



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21st March, 2007

1. The Senate met at 10:25 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate President announced that he had examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 20th March, 2007 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcement:**
Change of Political Party:
(i) The Senate President read a letter from Senator Sa'ad A. Mohammed as follows:



Senator Sa'ad A. Mohammed
Vice Chairman Senate Committee on Communications
SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

20th March, 2007

*The Senate Chambers
National Assembly
Abuja.*

Dear Sir,

**CHANGE OF POLITICAL PARTY — PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDP) TO ACTION
CONGRESS PARTY (AC)**

I write to formally inform you, Mr. President of the Senate and my Distinguished Senators, that despite my allegiance and dedication to the PDP, I have not been recognized or accommodated in any form whatsoever.

In this regard, I am compelled to consider the advice of my local supporters to transfer this allegiance to the Action Congress Party (AC).

I am happy to inform you that I have also accepted the nomination of the Action Congress (AC) to contest for the Gombe Central Senatorial seat in the 2007 Senatorial Elections.

I thank you.

Yours truly,

Signed:

Senator Sa'ad A. Mohammed

(ii) Conferment of Honorary Doctorate:

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Ibrahim N. Mantu as follows:

It has pleased the University of Jos to honour me with an Honorary Doctorate degree.

The investiture will take place on the 31st of March, 2007.

I will be most grateful and deeply appreciative if my distinguished colleagues will find time to grace the occasion.

You are all cordially invited.

Thank you very much indeed.

Signed:

Senator Dr. Ibrahim Mantu CFR

4. Conference Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission (Amendment) Bill 2007:

The Senate President named the following as Senate Conferees:

(i)	Senator Ike Ekwerenmadu	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Yushau M. Anka	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Jonathan T. Ogbeha	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Sani A. Kamba	—	Member
(v)	Senator Lawan J. Zarami	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Emmanuel A. Agboti	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Robert B. Koleosho	—	Member

5. Conference Committee on Fringe Benefits for Former Presidents, Heads of Legislative Houses of the National Assembly and Chief Justices of Nigeria:

The Senate President named the following as Senate Conferees:

(i)	Senator Udoma U. Udoma	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Jonathan S. Zwingina	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Usman K. Umar	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Ugochukwu B. Uba	—	Member
(v)	Senator Rufus I. Spiff	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Felix K. Ogunwale	—	Member
(vii)	Senator Emmanuel O. Okpede	—	Member

6. **Petition:**

Senator Udoma U. Udoma read a petition from Rear Admiral Akpan on the wrongful termination of his appointment from the Nigerian Navy. He is soliciting Senate intervention for his immediate reinstatement into the Nigerian Navy.

Request accordingly laid and referred to the Committee on Ethics, Code of Conduct and Privileges to report within the shortest possible time.

7. **Closed Session:**

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do resolve into a Closed Session to deliberate on issues relevant to the workings of the Senate (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Senate in Closed Session — 11.10 a.m.

Senate in Open Session — 1.45 p.m.

The Senate President reported that the Senate in Closed Session deliberated on issues bordering on recent happenings within the last 24 hours as it concerns the activities of the Review Committee on the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF). He stated that despite the different opinions in the Senate concerning the report, the Senate was still one body and focussed in its resolve to tackle corruption head-on in the body polity.

He stated that due to recent events, Members of the Review Committee on the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) had tendered a letter of resignation which he read as follows:



THE SENATE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
REVIEW COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND (PTDF)
National Assembly Complex, Three Arms Zone, P.M.B. 141, Garki - Abuja

*The President of the Senate,
Senate Chambers,
Abuja.*

20th March 2007

Sir,

RE: RESIGNATION FROM SENATE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON PTDF

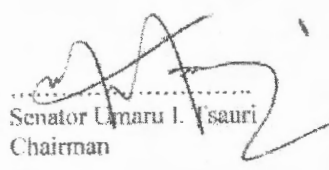
We wish to inform the leadership that the review committee set up by the Senate to review the report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the PTDF concluded its report as scheduled.

