Telephone Lines for Security Reasons and for Matters Related Thereto 2008.

Hon. Leonard Okuweh Ogor: I rise to second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Registration of Mobile Telephone Lines for Security Reasons and for Matters Related Thereto 2008.

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Hon. Tunde Akogun (Akoko Edo): Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider these Reports.

Hon. Shehu Baba Agaie (Agaie/ Lapai): I rise to second the Motion that this House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider these Reports.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider the Reports.

Report of the Committee on Water Resources on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc) Act; to Provide for the Establishment of Lower Anambra and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and List same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters, 2008 - CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The Chairman: The first Report is on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the River Basins Development Authorities (Establishment, etc) Act; to provide for the Establishment of Lower Anambra and

Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and List same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters Cap. R9, LFN, 2004.

Clause 1 - (ESTABLISHMENT, ETC. OF RIVER BASINS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES) –

Question proposed.

Hon. Ahmed Njidda Gella (Miaha/Mubi North/Mubi South): I have observation to make on the creation of the two New River Basins because existing twelve River Basins have been selected for privatisation. I believe we should also include these two river basins into the law. Otherwise, it will come as a separate Amendment.

Hon. Terngu Tsegba: The mere fact that something is slated for privatisation would not stop this House from making its own laws. The Lower Anambra River Basin is being created to cater for other States in the South East. There is only one River Basin catering for the whole five States in the South East for now.

The Upper Niger River Basin was created by mere fiat by the regime of General Babangida; it was not brought in conformity with the law. There is an existing office that people were appointed into but it is not listed

in the Schedule to this Act. So hon. Members, we are not creating Upper Niger River Basin but rather bringing it to be in conformity with the Act.

The Chairman: What Hon. Tsegba is saying is that we should include these two in the First Schedule of the River Basin Authority Act. We have twelve already in the River Basin Authority Act. With this addition they will become thirteen because the Lower Niger is not in the Schedule.

Clause 1 – (ESTABLISHMENT, ETC. OF RIVER BASINS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES) – ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 2 - (MEMBERSHIP OF EACH AUTHORITY)

Question proposed.

Hon. Leo O. Ogor (Isoko North/Isoko South): When you look at Clause 2, it says amendment of Section 2(1) by deleting the words *General Manager* and by inserting the word *Managing*. I do not know whether he was trying to talk about Managing Director or not. When I put the word into that position, it did not really make any meaning.

The Chairman: Let us hear from Hon. Tsegba.

Hon. Terngu Tsegba: Mr Chairman, if you look at the Third Column which is the Committee's Recommendation, we have adequately provided for the Managing Director.

Clause 2 – (MEMBERSHIP OF EACH AUTHORITY) – ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 3 – (TENURE OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF EACH AUTHORITY) – ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 4 - (FUNCTIONS OF EACH AUTHORITY)

Question proposed.

Hon. Ita Enang: There is something fundamental in paragraph 1. It says: *River Basin Development Authorities (Establishment, etc.) Decree No. 35 of 1987*. There is no such law.

Wherever it appears, we should change it to read: *River Basin Development Authorities Act*.

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Hon. Binta Masi Garba: I think it will be better to leave the Decree the way it is and probably create a Column and say *an Act*.

The Chairman: Hon. Binta Garba, all the Decrees have been changed to Act as soon as the 1999 Constitution came into force.

Hon. Binta Masi Garba: We heard all the Decrees have been changed to Acts but if someone wants to lay his or her hand on such an Act, where does he go?

Hon. Ita Enang: There was no River Basin Act, 1987. It was River Basin Authorities Act, 1990 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria. It is now River Basin Development Authorities Act, 2004 and that is the body of laws that is on the Table before us.

The Chairman: I believe it is clear to Hon. Binta.

Clause 4 – (FUNCTIONS OF EACH AUTHORITY) – as amended ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 5 – (RESTRICTION ON ACQUISITION OF LAND, ETC) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 6 – (STAFF OF EACH AUTHORITY) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 7 – (POWERS OF MINISTER TO GIVE DIRECTIONS) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 8 – FUND OF EACH AUTHORITY) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 9 – (ANNUAL ESTIMATES, ACCOUNT AND AUDIT) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 10 – (ANNUAL REPORTS) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 11 – (REPEALS) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 12 – (INTERPRETATION) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 13 – (SHORT TITLE) - ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 14 – ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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Short Title – (THIS ACT MAY BE CITED AS THE RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ESTABLISHMENT, ETC. (AMENDMENT) BILL) – agreed to.

Schedule – (LIST OF RIVER BASINS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES) – agreed to.

Schedule 2 – (PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUTHORITIES) – agreed to.

EXPLANATORY NOTES – *agreed to.*

Long Title – (A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE RIVER BASINS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (ESTABLISHMENT, ETC) ACT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LOWER ANAMBRA AND UPPER NIGER RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES AND LIST SAME INTO THE FIRST SCHEDULE OF THE ACT AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS, CAP. R.9, LFN, 2004) - agreed to.

Hon. Ita Enang: With respect, I want to refer to page 11. *Subject to the provisions of Section 26 of the Interpretation Act, 1964*, there is no such law.

What the Principal Act provides is better.

The Chairman: What number is that?

Hon. Ita Enang: It is No. 1 - (PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUTHORITIES).

The Chairman: No. 1 of the Proceedings of the Authorities says: *Subject to the provisions of Section 26 of the Interpretation Act, 1964 which provides for decision of a statutory body to be taken by a majority of its members and for the person presiding to have a casting vote, each Authority may make Standing Orders regulating the proceedings of the Authority or any Committee thereof.*

Do you mean 1964 or 2004?

Hon. Ita Enang: No, Sir. We are not amending anything; it is just the Proceedings of the Authorities. Let us accept what is in the Principal Act so that we do not make a mistake.

The Chairman: Is there any objection, hon. Members?

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Question put and agreed to.

Schedule, agreed to.

Hon. Binta Masi Garba: With respect, Mr. Chairman, I have to take you back to Page 5, Section 9(1) of the Principal Act. It says: ANNUAL ESTIMATES, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT.

Each Authority shall submit to the Minister not later than 30th June of each year an estimate of its expenditure and income during the next proceeding year.

I do not think that this is all right especially now that we are talking about our Budget.

The Chairman: Yes. That is what we are talking about.

Hon. Binta Masi Garba: We are in the Second Quarter of the Budget and most of the Ministries have not even accessed their funds. *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Leonard Okuweh Ogor (Isoko North/Isoko South): Point of Order, Mr. Chairman!

The Chairman: What is the point of Order?

Hon. Leonard O. Ogor: Mr. Chairman, it is important that we have to be properly guided and follow

our House Rules. I want to refer Hon. Masi Garba to Order IX, Rule 6 which says:

It shall be out of order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon the substantive motion for recession.

The Chairman: Thank you. Order IX, Rule 6 is sustained.

Hon. Ita Enang: Mr. Chairman, there is a problem. We are repealing the Principal Act by what we have done.

The Chairman: What is the heading?

Hon. Ita Enang: The heading, Explanatory Note, says:

This Act Repeals the River Basin Development Authorities Decree No. 35 of 1987 and establishes the River Basins Development Authorities listed in Schedule 1 thereto.

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That is what we have and that is what the Votes and Proceedings will reflect.

The Chairman: Hon. Ita Enang, the Legal Department will rectify that.

EXPLANATORY NOTE, *agreed to.*

A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council of Public Assistance to Widows, Dependant Children and Orphans and Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto – CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The Chairman: Clause 1 – *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Leonard O. Ogor: Mr. Chairman, with due respect, let me state clearly that this Bill is just being passed to me just as you are reading it. I do not know how to go through this volume. With this volume and the speed at which we are going, why do you not give us today to enable us read this document to be able to contribute effectively in line with Section 4(2) of our Constitution?

Our responsibility is to make good laws for the good governance of our people.

The Chairman: The Order is sustained. Leader, move the Motion that this House do revert to Plenary, please?

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Chairman, I move that the House do revert to Plenary.

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: I second the Motion that the House do revert to Plenary.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the House do revert to Plenary.

(The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair)

The Deputy Speaker: At the Committee of the Whole, the House considered the Report of the Committee on Water Resources on a Bill for an Act to Amend the River Basin Development Authorities (Establishment, etc) Act; to Provide for the Establishment of the Lower Anambra and Upper Niger River Basin Development Authorities and List same into the First Schedule of the Act and for Other Related Matters. The House:

Approved Clauses 1 - 13; and

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Approved the Schedules and

Approved the Long Title.

Adoption of Report

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole.

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: I rise to second the Motion moved by the Leader.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of Whole.

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ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Tunde Akogun: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do stand adjourned till tomorrow Thursday, 4th June, 2009 at 9.45 a.m.

Hon. Shehu Baba Agaie: I rise to second the Motion that the House do stand adjourned till tomorrow Thursday, 4th June, 2009 at 9.45 a.m.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: That the House do stand adjourned till tomorrow Thursday, 4th June 2009 at 9.45 a.m.

The House adjourned accordingly at 4.55 p.m.