



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21 November, 2018

1. The House met at 11.33 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 Wednesday, 14 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) Staff and Students of *ECWA Hills Christian Academy*, Maitama, Abuja;
- (ii) Members of *Reformation Movement of Nigeria*, Central Business District, Abuja;
and
- (ii) Staff and Students of *Awesome Kids Academy*, Gwagwalada, Abuja.

(b) **Defection:**

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Babatunde Gabriel Kolawole (*Akoko South East/Akoko West Federal Constituency*), announcing his defection from the All Progressives Congress (APC), to Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

(c) **Resignation of Party Membership:**

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Mukaila Olayiwola Kazzim (*Abeokuta North/Obafemi Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency*), announcing his withdrawal from the All Progressives Congress (APC).

(d) **Bereavement:**

- (i) Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Garba Chede Hammanjulde (*Bali/Gassol Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of his mother, Hajiya Adama, which occurred on Monday, 20 November, 2018 at the age of 103.

- (ii) Mr Speaker announced the death of His Royal Highness, Hon. Joseph Anjorin Elegba II, a former Member (*Oyi Federal Constituency*, 1983), who died at the age of 79.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

4. **Petition**

A petition from S. OK Shilling (Esq), on the need to avoid congestion at the Ikorodu Light Terminal, was presented and laid by Hon. Babajimi Benson (*Ikorodu Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

Need to Curb Insecurity in Bayelsa State through the Erratic Deployment of Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State:

Hon. Diri Douye (*Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency and 4 others*) 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 Curb Insecurity in Bayelsa State Through the Erratic Deployment of Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State:

The House:

Notes that the primary responsibility of the Police is to protect citizens from harm and danger, prevent crimes, respond to emergency calls, investigate crimes, make arrests, enforce the law and bring criminals to book;

Also notes that consistency is important in building trust and bridging communication gap between the police and citizens to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the Police Force;

Cognizant that the Commissioner of Police, as the operational head of the Police in the State, requires a fairly long time in the State to enable him have a solid understanding of the security challenges of the State and develop strategies to handle them, based on the unique needs of the State;

Worried about the incessant deployment and redeployment of Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State, particularly in the last three (3) months, when eight (8) Commissioners of Police have served in the State;

Disturbed that by this consistent erratic behaviour, on the average, one Commissioner of Police is posted to serve in the State virtually every ten (10) days, thus making it practically impossible for the Governor, who is the Chief Security Officer of the State, to develop a lasting synergy with the police apparatus for peace and tranquility in the State;

Concerned that whereas the Government and people of the State have expressed reservations over the constant changes of Police Commissioners in the State, this unconventional act has persisted;

Also concerned that the apparent politicization of deployment of Police Commissioners in the State, which has created severe disequilibrium in security, has instilled fear and apprehension in the citizenry, and could lead to a total breakdown of law and order, particularly ahead of the 2019 general elections;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to investigate the motive behind the erratic deployment of eight (8) Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State in the last three (3) months and report back within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Diri Douye — Yenagou/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency and 4 Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the primary responsibility of the Police is to protect citizens from harm and danger, prevent crimes, respond to emergency calls, investigate crimes, make arrests, enforce the law and bring criminals to book;

Also noted that consistency is important in building trust and bridging communication gap between the police and citizens to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the Police Force;

Cognizant that the Commissioner of Police, as the operational head of the Police in the State, requires a fairly long time in the State to enable him have a solid understanding of the security challenges of the State and develop strategies to handle them, based on the unique needs of the State;

Worried about the incessant deployment and redeployment of Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State, particularly in the last three (3) months, when eight (8) Commissioners of Police have served in the State;

Disturbed that by this consistent erratic behaviour, on the average, one Commissioner of Police is posted to serve in the State virtually every ten (10) days, thus making it practically impossible for the Governor, who is the Chief Security Officer of the State, to develop a lasting synergy with the police apparatus for peace and tranquility in the State;

Concerned that whereas the Government and people of the State have expressed reservations over the constant changes of Police Commissioners in the State, this unconventional act has persisted;

Also concerned that the apparent politicization of deployment of Police Commissioners in the State, which has created severe disequilibrium in security, has instilled fear and apprehension in the citizenry, and could lead to a total breakdown of law and order, particularly ahead of the 2019 general elections;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to investigate the motive behind the erratic deployment of eight (8) Commissioners of Police to Bayelsa State in the last three (3) months and report back within two (2) weeks (**HR. 82/11/2018**).

6. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Holidays Act, Cap. P40, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to bring the Act in tandem with the current realities and exigencies of the modern times and for Related Matters (HB. 918), and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of item 5 of the Schedule to the Public Holidays Act, Cap. P40, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to declare June, 12 as Democracy Day in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1529) be now consolidated (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

7. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Health Science; and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 1535) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Health Science; and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 1535) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

8. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation Act, Cap. N137, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Nigerian Tourism Development Authority; and for Related Matters (HB. 1212) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation Act, Cap. N137, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Nigerian Tourism Development Authority; and for Related Matters (HB. 1212) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

9. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Ikare-Akoko, Ondo State to Provide full Time Courses in Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Technical and Vocational Education; and for Related Matters (HB.1469) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Ikare-Akoko, Ondo State to Provide full Time Courses in Teaching Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Technical and Vocational Education; and for Related Matters (HB. 1469) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Olemija Stephen Friday — Akoko Northeast/Akoko West Federal Constituency and 3 others*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

10. **Discharge of Committees from Referrals on Bills, Pursuant to Order Seventeen, Rule 3 (1) (g) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the following Bills were read a Second time separately between 2016 and 2017 and referred to respective Committees for legislative actions:

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Title of Bill</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Committee</i>
1.	Medical Rehabilitation Therapists Registration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016.	14/1/2016	Healthcare Services
2.	Investment and Security Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015	19/1/2016	Capital Market and Institutions
3.	Inland Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016	1/3/2016	Ports, Harbours and Waterways
4.	Loans (State Development) Act (Repeal) Bill, 2016	1/3/2016	Aids, Loans and Debt Management
5.	Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016	3/3/2016	Healthcare Services
6.	Standards Organization of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015	8/3/2016	Industry
7.	Communications (Reducing Unsolicited Telecommunications Phone Calls and Text) Bill, 2016	10/3/2016	Telecommunications
8.	Pre-Shipment Inspection of Export Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016	10/3/2016	Commerce
9.	National Planning Process Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016	14/4/2016	National Planning and Development
10.	Unclaimed Financial Assets Bill, 2016	19/4/2016	Insurance and Actuarial Matters, and Finance
11.	Nigeria Institute of Soil Science (Disciplinary Tribunal) Bill, 2015	21/4/2016	Agricultural Production and Services
12.	Chartered Institute of Operations Management of Nigeria Bill, 2016	21/4/2016	Commerce
13.	National Boundary Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015	27/4/2016	Special Duties
14.	Trade Malpractices Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016	27/4/2016	Commerce

15.	National Programme on Immunization Act (Repeal) Bill, 2015	18/5/2016	Healthcare Services
16.	Monetary Power (Abrogation and Regulation) Bill, 2016.	19/5/2016	Justice
17.	National Maritime Insurance Bureau (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2016	19/5/2016	Insurance and Actuarial Matters
18.	Counterfeit and Fake Drugs and Unwholesome Processed Food (Miscellaneous Provision) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015	31/5/2016	Governmental Affairs
19.	Chartered Institute of Global Communication and Diplomacy of Nigeria Bill, 2015	1/6/2016	Commerce
20.	Communication Service Tax Bill, 2015	1/6/2016	Telecommunications
21.	National Agricultural Development Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2016	2/6/2016	Agricultural Production and Services
22.	Infrastructure Management and Maintenance Bill, 2015	8/6/2016	Works
23.	Nigerian National Heroes Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2015	8/6/2016	Governmental Affairs
24.	Traffic Warden Service Bill, 2016	23/3/2017	Police Affairs

Aware that the Committees are yet to present Reports on the Bills, contrary to the provisions of Order Seventeen, Rule 3 (1) (g) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, to wit: -

"Any matter referred to any Committee shall be treated within 30 days otherwise the Committee shall stand discharged after 60 days and the matter committed to the Committee of the Whole for consideration";

Resolves to:

Discharge the Committees of the above mentioned Bills and commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok —Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Ordered: *Mr Speaker directed that all referrals to Committees that have not been reported out on the ground of non-release of funds should be itemise and brought to the notice of the House.*

11. **Need to Expand the Practice of Agriculture to Include the Science of Aquaculture**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that agriculture is the main base of human life, as daily living directly or indirectly depends on agriculture which results in the provision of food, fuel, furniture, raw materials for factories and flood control;

Observes with concern that Nigeria has failed to make transition from the traditional definition of agriculture and as a result, has not kept pace with the growth and transformation of the agriculture value chain to leverage on the many opportunities inherent therein, particularly in Aquaculture;

Aware that the volume of global trade in aquaculture value chain is in excess of 200 Billion Dollars and that fisheries departments in the top ten leading aquaculture countries have created exclusive entities for fisheries or autonomous Bureau of Fisheries in their respective Ministries;

Convinced that Nigeria can set an ambitious goal of becoming a leading country in aquaculture; specifically in the productive development of its coastal marine environment by taking a more serious interest in the development of its aquaculture sector and providing equitable funding;

