



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 25 July, 2019

1. The House met at 12.13 p.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, 24 July, 2019.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
3. **Oaths of Allegiance and Membership**
A Member-elect, Amiru Tukur (*Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*) took and subscribed to the Oaths of Allegiance and Membership as prescribed by law.
4. **Announcement**
 - (a) **Ad-hoc Committees on Abandoned Projects since 1999:**
Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Committees as follows:
 - (i) **Ad-hoc Committee on Works:**

(1)	Hon. Francis Charles Uduyok	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Mohammed Gololo	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Ahmed Satomi	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Kabiru Yahaya	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Aniekan Umanah	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Valentine Ayika Ogbonna	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Makwe Livinus Makwe	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Salam Bamidele	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Shoyinka Olatunji	—	Member
 - (ii) **Ad-hoc Committee on FERMA:**

(1)	Hon. Usman Bello Kumo	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Olaifa Jimoh	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ahmed Mohammed Bakura	—	Member

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| | (5) | Hon. Magaji Amos Gwamna | — | Member |
| | (6) | Hon. Ifeanyi Ibezi | — | Member |
| | (7) | Hon. Nkole Uko Ndukwe | — | Member |
| | (8) | Hon. Chinedu Emeka Martins | — | Member |
| | (9) | Hon. Adeogun Adejoro | — | Member |
| | (10) | Hon. Sokpo Kpam Jimin | — | Member |
|
(iii) <i>Ad-hoc Committee on Health:</i> | | | | |
| | (1) | Hon. Chinedu Obidigwe | — | Chairman |
| | (2) | Hon. Haruna Mshelia | — | Member |
| | (3) | Hon. Abdulrauf Modibo | — | Member |
| | (4) | Hon. Shehu Ahmed | — | Member |
| | (5) | Hon. Mani Maishinko | — | Member |
| | (6) | Hon. Henry Okon Archibong | — | Member |
| | (7) | Hon. Ben Kalu | — | Member |
| | (8) | Hon. Gboluga Ikengbolu | — | Member |
| | (9) | Hon. Peter Makinde | — | Member |
|
(iv) <i>Ad-hoc Committee on NDDC:</i> | | | | |
| | (1) | Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai | — | Chairman |
| | (2) | Hon. Buba Yakubu | — | Member |
| | (3) | Hon. Ibrahim | — | Member |
| | (4) | Hon. Sulaiman Abubakar | — | Member |
| | (5) | Hon. Mohammed Saidu Bara Gaja | — | Member |
| | (6) | Hon. Ibakpa Ben Rollands | — | Member |
| | (7) | Hon. Kingsley Uju | — | Member |
| | (8) | Hon. Ofor Chukwuegbo | — | Member |
| | (9) | Hon. Olajide A. Stanley | — | Member |
|
(v) <i>Ad-hoc Committee on Power:</i> | | | | |
| | (1) | Hon. Tajudeen Abass | — | Chairman |
| | (2) | Hon. Dan Asuquo | — | Member |
| | (3) | Hon. Zakariyau Galadima | — | Member |
| | (4) | Hon. Lawan Shettima | — | Member |
| | (5) | Hon. Kabiru Amadu | — | Member |
| | (6) | Hon. Shehu Garba | — | Member |
| | (7) | Hon. Chisom Promise Dike | — | Member |
| | (8) | Hon. Ofumelu Vincent | — | Member |
| | (9) | Hon. Atigwe Simon | — | Member |
| | (10) | Hon. Fatoba Steve Olusola | — | Member |
| | (11) | Hon. Taiwo Adewole | — | Member |
| | (12) | Hon. Sada Soli | — | Member |
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(vi) <i>Ad-hoc Committee on Water Resources:</i> | | | | |
| | (1) | Hon. Ofor Chukwuegbo | — | Chairman |
| | (2) | Hon. Dennis Amadi | — | Member |
| | (3) | Hon. Victor Mela | — | Member |
| | (4) | Hon. Daladi Baido | — | Member |
| | (5) | Hon. Umar Sani Dan-Galadima | — | Member |
| | (6) | Hon. Shehu Balarabe | — | Member |
| | (7) | Hon. Josiah Idem | — | Member |
| | (8) | Hon. Stephen Azaiki | — | Member |
| | (9) | Hon. Bede Eke | — | Member |
| | (10) | Hon. Tajudeen Adefisoye | — | Member |
| | (11) | Hon. Victor Akinjo | — | Member |

(vii) *Ad-hoc Committee on Communications:*

(1)	Hon. Chukwuma Umeoji	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Hassan Bello Shinkafi	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Ahmed Muktar	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Chinyere Igwe	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Christopher Etiaba	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Eze Nwankwo	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Victor Kolade	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Abass Adigun Adekunle	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Kolapo K. Ogunsanya	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Kolawole Lawal	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Sarki Dahiru	—	Member

(b) *Ad-hoc Committee to Interface with Relevant Agencies, as well as Visit Bama/Ngala/Kala Balge Areas of Borno State to Ascertain the Current Humanitarian and Infrastructural Situation so as to Proffer Sustainable Solutions to the Crises (HR. 38/07/2019).*

Mr Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo	—	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Mohammed Umar Jega	—	Member
(3)	Hon. Usman Ibrahiim Auyo	—	Member
(4)	Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai	—	Member
(5)	Hon. Zainab Gimba	—	Member
(6)	Hon. Saidu Musa Biddah	—	Member
(7)	Hon. Blessing Onuh	—	Member
(8)	Hon. Victor Mela	—	Member
(9)	Hon. Ogbeide-Ihama Omoregie	—	Member
(10)	Hon. Solomon Adaelu	—	Member
(11)	Hon. Adebayo Olusegun Balogun	—	Member
(12)	Hon. Olatubosun Olajide Boladale	—	Member
(13)	Hon. Omowumi Olubunmi Ogunlola	—	Member

(c) *Appointment of Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Special and Standing Committees of the House:*

Mr Speaker announced the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the Committees as follows:

S/No.	Committee	Chairman	Deputy Chairman
1.	Appropriations	Hon. Muktar Betara	Hon. Igariwey Enwo
2.	Constitutional Review	Hon. Ahmed Idris	Hon. Alhassan Doguwa
3.	Ecological Fund	Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka	Hon. Mahmud Abdulahi
4.	Federal Capital Territory	Hon. Abdullahi Garba	Hon. Blessing Onuh
5.	House Services	Hon. Wale Raji	Hon. Ayuba Badamasi
6.	Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)	Hon. Tunji-Ojo Olubunmi	Hon. Thomas Ereyitomi
7.	North East Development Commission (NEDC)	Hon. Khadijah Bukar	Hon. Moshood Akiolu
8.	Public Accounts	Hon. Wole Oke	Hon. Abdulkadir Abdullahi
9.	Public Petitions	Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso	Hon. Lawal Ken Ken
10.	Constituency Outreach	Hon. Adamu F. Gawo	Hon. Abubakar Faggo Kani
11.	Federal Character	Hon. Abubakar Kusada	Hon. Peter Makinde
12.	Agric. Colleges and Institutions	Hon. Munir Babba	Hon. Gana Bukar
13.	Agric. Production and Services	Hon. Muntari Dandutse	Hon. Ibrahim Olanrewaju

14.	Air Force	Hon. Shehu Koko	Hon. Abass Adigun
15.	Army	Hon. Abdulrasak Namdas	Hon. Tajudeen Adefisoye
16.	Aviation	Hon. Nnoli Nnaji	Hon. Musa Pali
17.	Banking and Currency	Hon. Victor Nwokolo	Hon. Afeez Kawu
18.	Basic Education	Hon. Julius Ihovbere	Hon. Usman Zannah
19.	Communications	Hon. Akeem Adeyemi	Hon. Idem Josiah
20.	Customs and Excise	Hon. Yusuf Kila	Hon. Leke Abejide
21.	Defence	Hon. Jimi Benson	Hon. Makki Yalleman
22.	Electoral Matters	Hon. Aisha Dukku	Hon. Ismail Tijani
23.	Environment	Hon. Johnson Oghuma	Hon. Obidigwe Chinedu
24.	Judiciary	Hon. Onofiok Luke	Hon. Dederi Isa
25.	Finance	Hon. James Faleke	Hon. Abdulahi Seidu
26.	Foreign Affairs	Hon. Yusuf Buba	Hon. Obina Kingsley
27.	Gas Resources	Hon. Nicholas Mutuh	Hon. Yusuf Miga
28.	Health Institutions	Hon. Pascal Obi	Hon. Oke Martins
29.	Healthcare Services	Hon. Tanko Sununu	Hon. Samuel Adejare
30.	Interior	Hon. Nazir Zango Daura	Hon. Emmanuel Effiong Ukpong-Udo
31.	Land Transport	Hon. Tajudeen Abass	Hon. Israel Goli
32.	Local Content	Hon. Legor Idagbo	Hon. Ibrahim Hamza
33.	Maritime Safety, Education and Administration	Hon. Lynda Ikpeazu	Hon. Manu Soro
34.	National Security and Intelligence	Hon. Shaban Sharada	Hon. Ade Adeogun
35.	Navy	Hon. Yusuf Gagdi	Hon. Ajao Adejumo
36.	Petroleum Resources (Downstream)	Hon. Mahmud Abdullahi Gaiya	Hon. Alex Egbona
37.	Petroleum Resources (Upstream)	Hon. Musa Sarki Adar	Hon. Preye Oseke
38.	Police Affairs	Hon. Bello U. Kumo	Hon. Ayeni Babatunde
39.	Ports and Harbours	Hon. Garba Datti	Hon. Jimoh Ojugbele
40.	Power	Hon. Aliyu M. Dau	Hon. Francis Waive
41.	Public Procurement	Hon. Nasir A. Ahmed	Hon. Uju Kingsley
42.	Rules and Business	Hon. Abubakar Fulata	Hon. Ademorin Kuye
43.	Tertiary Education	Hon. Aminu Suleiman	Hon. Ibezi Ifeanyi
44.	Water Resources	Hon. Sada Soli	Hon. Bukola Oyewo
45.	Works	Hon. Abubakar Kabir Abubakar	Hon. Olanrewaju Edun
46.	Aids, Loans and Debt Management	Hon. Safana Dayyabu	Hon. Chris Azubogu
47.	Capital Market and Institutions	Hon. Ibrahim Babangida	Hon. Anayo Edwin
48.	Civil Societies and Development Partners	Hon. Kabir Idris	Hon. Mohammed Bargaja
49.	Commerce	Hon. Femi Fakeye	Hon. Gbande Richard
50.	Co-operation and Integration in Africa	Hon. Mohammed Bago	Hon. Nwazunku Alugbala
51.	Delegated Legislations	Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga	Hon. Dele Gboluga
52.	Diaspora	Hon. Tolu Shadipe	Hon. Nwuzi Ephraim
53.	Emergency and Disaster Preparedness	Hon. Tunji Olawuyi	Hon. Shehu Yakubu
54.	FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters	Hon. Tijani Damisa	Hon. Jiba Micah
55.	FCT Judiciary	Hon. Ifeanyi Momah	Hon. Wunmi Ogunlola

