



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 28th July, 2005

1. The Senate met at 10.15 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, 26th July, 2005 and approved same.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. **Messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:**
The Senate President announced that he had received two letters from the President, Commander-in-Chief which he read as follows:
(i)

**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

July 26, 2005

*Senator Ken Nnamani,
Senate President, National
Assembly Complex, Abuja.*

Dear President of the Senate,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

It is with a heavy heart that I write to condole you on the sudden death of Senator Joshua Adagba, representing North West Senatorial District of Benue State.

The death of Senator Joshua is, indeed, another huge loss to the Distinguished Senate and the entire country. I must say that, I am aware of his great contributions as the Deputy Chairman of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Committee of the Senate which I believe would be greater in his recent new Committee of Health as a Chairman if only he had lived.

On behalf of myself, my family and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I heartily commiserate with you on this sad event. Please convey to the entire Senate, the Adagba family,

the people of his Senatorial District in particular and Benue State in general our sincere sense of bereavement and our condolences.

We pray that God Almighty will give the entire Senate and his family the fortitude to bear this great loss. Please, once again, accept our condolence and our deepest sympathy.

Yours Sincerely,

*(Signed) OLUSEGUN
OBASANJO*



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

PRES/134

July 25, 2005

*The President of the Senate,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Asokoro - Abuja.*

Dear President of the Senate,

PRESENTATION OF CIVIL AVIATION BILL 2005

I hereby present, for formal consideration and passage into law by the Senate, a Bill for an Act to provide for the regulation of air navigation, establishment of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority and for other purposes connected therewith.

I hope the Bill will receive prompt attention of Distinguished Members of the Senate.

Yours Sincerely,

*(Signed) OLUSEGUN
OBASANJO*

4. Announcement:

(A) The Senate President read a letter from Senators Forum as follows:



SENATORS FORUM

Suite 03 Ground Floor, Maina Court, Plot 252A, Herbert Macaulay Way, Central Business District, Abuja. TEL: 09-6710705

ANNOUNCEMENT

The first in the series of lectures organized by the Senators' Forum will be delivered today, 28th July 2005 at the Shehu Yar'dua Centre at 4.00p.m.

The topic of the lecture is "CRISES IN DEMOCRACY: THE NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE". The Guest lecturer will be His Excellency Alhaji Abdullahi Adamu, Governor of Nasarawa State.

Invitations to this lecture have already been extended to all distinguished Senators. You are all requested to grace the occasion please.

Thank you.

Signed: Senator Lawal

Shuaibu

PRO to the Senators' Forum

Conference Committee on the Review of the National Assembly Accounting Manual:

(B) The following were named as Conferees: (i) Senator Jonathan S. Zwingina
— Chairman

(i)	Senator Emmanuel A. Agboti	—	Member
(ii)	Senator Udoma U. Udoma	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Emmanuel Okpede	—	Member
(iv)	Senator Lawal Shuaibu	—	Member
(v)	Senator Mamman B. AH	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Abiola Ajimobi	—	Member

Conference Committee on B. O. T. (Infrastructural Concession) Bill 2005:

(C) The following were named as Conferees:

(i)	Senator Idris I. Kuta	—	Chairman
(ii)	Senator Mohammed Ibrahim	—	Member
(iii)	Senator Abubakar Maikafi	—	Member
(iv)	Senator James E. Manager	—	Member
(v)	Senator Chris Adighije	—	Member
(vi)	Senator Musiliu O. Obanikoro	—	Member

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Terrorist Bombings in London:

Invoking Rules 42 and 52 Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw invited the attention of the Senate to the recent terrorist bombings in London which claimed the lives of three Nigerians. He sought and obtained leave of the Senate to introduce a Motion on the subject as a Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

That whereas on Thursday July 7, 2005, the world woke up to a gruesome drama as it unfolded in the heart of London. Within a short space of time suicide bombers unleashed a deadly and horrifying campaign of terror on innocent and unsuspecting commuters as they jammed the London underground at the height of the morning rush hour heading for their places of work;

WHEREAS the first bomb exploded in the tunnel near Liverpool Street Station at about 8.50 a.m. The second bomb went off just seconds later at the Edgware Road Station. By 9.15 am the third bomb went off at the Kings Cross Station and by 9.47 am Bus No. 30 exploded at Tavistock Square. So, Mr. President, Distinguished Senators, in less than one hour, three underground stations and a bus were bombed leaving over 50 people dead and more than 700 injured. Indeed, the death toll has risen to 56 as more critically injured people have given up. Sadly, the fatalities cut across numerous nationalities including Nigeria. We lost three Nigerian lives which included 26 year old Anthony Fatayi-Williams, the grandson of Nigeria's former Chief Justice, Atanda Fatayi—Williams;