Cognizant of the need to provide incentives to the estimated 1 million indigenous artisanal fishermen and small-scale fish farmers using old equipment and outdated practices and scale them up into diverse set of industrial fishery practices using modern technologies for the growth and sustainability of aquaculture;

Also aware that with a coastline of more than 850 kilometers and numerous rivers, including West Africa's two largest canals and tributaries, Nigeria has huge geographic potential for aquaculture;

Appreciates that Nigeria is blessed with a large resource based waterways spanning 10,000 kilometers; and twenty-eight of the nation's 36 States can be accessed through water, an ideal situation for large-scale fisheries development of diverse marine fish species.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to include the science of Aquaculture in the practice of Agriculture to oversee the fishery and aquaculture sector, to majorly formulate plans, strategies, policies and programmes for fishery development, to guide fishery economic reform, to implement and monitor fisheries laws, regulations and international/bilateral fisheries agreements;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek Abiante — Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency and 2 others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that agriculture is the main base of human life, as daily living directly or indirectly depends on agriculture which results in the provision of food, fuel, furniture, raw materials for factories and flood control;

Observed with concern that Nigeria has failed to make transition from the traditional definition of agriculture and as a result, has not kept pace with the growth and transformation of the agriculture value chain to leverage on the many opportunities inherent therein, particularly in Aquaculture;

Aware that the volume of global trade in aquaculture value chain is in excess of 200 Billion Dollars and that fisheries departments in the top ten leading aquaculture countries have created exclusive entities for fisheries or autonomous Bureau of Fisheries in their respective Ministries;

Convinced that Nigeria can set an ambitious goal of becoming a leading country in aquaculture; specifically in the productive development of its coastal marine environment by taking a more serious interest in the development of its aquaculture sector and providing equitable funding;

Cognizant of the need to provide incentives to the estimated 1million indigenous artisanal fishermen and small-scale fish farmers using old equipment and outdated practices and scale them up into diverse set of industrial fishery practices using modern technologies for the growth and sustainability of aquaculture;

Also aware that with a coastline of more than 850 kilometers and numerous rivers, including West Africa's two largest canals and tributaries, Nigeria has huge geographic potential for aquaculture;

Appreciated that Nigeria is blessed with a large resource based waterways spanning 10,000 kilometers; and twenty-eight of the nation's 36 States can be accessed through water, an ideal situation for large-scale fisheries development of diverse marine fish species.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to include the science of Aquaculture in the practice of Agriculture to oversee the fishery and aquaculture sector, to majorly formulate plans, strategies, policies and programmes for fishery development, to guide fishery economic reform, to implement and monitor fisheries laws, regulations and international/bilateral fisheries agreements;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks (**HR. 83/11/2018**).

12. **Kidnap of Four Reverend Sisters in Delta State**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the spate of kidnapping in Delta State where several persons were kidnapped, including four Reverend Sisters of the Medical Missionaries of Mary (MMM) Congregation near Agbor, Ika South Council of Delta State;

Disturbed by the increased rate of kidnapping and attack on the clergy and religious leaders across the country;

Worried that armed men are still ravaging and terrorizing citizens despite calls on government to tame the activities of the Group;

Aware that if the kidnapped persons are not rescued, it might lead to loss of lives of the affected persons and heighten religious tension;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the kidnapping and attack on religious leaders;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to take necessary steps to rescue the kidnapped persons including the four Reverend Sisters;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Raphael Nnamma Igbokwe — Abiazu Mbaise/Ezinihitte Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iii), immediately after the word "within" *leave out* "four (4) weeks" and *insert* "one (1) week" (*Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi — Odo-Otin/Ifelodun/Boripe Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word “including” *leave out* “the four Reverend Sisters” and *insert* “religious leaders” (*Hon. Sergius Oseasochie Ogun — Esan North East/Esan West/Esan Central Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
“Urge the National Population Commission to develop the needed framework to ensure the registration of birth and death in the 774 Local Government Areas of Nigeria, to develop the national data base that will help security agencies determine crime” (*Hon. Chris Azubogu — Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the spate of kidnapping in Delta State where several persons were kidnapped, including four Reverend Sisters of the Medical Missionaries of Mary (MMM) Congregation near Agbor, Ika South Council of Delta State;

Disturbed by the increased rate of kidnapping and attack on the clergy and religious leaders across the country;

Worried that armed men are still ravaging and terrorizing citizens despite calls on government to tame the activities of the Group;

Aware that if the kidnapped persons are not rescued, it might lead to loss of lives of the affected persons and heighten religious tension;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the kidnapping and attack on religious leaders;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to take necessary steps to rescue the kidnapped persons including religious leaders;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report back within one (1) week (HR. 84/11/2018).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

13. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 22 November, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Idris Ahmed — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.37 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker