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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

Tuesday; 10th March, 2009

The House met at 11.00a.m

PRAYERS

(The Speaker in the Chair)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I have examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 5th March, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passage of Bills

The Speaker: Hon. Colleagues, about Two weeks ago we agreed to facilitate some of our works at Committee stages. As at that time we had passed 21 Bills. I am very impressed and I would want to say that you have all responded in a very quick manner. We have now concluded our work on 33 Bills within a space of two weeks; and I must say that I congratulate you for that.

This week, we have a total of about 13 Public Hearings going on this week which again is also a record. I want to say a big well done to everybody and please keep it up so that we would be able to achieve our targets. I believe most of the Principal Officers are going to head those Public Hearings. You may please feel free to proceed to those Public Hearings.

Emergency Meeting with the Hon. Minister for Health

The Speaker: *All Members of the Committee on MDGs are being called to an emergency meeting with the Minister for Health on issues of maternal and child mortality in Nigeria.*

Date: 10th March, 2009

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Venue: Committee Room 313, New Building, House of Representatives

Signed
Hon. Saudatu Sani
Chairman

Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Constitutional Review

The Speaker: *Hon. Colleagues, there would be a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Constitutional Review today at 4 p.m. in House Hearing Room 1.*

Signed
Hon. CID Maduabum
Chairman

Meeting of the House Committee on Agriculture

The Speaker: *There would be a meeting of the House Committee on Agriculture today, 10th March, 2009 in Committee Room 3, immediately after sitting.*

Signed
Hon. Makanjuola
Chairman

Visit of Students from various Institutions to the National Assembly in observance of the Commonwealth Day

The Speaker: Honourable Members, the following students are in House Hearing Room 1 where the Commonwealth Day is being observed:

Grace International College, Kaduna;
Federal Government Boys College, Abuja;
El-Lamin International College;
Regina Pacis Girls Secondary School, Abuja;

In the Gallery, we have students from Esteem International School, Abuja and Toddlers Heavens and Junior Height School, Abuja.

Please stand up for recognition.

(The students stood for recognition)

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC PETITIONS

The Speaker: Hon. Members, any member that has a Petition to present to the House may rise to do so.

Non-payment of Retirement Benefits

Hon. Olusegun Ogunbanjo (Ajeromi-Ifelodun): Mr. Speaker, this petition is from Mr. Clement Sedie who works with Ministry of Transport. According to him, he was forced on compulsory retirement some time

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in 2006 during the re-organisation of Ministries and up till now he has not been able to lay claim on his retirement benefits, hence this petition.

With your permission, I want to lay the petition on the Table.

The speaker: Please, proceed.

(Petition laid)

The Petition is referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

(Petition accordingly referred to the Committee on Public Petitions)

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

Report on the Petition by Olugbobiri, Tebidaba and Igbomotoru Communities of Bayelsa State against Nigeria AGIP Oil Company

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the first Business of the Day is presentation of Report of the Public Petitions Committee on a Petition by Olugbobiri, Tebidaba and Igbomotoru Communities of Bayelsa State against Nigeria AGIP Oil Company, standing in the name of Hon CID Maduabum.

The Petition was referred to the Committee on Thursday 17th April, 2008. The Report is ready and Hon. CID Maduabum is invited to present the Report.

Hon. CID Maduabum (Nnewi North-South/Ekwusigo): Mr. Speaker, honourable Colleagues, I move that this House do receive the report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on a petition by Olugbobiri, Tebidaba and Igbomotoru Communities of Bayelsa State against the Nigerian AGIP Oil Company.

I so moved.

Hon. Joseph Jaiyeola Ajatta (Oshodi-Isolo II): Mr. Speaker, I would like to second the Motion as moved by Hon. CID Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

(Report laid on the Table)

Report of the Petition against the Joint Task Force of the Nigerian Armed Forces by Odioma Community in Bayelsa State

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The Speaker: The second Business of the Day is presentation of a Report of the Public Petitions Committee by Odioma Community in Bayelsa State against the Joint Task Force of the Nigerian Armed Forces. The Report is standing in the name of Hon. CID Maduabum.