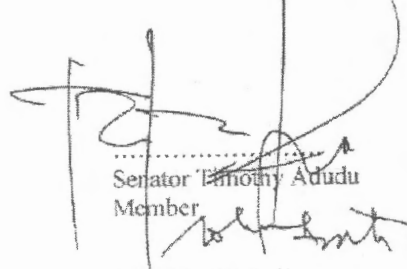
However, considering the fact that the leadership is not certain about the time it would want the report to be presented, we members of the Review Committee hereby respectfully resign our membership.

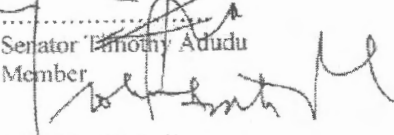
We remain grateful for the honour of consideration to serve.

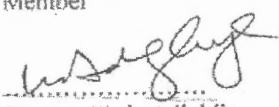
Sign:-

Sign-

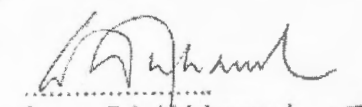

 Senator Umaru I. Tsauri
 Chairman

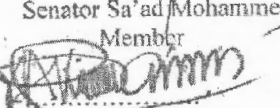

 Senator Timothy Adudu
 Member

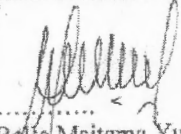

 Senator John Azuta-Mbata
 Member


 Senator Chris Adighije
 Member

.....
 Mfon E. Umorem
 Secretary


 Senator Sa'ad Mohammed
 Member


 Senator Akin Oluksunkanmi
 Member


 Senator Bola Maitama Yusuf
 Member

.....
 Lawal Barau Bugudu
 Assistant Secretary

Question; That the Senate do accept the letter of resignation by the members put and negatived.

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do suspend Rule 39(10) to enable the Chairman of the Review Committee on the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) lay the Committee's Report (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Review Committee on the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) (*Senator Umaru I. Tsauri*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

8. Extension of Time of Sitting:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do sit this day beyond the time appointed for its sitting (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

9. Confirmation of Nomination:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider the request of Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief, for the confirmation of the Nomination of Mr. Solomon Adedeji Soyebi (South West), as a National Electoral Commissioner, for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to report within two weeks.

10. Request for Virement:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do consider and approve the request for virement by the Ministry of Internal Affairs as in the Appropriation Act, 2007, in the Departments of National Security and Civil Defence Corps, the Nigeria Prison Service and the Nigeria Immigration Service as follows:

NATIONAL SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORP:

- (a) The sum of ₦573,750,000.00 was appropriated in the 2007 Capital budget sub head titled communication equipment.
- (b) Out of the sum indicated in 'a' the sum of ₦150,000,000.00 will be vired for computerization of the Corp.
- (c) The sum of ₦200,000,000.00 will be used for the purchase of building (Property).
- (d) Where as the balance of ₦223,750,000.00 will be used for the purchase of communication equipment.
- (e) The NSCDC also requested for re-classification/movement of ₦250,000,000.00 (two hundred and fifty million naira only) for kennel unit from capital recurrent.

NIGERIA PRISON SERVICE:

(a)	Provision of CCTN:	—	₦356,000,000.00
(b)	GSM jamming device	—	₦190,000,000.00
(c)	Purchase of power alternators	—	₦200,000,000.00
(d)	Procurement Unit	—	₦ 95,000,000.00
(e)	Kennel Unit	—	₦ 92,000,000.00
(f)	Debts	—	<u>₦123,000,000.00</u>
	Total	—	<u>₦1,056,000,000.00</u> (Senate Majority Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

Request accordingly referred to the Committee on Appropriation to report within two weeks.

11. Conference Committee:

Report of the Conference Committee on Pension Rights of Federal Judicial Officers (Transfer of Responsibility and Administration) Bill 2007 (SB.249).

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do approve and adopt the Report of the Conference Committee on Pension Rights of Federal Judicial Officers (Transfer of Responsibility and Administration) Bill 2007 (Senator Felix O. Ibru).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented and laid.

Question; That the Senate do adopt the Report of the Committee — Resolved in the Affirmative.

12. Suspension of Plenary Session:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do suspend Plenary Session till 2nd May, 2007 to enable Members attend to Committees assignments (Senate Majority Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

13. Adjournment:

And it being 2.15 p.m. the Senate President adjourned the Senate till Wednesday, 2nd May, 2007 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 2.15 p.m.

Ken Nnamani, GCON
President of the Senate