



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 7 November, 2018

1. The House met at 11.23 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 6 November, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:

- (i) Members of **Legislative Council**; Etsako Central Local Government, Edo State;
- (ii) Staff and Students of **Kingdom Favourite Model Academy**, Garam, Niger State; and
- (iii) Staff and Students of **Cherryfield Nursery and Primary School**, Gwarimpa Estate II, Abuja.

(b) **Bereavement:**

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde (*Chikun/Kajuru Federal Constituency*), notifying the House of the death on Friday, 26 October, 2018, of His Royal Majesty, Dr Maiwada Raphael Galadima, the Agom Adara of Adara Chiefdom in Kaduna State. He stated that the late paramount ruler was abducted with his wife and driver by some gunmen before he was later killed. He prayed for the repose of the soul of the deceased.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

4. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**

(i) **Need to Forestall Possible Earthquakes in Nigeria:**

Hon. Johnson Egwukhide Oghuma (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Forestall Possible Earthquakes in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes with concern, the recent cases of earth tremor experienced in the months of September and October, 2018, around Mpape and Maitama axis in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), raising fears of imminent earthquake;

Also notes that earth tremor is a form of seismic movement within the earth which occurs at a small scale but can lead to earthquakes if preventive measures are not taken to reduce the stress;

Aware that reports by the Federal Capital Territory Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) indicates that the incidence was likely caused by stress in underground rocks resulting from human activities which include blasting and mining of rocks;

Also aware that the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), had reported that communities in four States and Abuja may likely witness earthquakes, if necessary preventive and monitoring devices are not employed immediately;

Determined to ensure preventive measures are taken to stop the catastrophe from happening;

Resolves to:

mandate the Committee on Environment and Habitat to interface with relevant departments of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Agencies and Parastatals to ascertain the levels of monitoring and compliance with world global standards in blasting, mining and borehole drilling which have been identified by experts to be the latent cause of the seismic movement and report back within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Johnson Ekwakhide Oghuma — Etsako East/West Central Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with concern, the recent cases of earth tremor experienced in the months of September and October, 2018, around Mpape and Maitama axis in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), raising fears of imminent earthquake;

Also noted that earth tremor is a form of seismic movement within the earth which occurs at a small scale but can lead to earthquakes if preventive measures are not taken to reduce the stress;

Aware that reports by the Federal Capital Territory Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) indicates that the incidence was likely caused by stress in underground rocks resulting from human activities which include blasting and mining of rocks;

Also aware that the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), had reported that communities in four States and Abuja may likely witness earthquakes, if necessary preventive and monitoring devices are not employed immediately;

Determined to ensure preventive measures are taken to stop the catastrophe from happening;

Resolved to:

mandate the Committee on Environment and Habitat to interface with relevant departments of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Agencies and Parastatals to ascertain the levels of monitoring and compliance with world global standards in blasting, mining and borehole drilling which have been identified by experts to be the latent cause of the seismic movement and report back within six (6) weeks (**HR. 70/11/2018**).

(ii) *Armed Attack on the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Ike Ekweremadu, CFR and Member of his Family:*

Hon. Toby Okechukwu (*Aninri/Agwu/Oji-River Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Armed Attack on the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Ike Ekweremadu, CFR and Members of His Family:

The House:

Notes with serious concern the attempt on the life of the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Ike Ekweremadu, CFR and his family;

Also notes that on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at about 4.00 a.m., some men armed with dangerous weapons discreetly evaded the security at the Apo residence of the Deputy Senate President and gained entry into his house;

Aware that the armed men took hold of Senator Ekweremadu's son and commanded him to lead them to his father's bedroom;

Also aware that it was at the Senator's bedroom that a struggle ensued between the assailants and the Deputy Senate President and his son, leading to the arrest of one of the armed men while the rest managed to escape;

Further aware of the poor response of the Nigeria Police in spite of several calls to various officers at the early stage of the attack;

Cognizant of the need to ensure the security of lives and property of all Nigerians irrespective of class, tribe or religion;

Resolves to:

- (i) set up an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the attack on the Deputy President of the Senate and members of his family and the circumstances regarding the late response by the Nigeria Police; and
- (ii) urge the relevant security agencies to ensure increased security and surveillance around the Deputy President of the Senate as well as other leaders of the National Assembly (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Agwu/Oji River Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), line 3, immediately after the word "Police", insert the following words: "and report back within three weeks" (*Hon. Sani Mohammed Rano — Rano/Kibiya/Bunkure Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with serious concern the attempt on the life of the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Ike Ekweremadu, CFR and his family;

Also noted that on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at about 4.00 a.m., some men armed with dangerous weapons discreetly evaded the security at the Apo residence of the Deputy Senate President and gained entry into his house;

Aware that the armed men took hold of Senator Ekweremadu's son and commanded him to lead them to his father's bedroom;

Also aware that it was at the Senator's bedroom that a struggle ensued between the assailants and the Deputy Senate President and his son, leading to the arrest of one of the armed men while the rest managed to escape;

Further aware of the poor response of the Nigeria Police in spite of several calls to various officers at the early stage of the attack;

Cognizant of the need to ensure the security of lives and property of all Nigerians irrespective of class, tribe or religion;

Resolved to:

- (i) set up an *Ad hoc* Committee to investigate the attack on the Deputy President of the Senate and members of his family and the circumstances regarding the late response by the Nigeria Police and report back within three weeks; and
- (ii) urge the relevant security agencies to ensure increased security and surveillance around the Deputy President of the Senate as well as other leaders of the National Assembly (**HR. 71/11/2018**).

5. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Periodic Revision of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB.1444) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Periodic Revision of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Related Matters (HB.1444) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Idris Ahmed — Deputy House Leader).

Debate.

Debate adjourned to enable the Committee on Rules and Business examine the Bill vis-a-vis the provisions of the Nigeria Law Reform Commission Act, Cap. N118, LFN, 2004 and report back.

6. **A Bill for an Act to Eradicate the Age Discrimination against Job seekers in the Federal Government Agencies; and for Related Matters (HB. 1502) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Eradicate the Age Discrimination against Job seekers in the Federal Government Agencies; and for Related Matters (HB. 1502) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. *Sergius Oseasochie Ogun* — Esan North East/Esan South East Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity.

7. *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That items 3 to 6 on the **Order Paper** be set down, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)" (Hon. *Edward Pwajok Gyang* — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

8. **Adjournment**
That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 8 November, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Idris Ahmed — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.24 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker