Thursday, 30th May 2002

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

The Session commenced at 9.05am

Labour Group Elections to the Legislation Committee

NDM1066 - To propose that the National Assembly in accordance with Standing Order 8.4 elects Gwenda Thomas (Labour), Janice Gregory (Labour) and Val Lloyd (Labour) to fill the vacancies on the Legislation Committee consequent upon the resignation of Lorraine Barrett (Labour), Delyth Evans (Labour) and John Griffiths (Labour).

A vote was taken:

For 27; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 27

The motion was carried.

9.06am

Questions to Andrew Davies, the Minister for Economic Development

The first 10 questions were answered. Questions 4 and 5 were not asked.

9.28am

Finance Questions to Edwina Hart, the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities

The first 11 questions were answered. Questions 2 and 9 were withdrawn.

9.45am

Statement: The Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language made a statement on the Role of Libraries and Archives in Promoting Social Inclusion and Lifelong Learning

10.13am

Statement: The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities made a statement on Race Equality

10.41am

Point of Order

Brian Hancock on the grouping of Assembly questions.

10.43am

The Minister for Rural Affairs and Assembly Business proposed a Procedural Motion under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following item:

A vote was taken:

For 38; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 38

The procedural motion was carried.

10.44am

Approval of the Joint Order the Plant Protection Products (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2002 and the Home Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy) Order 2002 NNDM1072 - To propose that the National Assembly:

Acting under Standing Order 22.25, 23.10 & 23.11:

Approves:

- 1. The Plant Protection Products (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2002, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 21 May 2002; and
- 2. The Home Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy) Order 2002, a copy of which was laid in Table Office on 21 May 2002.

A vote was taken:

For 39; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 39

The motion was carried.

10.45am

Composite Motion

This motion was not subject to debate and proceeded to a vote immediately.

NDM1068 - To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 22.25:

1. Approves:

The Animal By-Products (Identification) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002 laid in the Table Office on 14 May 2002; and

2.Considers:

a) the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Animal By-Products (Identification) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002, laid in the Table Office on 21 May 2002;

- b) the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 22 May 2002; and
- c) the Regulatory Appraisal, laid in the Table Office on 14 May 2002.

3. Approves:

The Meat (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)(Wales) Regulations 2002 laid in the Table Office on 30 April 2002; and

4.Considers:

- a) the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Meat (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)(Wales) Regulations 2002, laid in the Table Office on 14 May 2002;
- b) the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 22 May 2002; and
- c) the Regulatory Appraisal, laid in the Table Office on 30 April 2002.

5. Approves:

The Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Commencement No.2) (Wales) Order 2002 laid in the Table Office on 14 May 2002; and

6. Considers:

the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Commencement No.2) (Wales) Order 2002, laid in the Table Office on 21 May 2002.

A vote was taken:

For 37; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 37

The composite motion was carried.

10.46am

Motion to Delegate the Functions of the Health and Social Care Act (Wales) 2001 NDM1069 - To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under section 62(1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to delegate all the functions of the National Assembly contained in or under The Health and Social Care Act (Wales) 2001, to the Assembly First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated.

Nothing in this motion will have the effect of reducing the pre-eminence of the authority of the full Assembly or of reducing the role of the Assembly Committees in the exercise of the above functions.

This delegation will be made in the knowledge that those functions will be further delegated to the appropriate Assembly Ministers and where necessary to staff.

The Health & Social Care Act 2001 can be located on the Internet using the attached

hyperlink. http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2001/20010015.htm

A vote was taken:

For 35; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 35

The motion was carried.

10.52am

Approval of Special Grant Report No 7 on the Local Road Grant Scheme for 2002/03 NDM1070 - To propose that the National Assembly:

Under S88B of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, and in accordance with Standing Order 19.8, approves the Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No 7) (Wales) 2002 which was laid in the Table Office on 22 May 2002.

A vote was taken:

For 37; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 37

The motion was carried.

11.10am

Approval of the Periodic Timetable Statement under Standing Order 5.1 NDM1067 - To propose that the National Assembly:

Notes the Periodic Timetable Statement laid in the Table Office on 22 May 2002, under standing order 5.1.

A vote was taken:

For 35; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 35

The motion was carried.

Motion to Adopt the Race Equality Scheme - This item was not moved.

11.12am

Short Debate: *NDM1071* Janice Gregory (Ogmore): Made in Wales - Communities and Businesses in Co-operation

The session concluded at 11.40am

The Assembly will be in recess 3rd - 7th June 2002

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00pm on Tuesday, 11th June 2002

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

The following petition was received on the 29th May 2002

Petition: Kurdish People Want Justice

Principal Petitioner: Mr Cengiz Coskun

No of Petitioners: 112

Text of Petition:

The Kurds, one of the oldest peoples of the Middle East, possessing a rich history thousands of years old, have always faced the repressive and destructive policies of the dominant powers of the region. The presence of the Kurds as a distinct people to this day despite the grim policies they have faced is a show of their remarkable tie to their identity and homeland. It is a forgotten fact of history that the Kurds, along with the Turks, waged a war of independence in the First World War. In 1923, with the signing of the Lausanne treaty, it was the Kurds who were betrayed by Turkey and the other European Governments' party to this historic treaty. The four states who divided the Kurdistan among them after Lausanne subjected the Kurds to a cultural and physical genocide thus forcing many Kurds into exile both internally and externally, predominantly to Europe.

The PPK (Kurdistan Workers Party) emerged by resisting against the oppressive policies of the adversaries of the Kurds and began a struggle that was to continue for 24 years. Within this time frame, three unilateral cease-fires were declared followed by the launching of a *peace and democracy strategy*. In effect, the struggle led by the PKK began to reflect and represent the human rights struggle of the Kurdish people. The Turkish Government could not give a constructive response neither to the various cease-fires nor to the peace and democracy project. Instead, it continued the scorched earth policy against the Kurdish people, destroying Kurdish villages, committing many human rights violations in the process including torture, forced exile, and extra-judicial killings - violations that the European Court of Human Rights continues to find Turkey guilty of.

The presence of the PKK on the Terrorist Organisation List disclosed by the European Union on 3 May 2002 was a real disappointment to the Kurdish people who, while facing violations of their fundamental rights in the Middle East did not expect such actions by the bastions of democracy in Europe. The upshot of such a move will make it very difficult for the Kurds to press for their national, political and cultural rights within the principles of peace and democracy.

Making it illegal for the Kurdish people to support a party which they believe has led a legitimate struggle within the framework of peace and democracy is a violation of various articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, including Article 8, right to respect for private life, Article 10, freedom of thought and expression, Article 11, freedom of assembly and association, and Article 14, preventing discrimination based on political, national or linguistic differences.

The European Union, which recognises cultural, religious and linguistic pluralism in accordance with Article 22 of the convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, declares Kurds, who are deprived of these rights, as terrorist and their support to a party who struggles for obtaining these rights.

We the undersigned, ask,

- In order to right the wrong of the European Union, that PKK and other political parties and organisations who are proponents of peace be removed from the list,
- For the formal recognition of the Kurdish peoples national, political, linguistic and cultural rights,
- For the removal of the barriers preventing the Kurdish people from peaceful assembly and association nationally,
- Support for the efforts to resolve the Kurdish problem within a democratic and political framework,
- For the lifting of the death penalty and for efforts to be made in seeking the release of the Kurdish National Leader Abdullah Ocalan.

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

Documents laid on 28 May 2002

Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (Wales) Regulations 2002 - LD1438 The Education (Recognised Bodies) (Wales) Order 2002 - LD1439 The Education (Listed Bodies) (Wales) Order 2002 - LD1440

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Documents laid on 28 May 2002

- LC466 The National Health Service (General Medical Services) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002 LD1429
- LC482 The Education (School Day and School Year) Amendment) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2002 LD1430
- LC486 The Plant Health (Phytophthora ramorum) (Wales) Order 2002 LD1431
- LC487 The Animal Gatherings (Interim Measures) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2002 LD1432
- LC488 The Disease Control (Interim Measures) (Wales) (Amendment No.2) Order 2002 LD1433
- LC489 The Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (Wales) Order 2002 LD1434
- LC490 The Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (Revocation) (Wales) Regulations 2002 LD1435
- LC491 The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002 LD1436
- LC493 The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2002 LD1437