WHEREAS Anthony Fatayi-Williams was cut down in his prime with a promising career ahead of him in an oil servicing company. I attended the funeral of this young Nigerian in London last Saturday, July 23, and I saw his devastated parents and a large congregation of mourners of all nationalities overwhelmed with grief. It was for me a traumatic experience. But even more appalling was the fact that as Anthony was being buried on that Saturday, suicide bombers were creating another carnage in an Egyptian resort Sharm-el-Sheik. They left 88 people dead and hundreds injured. Two days earlier, on Thursday, July 21, exactly 2 weeks to the day of the first bombings, another set of 4 bombers unsuccessfully tried to detonate their deadly cargos again in London;

WHEREAS from Nairobi to New York, to Madrid to London to Sham-el-Sheik, as the list of cities continues to grow and the phenomenon becomes global the number of innocent lives lost continues to increase. But, why? Why are innocent people being slaughtered like this in their hundreds? People who have no hand in any government policy or action. Nigeria is neither fighting in Iraq nor is in any way involved in any of the Middle-East conflicts. So, why was Anthony Fatayi-Williams and the other Nigerians murdered? Ironically also people who are opposed to their governments policies and involvements in the Middle East will always be among the casualties in this type of indiscriminate massacre;

WHEREAS the wanton destruction of innocent lives must be condemned in the strongest terms possible, because no policy decision or action by any individual, group or government can justify it. The killing of innocent people is both callous and ungodly; and

WHEREAS having said that, I need also to add that there is an African proverb which says that while you chastise the kite for preying on the chick you must also advise the chick to watch its steps. There is need for all those governments whose policies and actions (in the Middle East and elsewhere) are generating this level of hate to re-examine such policies and actions. Those who live by the gun die by the gun. Violence begets violence and hatred begets hatred. It should by now be obvious that violence and force solve nothing. They only make matters worse. As the world marks the 60th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki those who claim leadership of the world must find the courage to acknowledge that fairness, understanding, tolerance and respect are the essential ingredients for a peaceful safer world.

Be it resolved:

- (i) That the suicide bombings which have taken place in London claiming many innocent lives including the lives of Nigerians are barbaric and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms;
- (ii) That the Federal Government of Nigeria be requested to take urgent steps to assure the safety of all citizens and residents and forestall the possibility of such an occurrence within our borders;
- (Hi) That this distinguished Senate convey to the British Parliament through the British High Commissioner to Nigeria the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria over the events of July 7, 2005 and the loss of lives involved; and
- (iv) That this distinguished Senate make a special appeal to all governments whose policies and actions in the Middle-East and elsewhere are responsible for generating a high level of hate and bitterness to re-examine such policies, including the use of force, and seek ways to promote equity and fairness for all people for a more peaceful world order (*Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (v) as follows:

" That the Senate do observe one minute in silence for the souls of the departed (*Senator Mamman B. Ali*).

Question that the Amendment be made put and agreed to.

Further Debate:

Another Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new prayer (vi) as follows:

"That the Senate do write letters of condolence to the families of the Nigerians who lost their lives through the Nigerian High Commission, London (*Senator Ifeanyi G. Araraume*).

Question that the Amendment be made put and agreed to.

Debate concluded.

Prayer (i):

Question: That the suicide bombings which have taken place in London claiming many innocent lives including the lives of Nigerians are barbaric and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (ii):

Question: That the Federal Government of Nigeria be requested to take urgent steps to assure the safety of all citizens and residents and forestall the possibility of such an occurrence within our borders — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (Hi):

Question: That this distinguished Senate convey to the British Parliament through the British High Commissioner to Nigeria the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria over the events of July 7, 2005 and the loss of lives involved — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (iv):

Question: That this distinguished Senate make a special appeal to all governments whose policies and actions in the Middle-East and elsewhere are responsible for generating a high level of hate and bitterness to re-examine such policies, including the use of force, and seek ways to promote equity and fairness for all people for a more peaceful world order — *Negatived.*

Prayer (v):

Question: That the Senate do observe one minute in silence for the souls of the departed — *Agreed to.*

Prayer (vi):

Question: That the Senate do write letters of condolence to the families of the Nigerians who lost their lives through the Nigerian High Commission, London — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

- (i) That the suicide bombings which have taken place in London claiming many innocent lives including the lives of Nigerians are barbaric and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms;
- (ii) That the Federal Government of Nigeria be requested to take urgent steps to assure the safety of all citizens and residents and forestall the possibility of such an occurrence within our borders;
- (Hi) That this distinguished Senate convey to the British Parliament through the British High Commissioner to Nigeria the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria over the events of July 7, 2005 and the loss of lives involved
- (iv) That the Senate do observe one minute in silence for the souls of the departed; and
- (v) That the Senate do write letters of condolence to the families of the Nigerians who lost their lives through the Nigerian High Commission, London (*S. Res/023/05*).