The Petition was referred to the Committee on 12th December, 2007. The report is ready and Hon. Maduabum is invited to present the Report.

Hon. CID Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Odioma Community in Bayelsa State against the Joint Task Force of the Nigerian Armed Forces.

I so moved.

Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola (Ogbomosho North/South/Orire): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion as moved by Hon. CID Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to

(Report laid on the Table)

Report on the Petition by Joinkrama 1 Community, Rivers State

The Speaker: The next Business of the Day is another report ready for presentation by the Public Petitions Committee on a Petition by Joinkrama 1 Community, Rivers State against the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC). The Report is standing in the name of Hon. CID Maduabum.

The Petition was referred to the Committee on the 6th March, 2008. The report is ready and Hon. Maduabum is invited to present the Report.

Hon. CID Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Joinkrama I Community, Rivers State against the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC).

Hon. Umaru Ibrahim Kurfi (Dutsin-Ma/Kurfi): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion moved by Hon. CID Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

(Report laid on the Table)

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**Report of the Committee on the
Petition by Chief Suobo**

The Speaker: This is another report by the Public Petitions Committee on a petition by Chief Suobo against the Nigerian Agip Oil Company standing in the name of Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum. The Report was referred to his Committee on the 12th of April 2008. The Report is ready and Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum is requested to go ahead with his this presentation.

Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum: I move that this House do receive the Report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Chief Suobo against the Nigerian Agip Company.

Hon. Abubakar Shehu Bunu (Bungudu/Maru): I rise to second the Motion ably moved by Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

(Report laid on the Table)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BILLS

**National War College Act (Cap N82) – 2004,
(Amendment) Bill, 2008**

A Bill for an Act to amend the National War College Act (Cap N82) - 2004 to provide for Change of Name to National Defence College and for Matters Connected Purposes, 2008.

Order for Second Reading.

The Speaker: The First Order of the Day is commencement of debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to amend the National War College Act (Cap N82) - 2004 to provide for Change of Name to National Defence College and for Matters Connected Purposes, 2008. The Bill was read for the first time on Tuesday 29th July, 2008.

Members will wish to know that the Bill is a Senate Bill, requiring concurrence by the House. I now invite Hon. Tunde Akogun to move that the Bill be read the second time.

Some Hon. Members: Hon. Tunde Akogun is not in the Chamber.

The Speaker: Hon. Tunde Akogun is not here? Deputy Leader are you aware of this?

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Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: Mr. Speaker I am not aware of that.

The Speaker: You are not aware?

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: Yes.

The Speaker: Hon. Abdullahi, Deputy Chairman Rules and Business.

Hon. Abdullahi Shuaibu Hashimu (Awe/Doma/Keana): In view of the fact that the House Leader is unavoidably absent and the Deputy Leader might not know about the Bill.

The Speaker: No, we know where he is; we asked him to go and head a public hearing.

Hon. Abdullahi Shuaibu Hashimu: Yes, he has gone for the public hearing therefore, the Rules and Business Committee would prefer that the House stands down this Bill for Second Reading until another legislative day because apparently the Deputy House Leader was not briefed either.

Hon. Oluwale Oke (Obokun/Oriade): May I move that a Bill for an Act to Amend the National War College Act (Cap N82) - 2004 to provide for Change of Name to National Defence College and for Matters Connected Purposes, 2008 be read the Second Time

The Speaker: Hon. Oke?

Hon. Oluwale Oke: Mr. Speaker I am conversant with the Bill and that is why I feel, on behalf of the leader of the House, I can move that the Bill be read the Second time.

The Speaker: Hon. Chairman I hope you are not planning a coup here, in this your Defence Bill. You need not practice it on us. Can we please meet afterwards?

Hon. Oluwale Oke: All right.

The Speaker: We will stand down on the Bill until the next legislative day.

(Bill with the leave of the House stood down)

**Taxes and Levies (Approved Lists for
Collections) Act 2004, (Amendment) Bill, 2009**

A Bill for an Act to Amend Taxes and Levies (Approved Lists for Collections), Act 2004

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Order for Second Reading.

The Speaker: The Second Order of the Day is commencement of debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to Amend Taxes and Levies (Approved Lists for Collections), Act 2004. The Bill was read for the first time on the 11th of February 2009.

Hon. Moruf Fatai is invited to move that the Bill be read the second time.

Hon. Moruf Akindelu Fatai (Oshodi-Isolo I): I am not aware that the Bill will be coming up today. I will seek your understanding that we move this to the next legislative day.

Hon. Abdullahi Shuaibu Hashimu: I think the Committee has done the proper thing. This Bill is on the Notice Paper for the week, so, I do not think that the member should wait for us to remind him that it is on the Order Paper. Having sponsored the Bill, I believe the member should be ready at any time to lead debate on the Bill.

Hon. Dino Melaye (Kabba/Bunu/Ijumu): The notice paper was not made available to most of us yesterday.

The Speaker: But you have them now.

Hon. Emmanuel Jime (Makurdi/Guma): With your kind permission Mr. Speaker, I thought I should just give the information to the Chamber that the practice we have had since we have been here, is that the notice paper is usually circulated to us on Monday. We all know that yesterday Monday was a public holiday and so I believe that for that reason, it was not possible for the notice paper to be given according to the tradition of this House.

For that reason, if the notice was circulated this morning, which of course most of us do have, I am not sure that we are actually able to make any meaningful debate on this particular Bill today. So I believe that the information given and the application of the mover of the Bill, is one that is consistent in what has happened.

The Speaker: Hon Jime according to the Clerk and Secretary of Rules and Business, because it was holiday yesterday they made effort to put the Notice Paper in everyone's pigeon holes as far back as Friday.

Anyway, we will stand down the Bill and I hope you will be ready by the next legislative day.

(Bill with leave of the House stood down)

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The Speaker: The next Order refers to Hon. Al-Amin Bmitosahi. Are you ready?

Hon. Al-Amin Bmitosahi (Chanchaga): Mr. Speaker two Bills have already been stood down so, I beg the leave of the Speaker and Hon. Colleagues to allow mine to also be stood down.

Hon. Uche Ekwunife (Anaocha/Njikoka/Dunukofia): I am sure what we are witnessing this morning on the Floor is not laughable at all. Anytime we are putting up a Bill and you know you have a Bill to defend, you have to get ready for your Bill. So does it mean that anytime we have public holiday falling on a Monday, we will not sit and have meaningful deliberations the next day?

I am sure that what three of them said is what the fourth person is going to say. We have to take our work more seriously.

The Speaker: Is Hon. Hembe here? Hon. Colleagues, about twenty minutes ago I praised this House. I praised all Members on the fantastic job you have been doing. Maybe I should have waited until I read this before what I did.

I am going to assume that there was some level of communication gap during the holiday and that all the four Bills will be taken tomorrow, the next Legislative Day. I hope we will be ready for them. So we will stand down the Bill and we expect all the Sponsors to be ready tomorrow morning.

We are moving straight to consideration of Reports.

(Bills accordingly stood down)

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Stakeholders Forum of the Lagos International Trade Fair Complex (LITEC)

The Speaker: The fifth Order of the Day is the consideration of Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Stakeholders Forum of the Lagos International Trade Fair Complex (LITFC).

This report was laid on Thursday 27th November, 2008. Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum is invited to present the Report.

Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, may I move that this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Stakeholders Forum of the Lagos International

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Trade Fair Complex (LITFC) on the concession of the Complex by the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).

Hon. Chinedu Eluemunoh (Anyamelum/Oyi): I rise to second the Motion ably moved by Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

Report of Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. Mohammed Bashir Fekin

The Speaker: Before we go into Committee of the Whole House, we should just go through all the Orders for Consideration of Reports. So the next is the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petitions by Mr. Mohammed Bashir Fekin against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA).

This report was laid on Thursday 27th November, 2008. Hon. C.I.D Maduabum is invited to present the Report for consideration.

Hon. C.I.D Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, may I move that this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. Mohammed Bashir Fekin against the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA).

I so move.

Hon. Nwachukwu Austin (Ehime Mbano/Ihite Uboma/Obowo): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion as moved by honourable C.I.D Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

Report of Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. Ojiah Francis

The Speaker: Dear Colleagues, the Report for consideration will be on the Petition by Mr. Ojiah Francis against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

This was laid on Thursday 27th November, 2008. Hon. C.I.D is invited to present the Report.

Hon. C.I.D Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, may I move again that this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. Ojiah Francis against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).

I so move.

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Hon. Umuoji Chukwuma (Aguata): I rise to second the Motion as moved by Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

Report of Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by NICON Insurance Pensioners

The Speaker: The number eight item on the Order of the Day is consideration of Report of the Committee of Public Petitions on a Petition by NICON Insurance Pensioners against the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).

The Report was laid on Thursday 27th November, 2008. Hon. Maduabum is invited to move for the consideration of the Report.

Hon. C.I.D Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, may I move again that this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by NICON Insurance Pensioners against the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).

Hon. Abubakar Garba Shehu Matazu (Matazu/Musawa): I do sincerely second the Motion as ably moved by the Chairman, Committee on Public Petitions.

Question put and agreed to.

Report of Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. B.I. Gberave

The Speaker: The ninth Order of the Day is consideration of Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. B.I. Gberave against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

This was laid on Tuesday 20th November, 2008. Hon. C.I.D Maduabum is invited to move for the consideration of the Report.

Hon. C.I.D Maduabum: Mr. Speaker, may I move that this House do consider the Report of the House Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. B.I. Gberave against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

Hon. Labaran Y. Dambatta (Dambatta/Makoda): Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion as moved by Hon. C.I.D. Maduabum.

Question put and agreed to.

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Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: (Agaie/Lapai): Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider the five Reports.

Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal (Kebbe/Tambuwal): Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

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

House in the Committee of Whole

The Chairman: Honourable Colleges, In view of the facts that today we are having about four Public Hearings, and all the Principal Officers are there to declare the various Public Hearings open, which lead to the fewer number of Members in the Chamber, I humbly advise that we defer the consideration of these Reports until another day.

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: Mr. Chairman, I move that the House do revert to Plenary.

Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion as moved by the House Leader.

The House in Plenary

(Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair)

The Deputy Speaker: Honorable Colleagues, the House in the Committee of Whole agreed to defer consideration of the five Reports of the Committee on Public Petitions until another day.

Leader can you move a Motion to adopt this resolution.

ADOPTION OF REPORT

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do adopts the Report of the Committee of the Whole.

Hon. Aminu Tambuwal: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting of the Committee on Rules and Business

The Deputy Speaker: *There will be a Meeting of the Committee on Rules and Business in the Office of the Honourable Speaker, tomorrow by 10.00 a.m. Old Members of the Committee are invited to attend the meeting.*

Meeting of the Power Committee

The Deputy Speaker: *There will be a Meeting of the Power Committee by 12.00 noon tomorrow at room 107.*

*Signed:
Chairman*

Visit of Pupils and Students of Nazari Nursery/Primary and Secondary School, Gauraka Village, Tafa Local Government Area of Niger State

Hon. Bala Ibn Na'Allah (Zuru/ Fakai/Sakaba/D): Mr. Speaker is already seated and he has observed the presence of children in the gallery just coming in. In view of the fact that we still have time, I pray that we exercise about five minutes in honour of the children that are just coming to the Gallery.

The Deputy Speaker: Please can we get the name of the School? hon. colleagues, seated in the Gallery are children from Nazari, Nursery, Primary and Secondary School, Gauruka Village, Tafa Local Government, Niger State.

You are welcome, you may sit down.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Baba Shehu Agaie: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do stand adjourned till tomorrow 11th March, 2009 by 2.00 p.m.

Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal: Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion.

Question put and agreed to

Resolved: That the House do stand adjourned till tomorrow Wednesday, 11th March, 2009 at 2.00 p.m.

The House adjourned accordingly at 11.50 a.m.