5. **Presentation of Bills:**

(i) Federal Land Registry (General Provision) Bill 2005 (SB. 200) — *Read the First Time.*

(ii) Nigeria Financial Intelligence Unit Bill 2005 (SB. 201) — *Read the First Time.*

(Hi) Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Management Bill 2005 (HB. 53) — *Read the First Time.*

6. **Committee on Banking, Insurance and Financial Institutions:**

Report on the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation Act (Amendment) Bills 2005 (SB. 133 and SB. 136):

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive the Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance and Financial Institutions on the harmonized Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation Act (Amendment) Bills 2005 (SB. 133 and SB. 136) (*Senator Farouk Bello*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid.

7. **Amendment to the Senate Standing Rules:**

Creation of Additional Committees:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That whereas on Wednesday 25th June, 2003, Rule 98 was amended by the Senate with the creation of additional Committees bringing the total number of Committees to fifty four (54); and

WHEREAS the fifty-four (54) Committees were operated by the Senate until 19th July, 2005 when they were dissolved.

NOW HAVING agreed on the reconstitution of the fifty-four (54) Committees and the necessity for the creation of additional three Committees to bring the total number of Committees to fifty seven (57);

Be it resolved:

That additional three Committees be created with their jurisdictions as follows:

(i) *Committee on Capital Market:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Capital Market appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

(a) Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC);

(b) Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE); and

(c) Stock Market.

(ii) *Finance:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Finance appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

(a) Customs and Excise;

(b) Taxes and Taxation

(c) Tariff Review;

(d) Determination of General Fiscal and Monetary Policy of Government;

(e) Revenue profile of Government;

(f) Annual Budget Estimates of the Federal Ministry of Finance.

(Hi) *Media and Public Affairs:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Media and Public Affairs appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

(a) Management of the Image and Public Relations of the Senate;

(b) External publicity and other issues in the Mass Media concerning the Senate.

(c) Other matters concerning the Media that may be referred to the Committee by the Senate (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Debate concluded. Question

put and agreed to.

Resolved: Three additional Committees accordingly created with jurisdictions as follows:

(i) *Committee on Capital Market:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Capital Market appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

(a) Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC);

(b) Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE); and

(c) Stock Market.

(ii) *Finance:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Finance appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

(a) Customs and Excise;

(b) Taxes and Taxation;

(c) Tariff Review;

- (d) Determination of General Fiscal and Monetary Policy of Government;
- (e) Revenue profile of Government; and
- (f) Annual Budget Estimates of the Federal Ministry of Finance.

(Hi) *Media and Public Affairs:*

There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Media and Public Affairs appointed at the commencement of the life of the Senate. The jurisdiction of the Committee shall include:

- (a) Management of the Image and Public Relations of the Senate;
- (b) External publicity and other issues in the Mass Media concerning the Senate; and
- (c) Other matters concerning the Media that may be referred to the Committee by the Senate (*S. Res/024/05*).

8. Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters:

Report on the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 01):

Consideration deferred.

9. Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes:

Conference Report on the Harmonization of Advance Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill 2005:

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do receive and approve the Report of the Conference Committee on the Harmonization of Advance Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences Act (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and Money Laundering Act (Amendment) Bill, 2005 (SB. 111) (*Senator Lawal Shuaibu*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Motion made and Question Proposed: That the Senate do approve the Conference Report (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

10. Committee on Culture and Tourism:

Report on the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Bill 2005 (SB. 02).

The Committee Chairman, Senator Iyiola Omisore, reminded the Senate that he had just taken over the Committee and requested for extension of time to conclude action on the Bill and report to the Senate.

Committee, by leave of Senate granted additional four weeks extension to enable it concludes the assignment and report to the Senate.

11. Personal Income Tax Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 182):

Motion made Question Proposed: That the Personal Income Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 be read the Second Time (*Senate Majority Leader*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Finance to report within four weeks.

12. Personal Income Tax Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 (SB. 167):

Motion made Question Proposed: That the Personal Income Act (Amendment) Bill 2005 be read the Second Time (*Senator Inatimi R. Spiff*).

Debate concluded: Question

put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Finance to report within four weeks.

13. Closed Session:

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

Question put and agreed to.

Senate in Closed Session — **1: 30 p. m.**

Senate in Opened Session — **2: 20 p. m.**

14. Adjournment:

And its being 2.20 p.m. the Senate President adjourned the Senate till Tuesday, 2nd August, 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Adjourned accordingly at 2.20p.m.

Ken Nnamani
President of the Senate