56.	Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA)	Hon. Femi Bamisile	Hon. Ahmed Satome
57.	Financial Crimes	Hon. Abdulahi Ibrahim Dutse	Hon. Umar Seidu Doka
58.	Housing and Habitat	Hon. Mustapha Dawaki	Hon. Eta Mbora
59.	Industry	Hon. Dolapo Badru	Hon. Goroki Gideon
60.	Information and Communication Technology	Hon. Abubakar Lado	Hon. Solomon Adaelu
61.	Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values	Hon. Segun Odebunmi	Hon. Fred Obua
62.	Insurance and Actuarial Matters	Hon. Darlington Nwokocha	Hon. Jaha Ahmadu
63.	Internal Security of the National Assembly	Hon. Danjuma Chedeh	Hon. Ahmed Bakura
64.	Internally Displaced	Hon. Mohammed Jega	Hon. Ahmad Kalambaina
65.	Inter-Parliamentary Relations	Hon. Zakari Galadima	Hon. Danladi Baido
66.	Justice	Hon. Ozurigbo Ugonna	Hon. Kabir Tukura
67.	Labour, Employment and Productivity	Hon. Ali Wudil	Hon. Shehu Beji Barwa
68.	Legislative Compliance	Hon. Dennis Idahosa	Hon. Tunji Shoyinka
69.	Legislative Library, Research and Documentation	Hon. Gaza Gbefwi	Hon. Jide Stanley
70.	Media and Public Affairs	Hon. Benjamin Kalu	Hon. Ali Lawan Shetima
71.	National Planning and Economic Development	Hon. Olododo Cook	Hon. Hassan Shinkafi
72.	Niger Delta Ministry	Hon. Ekpenyong Essien Ayi	Hon. Henry Nwawuba
73.	Pensions	Hon. Kabir Alhassan Rurum	Hon. Bamidele Salam
74.	Populations	Hon. Lawal Idrisu	Hon. Boma Goodhead
75.	Poverty Alleviation	Hon. Abdullahi Salame	Hon. Adedayo Omolafe
76.	Public Service Matters	Hon. Sani Bala	Hon. Akintola George
77.	Rural Development	Hon. Tijani Jobe	Hon. Femi Adebajo
78.	Science and Technology	Hon. Beni Lar	Hon. Akinremi Olaide
79.	Solid Minerals	Hon. Michael Okon	Hon. Victor Mela
80.	Special Duties	Hon. Sumaila Suleiman	Hon. Sani Ma'aruf
81.	Sports	Hon. Olumide Osoba	Hon. Rauf Modibbo
82.	Steel	Hon. Ali Ibrahim	Hon. Jide Obanikoro
83.	Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)	Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye	Hon. Zainab Gimba
84.	Youth Development	Hon. Yemi Adaramodu	Hon. Ari Abdulmumin
85.	Anti-Corruption	Hon. Nicholas Shehu	Hon. Fatuhu Muhammed
86.	Climate Change	Hon. Ibrahim Bukar	Hon. Ibrahim Makama
87.	Culture and Tourism	Hon. Ihama Ogbiede	Hon. Hassan Abdulai
88.	Drugs and Narcotics	Hon. Francis Agbor	Hon. Abdulkadir Sarki
89.	Ethics and Privileges	Hon. Kolawole Lawal	Hon. Ibrahim Hamisu
90.	Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC)	Hon. Mayowa Akinfolarin	Hon. Shehu Balarabe
91.	FOI Reform of Government Institutions	Hon. Cornelius Nnaji	Hon. Abubakar Dakene
92.	HIV, AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malarial Control	Hon. Sarki Dahiru	Hon. Umaru Yabo

93.	Human Rights	Hon. John Dyegh	Hon. Eliza Simon
94.	Lake Chad	Hon. Ashiru Mani	Hon. Jimoh Olaifa
95.	Legislative Budget and Research	Hon. Mike Etaba	Hon. Muda Lawal
96.	Inter-Governmental Affairs	Hon. Akin Alabi	Hon. Mansur Ali Mashi
97.	Pilgrims Affairs	Hon. Abubakar Nalaraba	Hon. James Owolabi
98.	Political Parties Matters	Hon. Gudaji Kazaure	Hon. Yemi Alli
99.	Privatisation and Commercialisation	Hon. Garba Gololo	Hon. Victor Akinjo
100.	Reformatory Institutions	Hon. Ogbee Lazarus	Hon. Tijani Zannah
101.	Treaties, Protocol and Agreements	Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai	Hon. Abdulkadir Arma' yau
102.	Inland Waterways	Hon. Patrick Asadu	Hon. Jarigbe Agom
103.	Urban Development and Regional Planning	Hon. Jide Jimoh	Hon. Aliyu Almustapha
104.	Women Affairs and Social Development	Hon. Wunmi Onanuga	Hon. Vincent Ofumelu
105.	Women in Parliament	Hon. Taiwo Oluga	Hon. Usman Abdullahi

(d) **ECOWAS Parliament:**

Mr Speaker announced the following Members to represent the House in the ECOWAS Parliament:

(1)	Hon. Ahmed Idris (<i>Deputy Speaker</i>)	—	<i>Chairman</i>
(2)	Hon. Yakubu Barde	—	<i>Member</i>
(3)	Hon. Umeoji Michael	—	<i>Member</i>
(4)	Hon. Saleh Gabriel Zock	—	<i>Member</i>
(5)	Hon. Oghene Egoh	—	<i>Member</i>
(6)	Hon. Nasir Gabasawa	—	<i>Member</i>
(7)	Hon. Isah Murtala	—	<i>Member</i>
(8)	Hon. Ibrahim Auyo	—	<i>Member</i>
(9)	Hon. Abdullahi Umar Kamba	—	<i>Member</i>
(10)	Hon. Haruna Mshelia	—	<i>Member</i>
(11)	Hon. Sergius Ogun	—	<i>Member</i>
(12)	Hon. Kolawola Taiwo	—	<i>Member</i>
(13)	Hon. Banidele Salam	—	<i>Member</i>
(14)	Hon. Bashir Dawodu	—	<i>Member</i>
(15)	Hon. Haruna Maitala	—	<i>Member</i>
(16)	Hon. Abiante Dagomie	—	<i>Member</i>
(17)	Hon. Bayo Balogun	—	<i>Member</i>
(18)	Hon. Taiwo Adewale	—	<i>Member</i>
(19)	Hon. Samuel Onuigbo	—	<i>Member</i>
(20)	Hon. Balcarabe Abdullahi Salame	—	<i>Member</i>

(e) **African Caribbean Pacific European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly:**

Mr Speaker announced membership of the African Caribbean Pacific European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly as follows:

(1)	Hon. Ladan Shehu	—	<i>Member</i>
(2)	Hon. Ganiyu Johnson	—	<i>Member</i>
(3)	Hon. Ayika Valentine Ogbona	—	<i>Member</i>
(4)	Hon. Bello Shamsudeen	—	<i>Member</i>
(5)	Hon. Mufutau Egberongbe	—	<i>Member</i>

(f) **Pan African Parliament:**

Mr Speaker announced membership of the Pan African Parliament as follows:

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| (1) | Hon. Bashir Isah | — | Member |
| (2) | Hon. Taiwo Oluga | — | Member |
| (3) | Hon. Tunde Hunpe | — | Member |

4. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Ofomi (General) Landlords/Landladies Association, Ibadan, Oyo State, on the reconstruction of Ijebu - Igbo-Ita - Egba - Owonowen - Ibadan road in Ogun and Oyo States, was presented and laid by Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe (*Oluyole Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Lady Scholastica Onyenemezu, on the alleged malicious expulsion of Peter Onyenemezu by the authorities of Madonna University, Elele, Rivers State, was presented and laid by Hon. Bob Solomon (*Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Need to Address the Ambush and Killing of the Nigerian Soldiers by the Boko Haram:***
Hon. Nnam-Obi Uchechukwu (*Ahoada West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni 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 Address the Ambush and Killing of Nigerian Soldiers by Boko Haram:

The House:

Notes the devastating effect of insurgency in Northern Nigeria which has lasted for 10 years. Since 26 July, 2009, despite the Federal Government's concerted effort to eliminate same it has continued to bedevil the region causing severe social cum economic melt down, particularly in the States of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa;

Aware that although the Nigerian Military has deployed men and materials in great numbers to quell insurgency in this region, many have lost family members, homes and businesses have suffered during this 10 years of insurgency. The efforts of the Federal Government and that of the men of the Armed Forces must indeed be commended for their selfless service to the nation despite the high casualty rates;

Worried about recent reports from the media on the ambush and killing of Nigerian soldiers, including some officers at Jakana, near Maiduguri, Borno State capital and along Birnin Gwari - Kaduna road respectively by the Islamic State, West African Province (ISWAP);

Concerned by report on AlJazeera Television that over 27,000 people have been killed while some two million have been forced to flee their homes as a result of the insurgency. While commending the efforts of the Federal Government and our Armed Forces, it has become imperative to double efforts towards eliminating this scourge as reports such as this is capable of dampening the morale of the troops and the confidence of the populace;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Chief of Defence Staff and the Service Chiefs of the Armed Forces to double their already commendable efforts so as to forestall the reoccurrence of the loss of our citizens in this fight;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in honour of the souls of the departed; and
- (iii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to improve funding for the Armed Forces to enable them recruit more hands and update their equipment (*Hon. Uchechuku Nnam-Obi — Ahoada-West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.**Agreed to.**The House:*

Noted the devastating effect of insurgency in Northern Nigeria which has lasted for 10 years. Since 26 July, 2009, despite the Federal Government's concerted effort to eliminate same it has continued to bedevil the region causing severe social cum economic melt down particularly in the States of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa;

Aware that although the Nigerian Military has deployed men and materials in great numbers to quell insurgency in this region, many have lost family members, homes and businesses have suffered during this 10 years of insurgency. The efforts of the Federal Government and that of the men of the Armed Forces must indeed be commended for their selfless service to the nation despite the high casualty rates;

Worried about recent reports from the media on the ambush and killing of Nigerian soldiers, including some officers at Jakana, near Maiduguri, Borno State capital and along Birnin Gwari - Kaduna road respectively by the Islamic State, West African Province (ISWAP);

Concerned by report on AlJazeera Television that over 27,000 people have been killed while some two million have been forced to flee their homes as a result of the insurgency. While commending the efforts of the Federal Government and our Armed Forces, it has become imperative to double efforts towards eliminating this scourge as reports such as this is capable of dampening the morale of the troops and the confidence of the populace;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Chief of Defence Staff and the Service Chiefs of the Armed Forces to double their already commendable efforts so as to forestall the reoccurrence of the loss of our citizens in this fight;
- (ii) observe a minute silence in honour of the souls of the departed; and
- (iii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to improve funding for the Armed Forces to enable them recruit more hands and update their equipment (**HR. 64/07/2019**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) ***Need to Address Security Threats and Possible Total Breakdown of Law and Order in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) as a Result of Forceful Acquisition of Land from Abuja Indigenes by the Nigerian Army:***

Hon. Micah Yohanna Jiba (*Abuja Municipal/Bwari 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 Address Security Threats and Possible Total Breakdown of Law and Order in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) as a Result of Forceful Acquisition of Land from Abuja Indigenes by the Nigerian Army:

The House:

Notes that Section 217 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) empowers the Armed Forces to defend Nigeria from external aggression, maintain its territorial integrity, secure its borders from violation and perform such other functions as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly;

Also notes with concern the incessant acts of harassment, intimidation, brutalization and forceful acquisition of land belonging to indigenes of Abuja by the Nigerian Army which led to the killing of one Hamza Usman, with 27 other indigenes sustaining various degrees of injuries in the process;

Informed that an *Ad-hoc* Committee was set up by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to conduct a hearing on the matter in order to ascertain the causes of the dispute between FCT indigenes and the Nigerian Army;

Also informed that the public hearing, which held on 29 April, 2019, was attended by the former Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, the Nigerian Armed Forces, Office of the National Security Adviser, the Inspector-General of Police, the Director-General, Department of State Services, the National Human Rights Commission and indigenes of the Federal Capital Territory;

Aware that at the public hearing, presentations were made by stakeholders, and the Permanent Secretary of the FCT reaffirmed to the Committee that the said land was neither allocated to the Nigerian Army nor was its proposed facilities captured in the Abuja Master Plan, and that there is no document in the Federal Capital Territory Authority (FCTA) Archive bearing such allocation;

Also aware that the *Ad-hoc* Committee which was chaired by Senator Abubakar Kyari decided that the Nigerian Army should stop any construction-activities on the land and that FCT indigenes should put on hold any further protests, pending the outcome of the Committee's findings;

Recalls that a Presidential Committee on the same matter set up and headed by the Chief of Staff to the President, Alhaji Abba Kyari, reached the same decision;

Concerned that despite the outcome of the various meetings by stakeholders, the Nigerian Army has continued to develop on the disputed land, while harassing the Abuja original inhabitants who dared to challenge the Army;

Disturbed that on 12 July, 2019, the Nigerian Army issued a quit notice to all the FCT original inhabitants on the land to deliver up possession of the land on or before 3 August, 2019, and that in the event of refusal to comply within the stated time line, the Nigerian Army will do everything within its power to take possession of the land;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Army to stop inflicting pains on innocent, harmless, and law abiding people of FCT as well as ensure total compliance to the rule of law and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
- (ii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the dispute over land between the FCT indigenes and the Nigerian Army and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Micah Yohanna Jiba — AMAC/Bwari Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 217 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) empowers the Armed Forces to defend Nigeria from external aggression, maintain its territorial integrity, secure its borders from violation and perform such other functions as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly;

Also noted with concern the incessant acts of harassment, intimidation, brutalization and forceful acquisition of land belonging to indigenes of Abuja by the Nigerian Army which led to the killing of one Hamza Usman, with 27 other indigenes sustaining various degrees of injuries in the process;

Informed that an *Ad-hoc* Committee was set up by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to conduct a hearing on the matter in order to ascertain the causes of the dispute between FCT indigenes and the Nigerian Army;

Also informed that the public hearing, which held on 29 April, 2019, was attended by the former Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, the Nigerian Armed Forces, Office of the National Security Adviser, the Inspector-General of Police, the Director-General, Department of State Services, the National Human Rights Commission and indigenes of the Federal Capital Territory;

Aware that at the public hearing, presentations were made by stakeholders, and the Permanent Secretary of the FCT reaffirmed to the Committee that the said land was neither allocated to the Nigerian Army nor was its proposed facilities captured in the Abuja Master Plan, and that there is no document in the Federal Capital Territory Authority (FCTA) Archive bearing such allocation;

Also aware that the *Ad-hoc* Committee which was chaired by Senator Abubakar Kyari decided that the Nigerian Army should stop any construction-activities on the land and that FCT indigenes should put on hold any further protests, pending the outcome of the Committee's findings;

Recalled that a Presidential Committee on the same matter set up and headed by the Chief of Staff to the President, Alhaji Abba Kyari, reached the same decision;

Concerned that despite the outcome of the various meetings by stakeholders, the Nigerian Army has continued to develop on the disputed land, while harassing the Abuja original inhabitants who dared to challenge the Army;

Disturbed that on 12 July, 2019, the Nigerian Army issued a quit notice to all the FCT original inhabitants on the land to deliver up possession of the land on or before 3 August, 2019, and that in the event of refusal to comply within the stated time line, the Nigerian Army will do everything within its power to take possession of the land;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Army to stop inflicting pains on innocent, harmless, and law abiding people of FCT as well as ensure total compliance to the rule of law and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and
- (ii) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the dispute over land between the FCT indigenes and the Nigerian Army and report back within four (4) weeks (**HR. 65/07/2019**).

Motion made and Question proposed. “That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance” (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Need for the Reconstruction of the Geidam-Maine Soroa Road in Yobe State:***
Hon. Lawan Shetima Ali (Bursari/Geidam/Ymusari 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 for the Reconstruction of the Geidam-Maine Soroa Road in Yobe State:

The House:

Notes that Geidam Local Government Area sharing borders with Diffa Province of the Republic of Niger, Chad and other neighbouring countries;

Also notes that the Geidam/Maine Soroa road serves as a major cross-border trade route through which goods and services are transported between Nigeria and other African countries;

Aware that the concept of good governance involves the ability of Government to meet the needs of the people through accountable, responsive, reliable and quality service delivery which can be achieved through the provision of good roads;

Also aware that good roads provide hope for prosperity for commuters using the road for trade and other socio-economic activities;

Concerned that since the construction of the 35 kilometer road in 2005/2007, hardly had any maintenance been carried out on the road;

Also concerned that the Geidam/Maine Soroa Road, which is plied regularly by heavy duty vehicles, has suffered total neglect over time, leading to its collapse;

Worried that due to the deplorable state of the road, the people of Geidam Local Government Area and commuters suffer untold hardship as vehicular movement is hindered and regular economic activities are being frustrated by their inability to smoothly transact business with neighbouring towns;

Also worried that the road has become a death trap for motorists and commuters with its attendant risks ranging from constant vehicle breakdowns, to loss of lives through accidents and armed robbery attacks by hoodlums who take advantage of the hapless situation of victims;

Cognizant that reconstruction of the road will greatly improve the inter-State and trans-border trade, thus boosting the nation's economy as well as enhancing the lives of the people;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to commence immediate rehabilitation of the Geidam/Maine Soroa Road in Geidam Local Government Area of Yobe State;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to make provisions in the 2020 Budget for the reconstruction and expansion of the aforementioned road; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Lawan Shettima Ali — Bursari/Geidam/Yumusari Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 67/07/2019).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

- (iv) ***Need to Address the Incessant Killings, Kidnapping, Banditry and Destruction of Crops/Farmlands by Herdsmen at Ethiope, Delta State:***

Hon. Ben Igbakpa Rollands (*Ethiope East/Ethiope West 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.

Incessant Killings, Kidnapping, Banditry and Destruction of Farm Produce at Ethiope Federal Constituency by Herdsmen:

The House:

Notes that Ethiope Federal Constituency made of Ethiope-East and Ethiope- West, a linear settlement along the shores of river Ethiope, is a predominantly agrarian constituency and well known for the production of cassava, plantain and yam;

Also notes that Delta State University is situated in Abraka in Ethiope-East Local Government Area (LGA) which has enable many of the lecturers to engage in farming;

Further notes that between 2014 to 2018, a total number of forty (40) people out of which four (4) were lecturers, were killed on their farm lands by Herdsmen;

Worried that this year (2019), also a total of eight (8) persons were murdered by herdsmen grazing on their farmland;

Concerned upon all this killings by the herdsmen not a single prosecution of this culprits to serve as deterrent has been recorded;

Also concerned that on 12 July, 2019, over 100 hectares of farmland belonging to the people of the entire LGA of Ethiope-East were occupied by herdsmen forcing the people of the area to relocate to the neighbouring Edo State;

Disturbed that if these ugly and dastardly acts are not checked having gradually eroded the source of livelihood of the people of Ethiope Local Government Areas, particularly Abraka, Eku, Oghara, Jesse and Mosogar communities, with likelihood of discouraging potential investors and ruining the comparative agricultural advantage in these areas, panic, palpable fear and tension on the people who are now afraid to go to farms in search of their daily bread and sustenance, will no doubt lead to hunger, poverty, malnutrition and ultimately refugees in their own ancestral land;

Observed that despite the effect on food security and the inherent adverse economic effect on the people, the activities of these herdsmen if not checked could result to self-help by the local communities which should not be encouraged;

Further concerned that the nefarious activities of these herdsmen have continued unabated for over five (5) years with devastating consequences as it progresses, and that despite the routine activities of security agencies to tackle the menace, there is an urgent need for a more robust and sustainable approach to solving the problem by all stakeholders;

Aware that Section 14 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that the welfare and security of the people shall be the primary responsibility of the government, the people of Ethiope West/East want to see that the Federal Government of Nigeria has not failed in its constitutional duty to secure them, the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of movement of the good people of Abraka, Jesse, Mosogar, Oghara and Okpara, seems to have been eroded the nefarious activities of the herdsmen;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Army, Nigeria Police Force, Department of State Security (DSS) and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), to as a matter of urgency call a meeting of the stakeholders in Ethiope Federal Constituency and Leaders of the herdsmen to find a lasting solution to this recurring security;

- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal Ministry of Information and the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to enlighten herdsmen to endeavour to limit grazing of cattles in the areas allowed by law;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal Ministry of Information and the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to advocate the need for herdsmen to understand that ranching should be a compulsory component of cattle herding in Nigeria in the interest of peace with host communities;
- (iv) still urge the Security agencies to ensure the criminalization of open grazing to the extent of its effect on the security of lives, property and food production except where laws have been enacted to promote such open grazing;
- (v) again urgé the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other regulatory authorities as a matter of urgency to provide relief materials to the victims of the herdsmen attack; and
- (vi) urge the Police and Army authorities to increase their patrol of the Sapele-Oghere-Abraka road in order to curb the activities of these bandits and kidnappers (*Hon. Ben Rollands Igbakpa — Ethiope East/Ethiope West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Ethiope Federal Constituency made of Ethiope-East and Ethiope- West, a linear settlement along the shores of river Ethiope, is a predominantly agrarian constituency and well known for the production of cassava, plantain and yam;

Also noted that Delta State University is situated in Abraka in Ethiope-East Local Government Area (LGA) which has enable many of the lecturers to engage in farming;

Further noted that between 2014 to 2018, a total number of forty (40) people out of which four (4) were lectureres, were killed on their farm lands by Herdsmen;

Worried that this year (2019), also a total of eight (8) persons were murdered by herdsmen grazing on their farmland;

Concerned upon all this killings by the herdsmen not a single prosecution of this culprits to serve as deterrent has been recorded;

Also concerned that on 12 July, 2019, over 100 hectares of farmland belonging to the people of the entire LGA of Ethiope-East were occupied by herdsmen forcing the people of the area to relocate to the neighbouring Edo State;

Disturbed that if these ugly and dastardly acts are not checked having gradually eroded the source of livelihood of the people of Ethiope Local Government Areas, particularly Abraka, Eku, Oghara, Jesse and Mosogar communities, with likelihood of discouraging potential investors and ruining the comparative agricultural advantage in these areas, panic, palpable fear and tension on the people who are now afraid to go to farms in search of their daily bread and sustenance, will no doubt lead to hunger, poverty, malnutrition and ultimately refugees in their own ancestral land;

Observed that despite the effect on food security and the inherent adverse economic effect on the people, the activities of these herdsmen if not checked could result to self-help by the local communities which should not be encouraged;

Further concerned that the nefarious activities of these herdsmen have continued unabated for over five (5) years with devastating consequences as it progresses, and that despite the routine activities of security agencies to tackle the menace, there is an urgent need for a more robust and sustainable approach to solving the problem by all stakeholders;

Aware that Section 14 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that the welfare and security of the people shall be the primary responsibility of the government, the people of Ethiope West/East want to see that the Federal Government of Nigeria has not failed in its constitutional duty to secure them, the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of movement of the good people of Abraka, Jesse, Mosogar, Oghara and Okpara, seems to have been eroded the nefarious activities of the herdsmen;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Army, Nigeria Police Force, Department of State Security (DSS) and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), to as a matter of urgency call a meeting of the stakeholders in Ethiope Federal Constituency and Leaders of the herdsmen to find a lasting solution to this recurring security;
 - (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal Ministry of Information and the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to enlighten herdsmen to endeavour to limit grazing of cattle in the areas allowed by law;
 - (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal Ministry of Information and the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to advocate the need for herdsmen to understand that ranching should be a compulsory component of cattle herding in Nigeria in the interest of peace with host communities;
 - (iv) still urge the Security agencies to ensure the criminalization of open grazing to the extent of its effect on the security of lives, property and food production except where laws have been enacted to promote such open grazing;
 - (v) again urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other regulatory authorities as a matter of urgency to provide relief materials to the victims of the herdsmen attack; and
 - (vi) urge the Police and Army authorities to increase their patrol of the Sapele-Oghere-Abraka road in order to curb the activities of these bandits and kidnappers (**HR. 68/07/2019**).
- (v) ***Prioritizing the Welfare of Security Agencies for Optimal Performance:***
Hon. Abass Adegunle Adigun (*Ibadan Northeast/Ibadan Southeast 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.

Prioritizing the Welfare of Security Agencies for Optimal Performance:

The House:

Notes that the rate of violent crimes such as terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery, banditry, suicide bombing, religious killings, ethnic clashes, politically motivated killings and other forms of criminal activities are on the increase in Nigeria;

Also notes that there is widespread fear and insecurity in the country as Nigerians do not feel safe anywhere, home, work, highways, airports and places of worship;

Aware that the security of life and property is the bedrock of social, economic and political stability of any nation;

Also aware that the protection of the country against all forms of internal and external threat or attack is the primary responsibility of government, and this responsibility is performed through the Armed Forces, Police and other security agencies;

Convinced that the performance of our security agencies is yet to attain optimal efficiency;

Cognizant that if the government desires optimal performance from its security personnel, should be given all the necessary support, such as upward review of their salaries and allowances, training, modern equipment and enhanced welfare;

Also cognizant that emphasis on welfare impact positively on the morale and psyche of the security agents;

Observes that this welfarism strategy has effectively served as a potent tool the world over towards achieving higher goals and objectives in the quest to fighting insecurity;

Worried that if the salary, condition of service, promotion criteria and its procedure are not addressed, there would not be considerable improvement in operational capacity and effectiveness;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to improve the welfare and condition of service of the security agents; and
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to introduce an insurance based welfare scheme for all security agents to ease the hardships, trauma and difficulties they face particularly after retirement (*Hon. Abass A. Adigun — Ibadan North-East/Ibadan South-East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the rate of violent crimes such as terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery, banditry, suicide bombing, religious killings, ethnic clashes, politically motivated killings and other forms of criminal activities are on the increase in Nigeria;

Also noted that there is widespread fear and insecurity in the country as Nigerians do not feel safe anywhere, home, work, highways, airports and places of worship;

Aware that the security of life and property is the bedrock of social, economic and political stability of any nation;

Also aware that the protection of the country against all forms of internal and external threat or attack is the primary responsibility of government, and this responsibility is performed through the Armed Forces, Police and other security agencies;

Convinced that the performance of our security agencies is yet to attain optimal efficiency;

Cognizant that if the government desires optimal performance from its security personnel, should be given all the necessary support, such as upward review of their salaries and allowances, training, modern equipment and enhanced welfare;

Also cognizant that emphasis on welfare impact positively on the morale and psyche of the security agents;

Observed that this welfarism strategy has effectively served as a potent tool the world over towards achieving higher goals and objectives in the quest to fighting insecurity;

Worried that if the salary, condition of service, promotion criteria and its procedure are not addressed, there would not be considerable improvement in operational capacity and effectiveness;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to improve the welfare and condition of service of the security agents; and
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to introduce an insurance based welfare scheme for all security agents to ease the hardships, trauma and difficulties they face particularly after retirement (**HR. 69/07/2019**).

6. **Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Child Protection and Enforcement Agency Bill, 2019 (HB. 288).
- (2) Older Persons (Rights and Privileges) Bill, 2019 (HB.289).
- (3) Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute Bill, 2019 (HB.290).
- (4) Federal University of Agriculture, Sabon Gida, Langtang (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 291).
- (5) Factoring Assignments (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.292).
- (6) National Roads Fund Bill, 2019 (HB.293).
- (7) Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 294).
- (8) Nigerian Council for Management Development Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 295).
- (9) Federal Polytechnic, Kwale (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (296).

- (10) Public Officers Protection Bill, 2019 (HB. 297).
- (11) National Industrial Court Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 298).
- (12) Court of Appeal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 299).
- (13) Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.300).
- (14) Factoring (Assignment of Receivables) Bill, 2019 (HB. 301).
- (15) Federal College of Agriculture, Bokokos (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 302).
- (16) Federal Medical Centre, Mangu, (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 303).
- (17) Chartered Institute of Capital Market Registrars Bill, 2019 (HB. 304).
- (18) Chartered Institute of Entrepreneurship Education Bill, 2019 (HB.305).
- (19) Financial Control Department (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.306).
- (20) National Library Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.307).
- (21) Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.308).
- (22) Federal College of Education Idere (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.309).
- (23) Federal Polytechnic, Ayete (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.310).
- (24) Federal University of Technology, Igangan (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.311).
- (25) Federal College of Agriculture, Tape (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.312).
- (26) Federal Polytechnic, Abiriba (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 313).
- (27) Chartered Institute of Agriculture Business Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 314).
- (28) Franchise Bill, 2019 (HB.138).
- (29) Chartered Institute of Sales Professionals Bill, 2019 (HB.145).
- (30) National Hospital for Women and Children Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.197).
- (31) Evidence Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 261).
- (32) Pre-Shipment of Inspection of Exports Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 315).
- (33) Agricultural Institute and Research Center, Obubra, Cross River (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 316).
- (34) Builders (Registration, etc.) (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.317).
- (35) Builders (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.318).
- (36) Chartered Institute of Human Resources Management (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.319).

- (37) Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria Bill, 2019 (HB.320).
- (38) Nigeria Peace Keeping (Supporting and Participation) Bill, 2019(HB.321).
- (39) Federal College of Agriculture, Ijebu-Ijesa (Oriade) (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.322).
- (40) Federal College of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.323).

7. Presentation of Report

Ad-hoc Committee on Ethics and Privileges:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Ethics and Privileges (*Hon. Peter Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. Devastating Fire Disaster at Amigbo-Ama-Hausa Market in Obiagu, Enugu North Local Government Area , Enugu State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Amigbo-Ama-Hausa Market in Obiagu, Enugu North Local Government of Enugu State is a market where Igbo and Hausa traders cohabit and this market has existed in Obiagu community for a very long time;

Informed that on Friday 12th July 2019, a devastating fire outbreak occurred at the market destroying over 100 shops, and residential houses and valuables worth millions of naira;

Aware that as a result of the fire disaster, economic activities at the Market has virtually been grounded, leaving the victims financially handicapped and emotionally and psychologically distressed thus rendering the traders idle and now roaming the streets, a development that could lead to social vices;

Appreciates the efforts of the Government of Enugu State and the Local Government Council which have shown concern at the plight of the traders and visited the market;

Concerned that the remote and immediate causes of the fire outbreak are still unknown and sustainable solutions have not been proffered to prevent reoccurrence;

Resolves to:

- (i) commiserate with the Government of Enugu State and visit victims of the fire disaster while urging the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the victims;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to embark on a fact-finding visit to identify the remote and immediate causes of the fire outbreak and assess the level of damages caused with a view to preventing future occurrence and report back within four (4) (*Hon. Ofor Chukwuegbo — Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 70/07/2019).

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

9. Need to Rehabilitate Itobe- Ajaokuta- Okene Road

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Itobe - Ofunene - Ajaokuta - Okene road in Kogi State is among the busy federal roads in Nigeria through which travellers gain access to the Northern and Eastern parts of the country;

Also notes that when the road was still in a good state, it took a motorist about an hour to traverse from Itobe to Okene but it now takes between two and three hours to travel the same distance due to the deplorable state of the road;

Aware that in 2015, the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing contracted SCOA Nigeria to rehabilitate the road and was mobilized to site in order to meet up with the target to complete the road within 18months;

Concerned about the failure of the contractor to have made any meaningful progress 4 years after commencing the work and the seemingly laxity of the Ministry of Power, Works and Housing on the default by the Contractor;

Convinced that if the road is rehabilitated, the economic state of the area would fare better as it will ensure the smooth conveyance of goods from one part of the country to another and will also reduce the spate of attacks on travellers by bandit, abate the inconveniences being experienced by road users and vehicular breakdowns on the road;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to urgently rehabilitate all the bad portions of Itobe-Ofunene-Ajaokuta-Okene road as a temporary measure;
- (ii) call on the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to ensure that SCOA Nigeria Limited who was contracted to rehabilitate the road, mobilizes back to site to resume work;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Works to interface with the Federal Ministry of Works and SCOA Nigeria PIC to ascertain the reasons why the project has not been completed (*Hon. Idirisu Muhammed Lawal — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 71/07/2019).

Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

10. Need to Construct the Lekki Coastal Road from Akodo Ise to Victoria Island, Lagos State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that IbejuLekki Local Government Area is located along the coastal line of Lagos State and is probably the fastest growing economic and industrial hub at the moment with establishment of the Lekki Free Trade Zone which sits on a total land area of 16,500 hectares;

Aware that Dangote Oil Refinery which is the largest in Africa with its conglomerates like, a fertilizer plant, a petrochemical plant and a sub - sea gas pipeline project, is expected to commence operations at the local government in less than 2 years' time and with a daily production of 650,000 barrels per day will transform the Nigerian economy from a net importer of refined petroleum products to a net exporter of petroleum products;

Also notes that the Annual Statistics Bulletin (ASB) Report for 2019 shows that the value of exports of petroleum products by the country in 2018 amounted to \$54.513 billion while its import was \$54.645 billion, making export growth by \$16.53 billion in 2018 from \$37.983 billion in 2017 to have no impact as the value of imports already outweigh exports;

Also aware that the Lekki Deep Sea Port, which will also be sited along the coastal line of Lekki will, after completion, increase the revenue from Lagos ports from its present value of over ₦250b to over ₦600b, as importers who are currently using the plots of neighbouring countries would switch to the Lekki Deep Sea Port;

Informed that the Lekki Coastline road starting from Akodo Ise in Ibeju Lekki Local Government Area to Ahmadu Bello Way, Victoria Island in Eti-Osa Local Government Area is part of the Federal Government's proposed Port Harcourt to Lagos Coastal road project;

Further aware that the Niger Delta Development Commission in partnership with Ondo State Government has awarded a contract for the construction of coastal road from Araromi in Ondo State to Akodo Ise in Ibeju Lekki Local Government Area;

Concerned that the existing road infrastructure in Ibeju Lekki especially the Lekki axis, cannot accommodate the emerging industrial revolution in the area, and already, there are serious damages being caused to the existing roads;

Also concerned that another Apapa Traffic Gridlock situation may happen in Ibeju Lekki Local Government Area which can negate all the benefits enumerated above, if a futuristic and proactive measure is not taken to expand the road infrastructure;

Further concerned that if the economic projects that contribute majorly to the federation's account are not nurtured for sustainability, we might gradually be walking ourselves into a state of permanent recession;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to make provisions in the 2020 budget estimates for the construction of a coastal road from Ise in Ibeju Lekki to Victoria Island in Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos State;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry to commence the process of completing the whole stretch of the Port Harcourt - Lagos coastal road;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:

“Urge the Multinational Companies and all the heavy industries in the said area to help in the construction of the said roads as government alone cannot do every thing” (*Hon. Nkem-Abonta Uzoma — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

(HR. 72/07/2019).

Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

11. Fire Outbreak in Makurdi Modern Market, Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the unfortunate fire incident that razed a large section of the Makurdi Modern Market, on Tuesday, 18 June, 2019 wherein goods worth several millions of naira were destroyed;

Concerned that the market, which is the biggest in the state, had previously suffered fire outbreaks in 2005, 2011 and 2019 with varying degrees of losses;

Worried that the areas affected by previous fire outbreaks have not received any form of renovation;

Aware that the Market, which is the first well planned modern market in Northern Nigeria, is the economic hub of the state and the nucleus of economic activities which sustains livelihoods of Benue people;

Also aware that many of the traders took loans to acquire the goods that were destroyed and it is common knowledge that most victims cannot survive without trading as they have now been rendered jobless, helpless and beggarly;

Resolves to:

- (i) commiserate with the Government and people of Benue State and in particular the victims of the fire outbreak; and
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, as matter of urgency, provides relief materials to the victims to cushion their sufferings (*Hon. Benjamin B. Mzondu — Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
“That such market should obtain safety certificate from Fire Services before building the market” (*Hon. Nkem-Abonta Uzoma — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
“That every market with up to 500 shelter must have fire station functional” (*Hon. Nkem-Abonta Uzoma — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(HR. 73/07/2019).

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

12. **Call on the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to Actualize its Statutory Mandate**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the National Orientation Agency has failed in the last twenty years of democratic dispensation to actualize its statutory mandate to orientate and encourage the citizenry to participate actively in discussions affecting their general welfare;

Recalls that the Mass Mobilization for Self-Reliance, Social Justice and Economic Recovery (MAMSER), as the forerunner of the National Orientation Agency (NOA), even under a military dictatorship, effectively inspired Nigerians to attain appreciable level of awareness and constructive encasement in national issues on consistent basis with attendant citizenry training and awareness campaigns along with abiding jingles and signature tones;

Aware that most of the current national controversies that are adversely affecting our democratic growth and national development stem from ethno-religious sentiments that are fuelled by pathetic deficit of public discuss and policy contestations which have now assumed disturbing dimension on regular basis;

Observes that strategic awareness and enlightenment campaigns on government policies by the Agency in line with its foremost objectives to ensure that Federal Government programmes and policies are better understood by the public and mobilize favorable opinions for such programmes and policies amongst others, will serve as platform for discouraging the current wave of agitations among Nigerians;

Also notes that the Agency by its statutory mandate is not supposed to be a government propaganda machinery, but rather a veritable platform for collective engagement and dialogue that will give meaning to the political objectives enunciated in section 15 (4) of the 1999 Constitution that the state shall foster a feeling of belonging and involvement among the various people of the Federation, to the end that loyalty to the nation shall override sectional loyalties;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethnic and Values to conduct a hearing on the challenges facing the National Orientation Agency with a view to charting a way forward to enable the Agency fulfill its statutory mandate (*Hon. Olajide Olatubosun — Saki East/Saki West/Atisbo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the National Orientation Agency has failed in the last twenty years of democratic dispensation to actualize its statutory mandate to orientate and encourage the citizenry to participate actively in discussions affecting their general welfare;

Recalled that the Mass Mobilization for Self-Reliance, Social Justice and Economic Recovery (MAMSER), as the forerunner of the National Orientation Agency (NOA), even under a military dictatorship, effectively inspired Nigerians to attain appreciable level of awareness and constructive encasement in national issues on consistent basis with attendant citizenry training and awareness campaigns along with abiding jingles and signature tones;

Aware that most of the current national controversies that are adversely affecting our democratic growth and national development stem from ethno-religious sentiments that are fuelled by pathetic deficit of public discuss and policy contestations which have now assumed disturbing dimension on regular basis;

Observed that strategic awareness and enlightenment campaigns on government policies by the Agency in line with its foremost objectives to-ensure that Federal Government programmes and policies are better understood by the public and mobilize favorable opinions for such programmes and policies amongst others, will serve as platform for discouraging the current wave of agitations among Nigerians;

Also noted that the Agency by its statutory mandate is not supposed to be a government propaganda machinery, but rather a veritable platform for collective engagement and dialogue that will give meaning to the political objectives enunciated in section 15 (4) of the 1999 Constitution that the state shall foster a feeling of belonging and involvement among the various people of the Federation, to the end that loyalty to the nation shall override sectional loyalties;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethnic and Values to conduct a hearing on the challenges facing the National Orientation Agency with a view to charting a way forward to enable the Agency fulfill its statutory mandate (**HR. 74/07/2019**).

13. **Increasing Incidents of Sim Swap Fraud:**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that in 2012, the Central bank of Nigeria (CBN) established a Cashless Policy, which was an initiative to reduce the amount of physical cash in circulation, thereby encouraging the use of electronic platforms for settlement or payment for goods and services;

Informed that the policy prescribed cash handling charges on daily withdrawal above five hundred thousand naira for individuals and three million naira for corporate bodies, thereby assuring that the more transactions take place within the banking system, the more effective monetary policy will be in managing inflation and driving economic growth and also addressing the risks and expenses associated with handling large volume of cash;

Notes the report in the Guardian Newspaper of Monday, 1 July, 2019 that despite the numerous advantages of electronic platforms for banking transactions, some drawbacks are already manifesting in the form of Subscribers Identification Modules (SIM) swap fraud which occurs when a fraudster steals someone's personal information, mainly from the internet and uses it to request for a new SIM card from that person's network provider, effectively cloning that person;

Also notes that as soon as the network provider issues the new SIM card with the same number of the person whose identity was stolen, that person's network signal will disappear from his original line which he would still have in his possession all these while;

Also informed that while the person is bemused as to why the signal on his line disappeared and would be battling to have the matter resolved, including trying to contact his network provider, the fraudster immediately sets to work by diverting the incoming SMS messages and completing the text-based two-factor authentication checks that protect an owner's most sensitive accounts in financial services, social networks, webmail services and instant messengers;

Further informed that Kaspersky Lab Research showed that Mobile payments are suffering a wave of attacks through SIM swap fraud and customers are losing colossal amount of money in the process;

Concerned that this type of attack is used not only to steal credentials and capture One-Time Passwords (OTPs) sent via an SMS, but also to cause financial damage to victims, resetting the accounts on financial services, allowing the fraudsters access to currency accounts, not only in banks but also in fin-techs, credit unions and also to steal money using WhatsApp platform, loading the messages in a new phone and linking up with the victim's contacts to ask them for money, while simulating an emergency;

Further notes that the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau had posited that the SIM splitter's first step is to access the victim's personal information through bank statements and by scouring social media profiles, the hacker then obtains a blank SIM card, calls the mobile phone operator of the victim, and with the victim's information he has at his disposal, he is able to pass the security checks and then reports the victim's phone as having been stolen, at this point, the operator blocks the victim's SIM and the hacker activates the "new" SIM, and while the victim is left without service, the hacker is able to access all the victim's texts and calls, including the unique code that the bank sends to access their online system, thus granting the hacker free reign over the victim's account from which he can transfer funds whenever and wherever he wishes;

Equally notes that fraudsters are using phishing attacks to obtain victims cell phone or internet banking login details with which they empty the accounts of the victims before they know what had happened;

Cognizant that the increasingly widespread nature of this fraud has the potential to discourage people from embracing mobile and internet banking facilities, especially in the face of the buck passing between the banks and telecommunications operators as to whether victims of financial frauds should be classified as bank customers or as telecommunications operators customers;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to conduct an investigative hearing on the increasingly emerging trend of SIM swap fraud with a view to determining ways that banks and telecommunications operators can collaborate in devising measures to combat the menace, and report back in six (6) weeks (*Hon. Ifeanyi Ibezi — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that in 2012, the Central bank of Nigeria (CBN) established a Cashless Policy, which was an initiative to reduce the amount of physical cash in circulation, thereby encouraging the use of electronic platforms for settlement or payment for goods and services;

Informed that the policy prescribed cash handling charges on daily withdrawal above five hundred thousand Naira for individuals and three million naira for corporate bodies, thereby assuring that the more transactions take place within the banking system, the more effective monetary policy will be in managing inflation and driving economic growth and also addressing the risks and expenses associated with handling large volume of cash;

Noted the report in the Guardian Newspaper of Monday, 1 July, 2019 that despite the numerous advantages of electronic platforms for banking transactions, some drawbacks are already manifesting in the form of Subscribers Identification Modules (SIM) swap fraud which occurs when a fraudster steals someone's personal information, mainly from the internet and uses it to request for a new SIM card from that person's network provider, effectively cloning that person;

Also noted that as soon as the network provider issues the new SIM card with the same number of the person whose identity was stolen, that person's network signal will disappear from his original line which he would still have in his possession all these while;

Also informed that while the person is bemused as to why the signal on his line disappeared and would be battling to have the matter resolved, including trying to contact his network provider, the fraudster immediately sets to work by diverting the incoming SMS messages and completing the text-based two-factor authentication checks that protect an owner's most sensitive accounts in financial services, social networks, webmail services and instant messengers;

Further informed that Kaspersky Lab Research showed that Mobile payments are suffering a wave of attacks through SIM swap fraud and customers are losing colossal amount of money in the process;

Concerned that this type of attack is used not only to steal credentials and capture One-Time Passwords (OTPs) sent via an SMS, but also to cause financial damage to victims, resetting the accounts on financial services, allowing the fraudsters access to currency accounts, not only in banks but also in fin-techs, credit unions and also to steal money using WhatsApp platform, loading the messages in a new phone and linking up with the victim's contacts to ask them for money, while simulating an emergency;

Further noted that the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau had posited that the SIM splitter's first step is to access the victim's personal information through bank statements and by scouring social media profiles, the hacker then obtains a blank SIM card, calls the mobile phone operator of the victim, and with the victim's information he has at his disposal, he is able to pass the security checks and then reports the victim's phone as having been stolen, at this point, the operator blocks the victim's SIM and the hacker activates the "new" SIM, and while the victim is left without service, the hacker is able to access all the victim's texts and calls, including the unique code that the bank sends to access their online system, thus granting the hacker free reign over the victim's account from which he can transfer funds whenever and wherever he wishes;

Equally noted that fraudsters are using phishing attacks to obtain victims cell phone or internet banking login details with which they empty the accounts of the victims before they know what had happened;

Cognizant that the increasingly widespread nature of this fraud has the potential to discourage people from embracing mobile and internet banking facilities, especially in the face of the buck passing between the banks and telecommunications operators as to whether victims of financial frauds should be classified as bank customers or as telecommunications operators customers;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to conduct an investigative hearing on the increasingly emerging trend of SIM swap fraud with a view to determining ways that banks and telecommunications operators can collaborate in devising measures to combat the menace, and report back in six (6) (HR. 75/07/2019).

14. **Call on President Muhammadu Buhari to give more Appointive Positions to Women to Compensate for the Short Fall in Women Representation in the National Assembly**
Motion made and Question proposed: ●

The House:

Notes that Nigeria is blessed with women of high academic stature some of who have leadership qualities and are held and exalted positions with high levels of responsibilities, both in Nigeria and at international organizations/agencies;

Also notes that out of the 469 Members of the National Assembly only 19 are women, with 12 of them in the House of Representatives while 7 are in the Senate, a figure that aggregates to a mere 4.1 % which is not in accord with international best practices;

Aware that this development does not also abide with the Resolution at the Women Conference in Beijing in 1995, where it was urged that women should be recognized and given responsible positions in Governments;

Recognizes that women are equal partners in political and socio-economic development of any nation and Nigeria cannot be an exception;

Believes that this anomaly can still be corrected by President Muhammadu Buhari appointing more women into his cabinet and also appointing them to head Departments and Agencies of Government;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on President Muhammadu Buhari to include a sizable number of women in the list of Ministerial nominees and appoint more women to head departments and agencies of Government; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Women Affairs to ensure compliance (*Hon. Omowumi Olubunmi Ogunlola —Ijero/Ekiti West/Efon Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

- (i) Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
"Urge the State and Local Governments to provide a platform where women are being appointed in governance" (*Hon. Oluga Taiwo Olukemi — Ayedaade/Irewole/Isokan Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to appoint sizeable number of women at various level for the development of our country" (*Hon. Oluga Taiwo Olukemi — Ayedaade/Irewole/Isokan Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria is blessed with women of high academic stature some of who have leadership qualities and are held and exalted positions with high levels of responsibilities, both in Nigeria and at international organizations/agencies;

Also noted that out of the 469 Members of the National Assembly only 19 are women, with 12 of them in the House of Representatives while 7 are in the Senate, a figure that aggregates to a mere 4.1 % which is not in accord with international best practices;

Aware that this development does not also abide with the Resolution at the Women Conference in Beijing in 1995, where it was urged that women should be recognized and given responsible positions in Governments;

Recognized that women are equal partners in political and socio-economic development of any nation and Nigeria cannot be an exception;

Believed that this anomaly can still be corrected by President Muhammadu Buhari appointing more women into his cabinet and also appointing them to head Departments and Agencies of Government;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on President Muhammedu Buhari to include a sizable number of women in the list of Ministerial nominees and appoint more women to head departments and agencies of Government;
- (ii) urge the State and Local Governments to provide a platform where women are being appointed in governance
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to appoint sizeable number of women at various level for the development of our country; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Women Affairs to ensure compliance (**HR. 76/07/2019**).

15. Need to Review Government Expenditure in the Power Sector to Ensure Sustenance of the Power Reform Programme in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Electric Power Sector Reform Act was aimed at removing the ineffectiveness of the sector in order to transform it into a more efficiently managed sector;

Aware that the power sector reform was expected to open opportunities for the development of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises, increase access to electricity in processing farm produce; create job opportunities for Nigerian teeming graduates and enhance socio-economic development of the country;

Recalls that an Investigative Hearing was conducted by the House of Representatives in 2008 over the alleged spending of about \$16 Billion U.S. Dollars on the Power Sector;

Also aware that the set power generation target was that by year 2020 the nation would have achieved 40,000 MW based on the alleged investments in the proposed power plants, but till date, such generation target has eluded nation;

Alarmed that the Investigative Hearing further revealed that contracts awarded for the Kainji, Egbin, Afam and Ugheli power stations as well as 9 other such contracts totaling up to \$142 million dollars were never executed ;

Also alarmed that contracts awarded of over \$50 million dollars to companies that did not exist and that two billion dollars (\$2bn) worth of energy contracts were also awarded without bidding and due process;

Acknowledge the lamentation of the President to the effect that such huge sums of billions of dollars could be spent without commensurate results in the generation, transmission and distribution of power supply in the country;

Cognizance of the provisions of Section 88 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) which empowers the House of Representatives to expose corruption, inefficiency or waste in the execution or administration of laws within its legislative competence and in the disbursement or administration of funds appropriated by it;

Worried that up to date no Person, Company or Agency of Government involved in the alleged misappropriation of such huge sums of billions of dollars has been prosecuted; despite the perennial epileptic power supply and its associated socio-economic consequences for the nation.

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to carry out a comprehensive investigative hearing on how much money was spent on the Power Sector Reforms Programme over the years without commensurate results and report back within 6 weeks (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 77/07/2019).

Ordered: Matter referred to the Ad-hoc Committee on Power, on Abandoned Projects since 1999.

16. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly, Pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

- (i) *Electric Power Sector Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 01);*
- (ii) *Physically Challenged (Empowerment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 02)*
- (iii) *Presidential (Transition) Bill, 2019 (HB. 03);*
- (iv) *Students Loan (Access to Higher Education) Bill, 2019 (HB. 06);*
- (v) *Federal Highways Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 08);*

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negatived or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the aforementioned Bills were passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for Concurrence for which no concurrence was made before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

Aware that the Bills were re-gazetted as HB. 1, HB. 2, HB. 3, HB. 6, and HB. 8 read the first time respectively;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Femi Gbajabamila — Surulere 1 Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

17. Suspension of Order Seven, Rule 2 (2)

Motion made and Question propose, "That the House do suspend Order Seven, Rule 2 (2) to enable Mr Speaker preside in the Committee of the Whole" (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

17. Consideration of Reports

- (i) *Petition by Adindu M. Ohima Daniel on Behalf of 1,123 others against Micheno Multipurpose Co-operative Society on the Regulatory and Supervisory Lapses in the Activities of Promoters which led to the Mismanagement of about ₦30 Billion Deposited by over 13,000 Direct Subscribers (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on Petition by Adindu M. Ohima Daniel on Behalf of 1,123 others against Micheno Multipurpose Co-operative Society on the Regulatory and Supervisory Lapses in the Activities of Promoters which led to the Mismanagement of about ₦30 Billion Deposited by over 13,000 Direct Subscribers and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — Doguwa/Tudun Wada Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Petition by Adindu M. Ohima Daniel on Behalf of 1,123 others against Micheno Multipurpose Co-operative Society on the Regulatory and Supervisory Lapses in the Activities of Promoters which led to the Mismanagement of about ₦30 Billion Deposited by over 13,000 Direct Subscribers and approved the Title of the Petition.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Ad-hoc Committee on the Review of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives: Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Review of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

REPORT OF THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF THE
STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINTH EDITION

National Prayer

Add after the opening prayer on the prayer page

The National Pledge

I pledge to Nigeria my country
To be faithful, loyal and honest
To serve Nigeria with all my strength,
To defend her unity,
and uphold her honour and glory,
So help me God (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the National Pledge stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives
— Agreed to.

ORDER TWO

MEETING OF NEW PARLIAMENT

1. **First day of meeting of the House.**

- (1) On the first day of the meeting of a new House of Representatives pursuant to the Proclamation of the President, members-elect shall assemble at the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the time so appointed.

Clerk reads Proclamation/Confirmation of the Certificates of Return.

- (2) Members-elect having assembled, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall conduct the proceeding of this session of the House as prescribed in the Standing Orders of the immediate past House of Representatives as follows:

- (a) Call the House to order;
 - (b) Read the proclamation for holding the first session of the House;
 - (c) Proceed to roll call and confirm receipt of Certificates of Return, acknowledgment of Declaration of Assets and other requisite documents of members-elect in alphabetical order of States and the FCT, Abuja.
- (3) After the roll call, but before their swearing in, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall preside over the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

Tellers.

3. (f) when two or more Members-elect are nominated and Seconded as Speaker and where the two or more accept, the election shall be conducted as follows:

Division /Tellers method of voting.

- (i) By electronic voting; or
 - (ii) voting shall be conducted by the Clerk to the National Assembly using the list of the Members-elect of the House, with the proposers and Seconders as Tellers;
 - (iii) every member voting shall name clearly the candidate of his choice;
 - (iv) when all members that are present and who wish to vote have voted, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall declare the exercise closed;
 - (v) the Clerk of the House shall submit the result of the voting to the Clerk to the National Assembly who shall then declare the member-elect who has received the highest number of votes as Speaker-elect.
3. (k) All Members-Elect present shall participate in the elections of Speaker and Deputy Speaker unless any member abstains from voting which must be so recorded in the result of the votes (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Order Two, Rule 3 (f) (iii), immediately after the word “clearly”, insert the words “and in the open” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In Order Two, Rule 2, immediately after the words “Clerk to the National Assembly”, and wherever it appears, insert the words “or Deputy Clerk to the National Assembly” (*Hon. Ndidi Elumelu Godwin — Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that the Order Two as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER THREE**MEMBERS****1. Members to leave address with the Clerk.**

Every member shall, at the commencement of each Session, or as soon as he has taken his seat, enter his name, permanent address, residential address during the Session and phone number in a book to be kept by the Clerk of the House.

2. Journeys abroad.

Any member going abroad must inform the Speaker in writing, indicating the purpose, the time of his stay abroad and his whereabouts (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Three as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER FIVE**SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE****2. Re-assembly of the House.**

- (1) Whenever the House shall stand adjourned to a date not fixed and it is represented to the Speaker by the Principal Officers in the House that the House shall meet on a certain day and time, the Speaker shall give notice accordingly and the House shall meet on the date and at the time stated in the notice.
- (2) Whenever the House stands adjourned either to a date fixed by Resolution or the Rule of the House, and it is represented by the Principal Officers in the House to the Speaker that the public interest requires that the House should meet on an earlier or a later date or time than that on which it stands adjourned, the Speaker may give notice accordingly, and the House shall meet on the date and at the time stated in the notice.
- (3) Whenever the Speaker shall have given notice in accordance with either of the two preceding paragraphs, the Clerk shall communicate the terms of the notice to each member and publish the notice in at least two national newspapers (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Five as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER SIX**PRIVILEGES****Definition.**

1. (1) Privileges are the rights enjoyed by the House collectively and by the members of the House individually, conferred by the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 and other Statutes, Practices, Precedents, Usages and Customs.
- (3) A Member raising a matter of privilege shall draw the attention of the House to the provision(s) of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 and other statutes breached in relation to him or the House.

1. The Speaker.

- (8) The Speaker shall, prior to publication, approve all items on the Order Paper.

Re number the subsisting sub- Rules accordingly.

3. Speaker Pro-Tempore.

- (a) In the absence of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker such Member of the House as the House may elect for that purpose, shall preside. Such Member shall be known as "Speaker Pro-Tempore".

MAJORITY LEADERSHIP**4. House Leader.**

- (1) Leader of the House shall be a Member nominated from among members of the majority party in the House.
- (2) His functions shall be to:

- (a) lead the business of the House;
 - (b) manage the legislative schedule of the House;
 - (c) liaise with Committee Chairmen and other Principal Officers of the House;
15. (5) The Clerk shall prepare from day to day, and keep an order book showing all business appointed for any future day, and any notices of motions or amendments which have been set down for a future day or an early day if no particular day has been selected. The order book shall be open to the inspection of Members at all reasonable times in the office of the Clerk.
16. **Absence of the Clerk.**
In the absence of the Clerk, his duties shall be performed by the Deputy Clerk (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Six as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER EIGHT

ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

1. **Order of Business.**
Unless the House otherwise directs, the business of each sitting day shall be transacted in the following order:
- Formal entry of the Speaker;
 - Prayers;
 - National Pledge;
 - Approval of Votes and Proceedings;
 - Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Membership of new Members;
 - Message from the President;
 - Message from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
 - Message from other Parliaments;
 - Other Announcements by the Speaker;
 - Petitions;
 - Matters of Urgent Public Importance;
 - Personal Explanation; and
 - Orders of the Day.
2. **Messages.**
- (1) The Speaker shall immediately after approval of the Votes and Proceedings or as soon as any new member has taken the oath of allegiance, read to the House:

Message from the President.

- (a) Any message addressed to the House by the President;

Message by the Senate.

- (b) Any message by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Message from other Parliaments.

- (c) Any message from other Parliaments.

3. (5) No Member shall present to the House a petition, signed by himself except, it is certified by the Clerk of the House.

Petition from the Public.

- (6) Petitions to the House must be in accordance with the following rules:

- (a) every petition must be properly addressed to the House, respectful, decorous and temperate in its language, and must conclude with a prayer setting forth the general object of the petitioner;
 - (b) every petition must be signed by at least, one person on every sheet on which the petition is written;
 - (c) if signatures are affixed to sheets other than that containing the petition itself, such sheets shall carry at their head the prayer of the petition;
 - (d) signatures or marks will not be counted unless, in the case of signatures, they are in the handwriting of the person signing and in case of marks, they are witnessed, and unless in both cases, they are followed by the addresses of the persons signing or making a mark. Such signatures must be written upon, and not pasted or otherwise attached to each of the sheets on which the petition itself is written. A Corporation should sign a petition with its common seal;
 - (e) every petition shall be in English language or if in another language, be accompanied by an English translation certified to be correct by the member who presents it;
 - (f) no letter(s) or other documents may be attached to a petition, or may any erasures or interlineations be made thereon.
- (7) No Petition shall require nor shall the House award damages, restitutions, fine or any financial penalty or levy in satisfaction of any alleged claim, declare any action of any Institution illegal, and or reinstatement into office in the event of dismissal from service or wrongful termination of appointment.
- (8) Notwithstanding the provision of sub rule (7) of this rule, the House or the Committee may make recommendation on any petition for reconsideration.

4. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance.

- (2) Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance shall seek to address any of the following:
- (i) immediate threats to lives and properties;
 - (ii) if the matter is allowed to persist it may:
 - (a) lead to breakdown of law and order,

- (b) cause serious damage or total destruction of Federal Government owned or controlled infrastructure, a national monument or a world heritage centre;
 - (iii) any matter considered to be urgent by the Speaker.
- 5. (3) Orders of the day not reached before the end of a sitting or appointed for a day on which the House does not sit, shall be set down for a later date to be determined by the Rules and Business Committee.
- (4) Provided that if the Order is a Bill or a measure proposed by the President, the Chief Justice of Nigeria or the Senate, the Bill or the measure shall be set down for the next Legislative Day, except the Speaker otherwise directs.
- 7. **Suspension of Rules.**
 - (1) No provisions of these Standing Orders shall be suspended except by a vote of two-third ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority of the members present and voting, a quorum being present.
 - (2) Notwithstanding the provision of sub rule (1) of these rules, the House may on Matter(s) of Urgent Public importance suspend the rules by a simple majority of the Members present.
- 15. **Motion to Proceed in the absence of the sponsor.**
Any motion whose sponsor or mover is not present in the Chamber stands deferred by leave of the House except when there are more than one sponsors or movers and such sponsors or movers are present in the Chamber may proceed with the motion (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Eight as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER NINE

RULES OF DEBATE

- 1. **Rescission .**
 - (6) It shall be out of order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon a substantive motion for rescission.
- 4. **Behaviour of members in the House.**
 - (1) During a sitting, all members shall enter and leave the House with decorum
- Member not to approach the Speaker when the House is in session.**
 - (14) No member, other than a Principal officer, unless invited by the Speaker, shall approach the Speaker when the House is in session, but on matter(s) requiring urgent attention of the Speaker, it may be communicated through the Chief Whip.
- 7. **Closure of Debate.**
 - (1) After a question has been proposed, a member rising in his place to move "That the question be now put", and, unless it shall appear to the Chair that such motion is an abuse of the Rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the motion "That the question be now put" Shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate, notwithstanding that the mover had no opportunity to make his reply.

- (2) A question for the closure of debate shall not be decided in the affirmative unless, when a division be taken, it appears by the numbers declared from the Chair that not less than one-half of the members present voted in the majority in support of the motion.
- (3) Such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate (*Hon. Julius Ihonybere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:

In Order Nine, Rule 4 (14), immediately after the words "Chief Whip", insert the words "Minority Whip" (*Hon. Onofriok Luke Akpan — Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question that the Order Nine as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER TEN

ORDER IN THE HOUSE

5. Suspension after naming.

- (4) When a member is named by the Speaker, if the offence is a minor one, the Speaker may order the member to withdraw for the remainder of the legislative day; but if the matter appears to the Speaker to be of a more serious nature, the Speaker shall put the question on motion being made, no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed, "That such member be suspended or removed from the service of the House, Committee(s) or both of which he is a Member, such suspension or removal being for any time stated in the motion not exceeding 30 legislative days in the first instance
- (6) If any Member who is suspended from the service of the House or Committee(s) refuses to obey the direction of the Speaker when summoned under the Speaker's Order by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House that force is necessary in order to compel obedience and any member named by the Speaker as having refused to obey his direction shall thereupon, without any further question being put, be suspended or removed from the service of the House or Committees for a period not exceeding 90 Plenary days.
- (8) If two or more members acting jointly who have been suspended or removed under this Rule from the service of the House or Committee(s), shall refuse to obey the direction of the Speaker to withdraw, when severally summoned under the direction, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his direction. When the members named by him as having refused to obey his direction have been removed from the House, they shall thereupon without any further question being put be suspended from the service of the House or Committees for a period not more than 120 Plenary days.
- (9) Members who are ordered to withdraw under paragraph (2) of this Rule or who are suspended from the services of the House or Committee(s) shall forthwith under paragraphs (4), (6) and (8) of this Rule withdraw from the precincts of the House, if the suspension relates to Plenary and shall be excluded therefrom for the remainder of the sitting or for the period of their suspension, as the case may be.

- (15) Any Member who approaches or handles the Mace shall be liable to suspension or removal from the service of the House and Committee(s) for a period not less than six months, or any sanction prescribed in the Code of Conduct Manual of the House of Representatives or the House Rules having regard to the particular circumstances.

6. Contempt Ex-facie.

- (1) Any Member of the House who:
- (a) being a Member of the Committee of the House, publishes to any person not being a Member of such Committee any evidence taken by the Committee before it has been reported to the House; or
 - (b) assaults or obstructs a Member of the House within the Chamber or precincts of the House; or
 - (c) assaults or obstructs any officer of the House while in the execution of his duty; or
 - (d) is convicted of any offence under the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act;

shall be guilty of contempt of the House and if investigated and found culpable by the Committee on Ethics and Privileges, the House may, by a Resolution, reprimand such Member or suspend him from the service of the House or Committee(s) for such period not exceeding 14 Plenary days or the remainder of the Session, which ever shall come first.

- (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of these rules, the Speaker, may in his opinion, upon establishing cogent reason(s) remove or suspend a Member from the service of Committee(s) or the House other than at the plenary session (*Hon. Julius Ihonybere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Ten as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER ELEVEN

VOTING

2. Division in the House and Committee of the Whole House.

- (10) (b) Any Member who fails to disclose his personal pecuniary interest on a matter before the House and goes ahead to participate in voting, in violation of Sub-rule (10) (a) above shall be liable to suspension from the House or Committee(s) for a period not less than 30 plenary days, provided that if such Member signifies his intention not to vote in such matter, he may not declare any such interest.

4. Speaker to Order Division in Certain Circumstances.

- (1) If in the opinion of the Speaker or in the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman, the question for decision is considered to be of National Concern (Public Interest), the Speaker or the Chairman shall order the House to proceed to a division, and the division shall be held forthwith in the manner prescribed in Order Eleven Rule 2

- (2) The result of the Division shall be recorded, indicating the name of each Member, Constituency and how the member votes. The records of the proceedings shall be published in the votes and proceedings and in at least two national newspapers (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Eleven as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER TWELVE

PROCEDURE ON BILLS

1. () (a) On the order for the Second reading of a Bill, the Sponsor shall in his background information acknowledge the original sponsor of the Bill stating briefly the history of the Bill, when it was first introduced, subsequent sponsor(s) if such Bill originated from the preceding or previous Assembly.

(b) The name of the original sponsor of the Bill shall also feature on the published gazette of the Bill and on the day it comes for second reading on the Order paper.
2. (5) Except the Speaker otherwise directs, on receipt of a Bill from the Speaker or the Clerk of the House, the Rules and Business Committee shall scrutinize or cause to be scrutinized to ensure that it is:
 - (a) Constitutional;
 - (b) not in conflict with or a repetition of existing legislation;
 - (c) complies with the drafting style in the House as prescribed by the Bill Drafting Manual before scheduling same for first reading.
14. **Bills on the same subject matter.**
More than one Bill on the same subject matter may be introduced, but:
 - (a) when the second reading of a Bill has been agreed to or negatived, the question shall not be proposed for the second reading of another Bill of the same subject matter during the same session. On the order of the day relating to such a Bill being read, the Speaker shall direct that the Bill be withdrawn.
 - (b) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Rule, where more than one Bill on the same subject matter are scheduled for Second Reading in the same day, the House may direct that the Bills be consolidated.
20. **Reconsideration of Bills.**
 - (1) Any Bill referred to the House by the President withholding assent may be reconsidered through a substantive Motion by the House.
 - (2) The Motion shall include all the clauses objected to by the President, which shall be reconsidered in the Committee of the Whole.
 - (3) If necessary, the House may rescind its decision(s) on the affected clauses and reconsider the Bill in the Committee of the Whole (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Twelve as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER THIRTEEN

1. **Scope of Constitution Alteration Bill.**

Any Bill for the alteration of the Constitution shall contain an issue or several issues that are related to the same subject matter.

2. The first and second reading of any Bill for altering the provision of the Constitution shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with the procedure on Bills in Order Twelve of the House Standing Orders (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Thirteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

NEW ORDER FOURTEEN

PROCEDURE ON SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

1. Any ministry, statutory agency, body or corporation that makes Rules or Regulations pursuant to the power conferred on it under its enabling Act, requiring the approval of the National Assembly, shall communicate the Rules or Regulations to the Speaker who shall, on receipt of the communication, refer it to the Committee on Delegated Legislation.
2. The Committee on Delegated Legislation shall consider the Rules or Regulation and may obtain input from any Standing Committee having dominant jurisdiction over the Agency, particularly to ensure that any aspect of the delegated legislation is not in conflict with any existing law or the constitution, and within fourteen (14) days, present its Report to the House for consideration.
3. The Committee on Rules and Business shall within seven (7) days schedule the Report and the House may approve the Rules or Regulations within thirty (30) days and transmit its Resolution to the Senate.
4. If the Senate amends any aspect of the Regulation, a Conference Committee of the Senate and the House shall be constituted pursuant to Order Twelve (11)C on the procedure on Bill.
5. The Clerk to the National Assembly shall, as soon as possible, communicate the Resolution on the piece of delegated legislation accordingly (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Fourteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

Re-number the subsisting Order Fourteen as Order Fifteen as well as other subsisting Orders accordingly.

PROCEEDINGS ON PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**4. Approval of Proclamation.**

Except the House by two-third ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority of members present directs otherwise, the House shall then forthwith resolve into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Proclamation and on reporting progress, the House shall decide, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, approving or rejecting the Proclamation (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Fifteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER SIXTEEN**ANNUAL REPORTS, SESSIONAL PAPERS AND SECTORAL DEBATES****1. Time for presenting Statutory Reports.**

- (a) All Ministries, Statutory Agencies, Bodies or Corporation shall forward to the Speaker all reports required by statute within three months of the close of the reporting period, unless reasons for delay are given to the House in writing within fourteen days of the expiration of the period required.
- (b) Any violation of the provisions of sub Rule (1)(a) of this Rule, shall attracts such sanctions as provided in the Legislative House (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017 (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Sixteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER SEVENTEEN**MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, STANDING COMMITTEES
AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

- 1.
 - (1) Members of Committees shall be nominated and appointed by the Committee on Selection.
 - (2) The maximum number of Members in a Committee shall be 40 except the Committees on Appropriations, Constituency Outreach, Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Federal Character, Public Petitions, Niger Delta Development Commission, House Services, Public Accounts and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Refugees, North East Development Commission and Ecological Fund, each of which shall have a maximum of 45 members, or otherwise directed by the Speaker.
- 2.
 - (1) Each Special and Standing Committee shall, in consultation with the Speaker, create such Sub-Committees as may be required.
 - (2) The sub-committees shall be headed by sub- committee Chairmen who shall be appointed by the Speaker in consultation with the committee chairmen and answerable to the Committee Chairmen
 - (3) The Chairmen of the Committees shall have powers to review the performance of the Sub-Committee Chairmen.
 - (4) Each Committee shall specify the functions of its Sub-Committees.

- (5) The quorum at a Committee sitting shall be one-third of the membership.

Removal of Committee Leadership.

- (6) Subject to the approval of the Speaker, Members of a Committee not satisfied with the service or performance of the Chairman and, or Deputy Chairman of a Committee, the Chairman and, or the Deputy Chairman may be suspended or removed by a resolution of the Committee supported by two-third majority of all the Committee Members.

3. Disorder reported to the Speaker.

- (f) Disorder in a Committee can only be censured by the Speaker on receiving a report from the Committee, and being satisfied, the Speaker may remove or suspend a member from the service of a Committee(s).

Limitation as to the time on Report on Bill.

- (g) Any matter referred to a 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 except upon a motion for extension of time which shall not exceed fifteen days.

5. Public, Additional and Special Meetings.

- (1) The Chairman of each Committee may call and convene, as he considers necessary, meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any Bill or Resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committees shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call.

7. Quorum for taking testimony and certain other actions.

The quorum for each Committee Meeting shall be one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of all the Members of the Committee except Committees that have representatives from each of the States of the Federation and the Committee on Federal Capital Territory which shall be one-half of its members (*Hon. Julius Ihonybere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Seventeen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER EIGHTEEN

ISSUE AND SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND WARRANT OF ARREST

1. Issue and Service of Summons.

- (1) Subject to the approval of the Speaker, the House or a Committee shall have power to Summon any person to testify or tender a document or any record in his control or possession.
- (2) The Summon issued under these Rules shall be signed by the Clerk of the House or the Clerk of the Committee issuing it.
- (3) Every Summon shall comply with the form prescribed in the First Schedule to the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2017.
- (4) The Summons shall be served at the office, residence or the last place of abode or business, either personally or by registered mail and giving the person at least 5 days to appear as required;

2. Power to Issue Warrant to Compel Attendance.

- (1) Where a person to whom a Summon under Rule 1 is directed at, does not attend as scheduled, the Speaker, may upon being satisfied that the summons was duly served issue a warrant to a police officer or sergeant - at - arms, to apprehend the person and bring him before the House or a Committee;
- (2) The Speaker, may by endorsement on the warrant direct that the person named on the warrant be released after arrest, on entering into a recognizance before the House or Committee.
- (3) The form of every warrant of arrest issued under this Rule shall comply with the form prescribed in the Second Schedule to the Legislative Houses (Power and Privileges) Act (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Order Eighteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

PROPOSED NEW COMMITTEES

(Place the Proposed new Committees accordingly)

1. Committee on Ecological Fund.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Ecological Fund consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover;
 - (a) initiation of policies needed for addressing Ecological challenges;
 - (b) promoting the implementation of policies relating to ecology;
 - (c) maintaining, on behalf of the House, close and symbiotic relations with the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council;
 - (d) oversight of Ecological Funds;
 - (e) oversight institutions, Laws and policies relating to Ecology;
 - (f) oversight the Department of Ecology in the Federal Ministry of Environment;
 - (g) annual budget estimates;
 - (h) any other duties as may be assigned by the Speaker or the House.

2. Committee on North East Development Commission (NEDC).

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on North East Development Commission consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover;
 - (a) all matters relating to the North East Development Commission (NEDC);

- (b) co-ordinating and monitoring the activities of Development Partners in the North East to ensure effectiveness for development of the area;
- (c) relations and co-ordination with multi-lateral and supra-national Agencies and Bodies with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone of Nigeria, comprising Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe States ravage by Terrorism;
- (d) relations and co-ordination of Private Sector Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;
- (e) relations and co-ordination of Government Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;
- (f) annual budget estimates.
- (g) any other duties as may be assigned by the Speaker or the House.

3. Committee on Internal Security of the National Assembly.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Internal Security of the National Assembly consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:
 - (a) studying the Internal Security policy of the House of Representatives and the National Assembly and advising on same;
 - (b) designing and implementing pre-emptive measures on security of the precinct of the House of Representatives and periodically alerting on perceived threat to Security;
 - (c) addressing other such matters as may, in the course of the assignment, be referred to it;
 - (d) liaising with the Clerk to the National Assembly to ensure the Security of the National Assembly complex and other real and movable properties of the National Assembly.

4. Committee on Inter- Party Affair.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Inter - Party Affair consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:
 - (a) in liaison with the leader of the House, co-ordinating relationship between the House Leadership and the caucuses of Political Parties represented in the House;
 - (b) co-ordinating the relationship between the House, Political Parties and their Leaderships.

5. Committee on Pilgrims.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Pilgrims consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:
 - (a) measure relating to Muslim Pilgrims;
 - (b) measure relating to Christian Pilgrims;
 - (c) oversight of the Hajj Commission;
 - (d) oversight of the Christian Pilgrimage Commission;
 - (e) oversight of Diplomatic and Consular Services on Pilgrimage;
 - (f) annual budget estimates.

6. Committee on Legislative Library, Research and Documentation.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Legislative Library, Research and Documentation consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:
 - (a) serving as repository for information on various position papers on the subject from the other standing and *Ad-hoc* Committees within the House as well as other legislatures;
 - (b) keeping records of all House delegations to parliamentary conferences, Training, Seminars and Capacity building attended by members and staff of the House;
 - (c) ensuring that the National Assembly Library is well maintained and stocked with relevant and up to date materials in aid of the House to function maximally.

7. Reformatory Institutions.

- (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Reformatory Institutions consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.
- (2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:
 - (a) oversight of the Reformatory, correctional institutions for the treatment, training and social rehabilitation of younger offenders;
 - (b) oversight of the juvenile correction centres, or training schools generally not considered Prisons;
 - (c) formation of a comprehensive National Policy which shall ensure the optimal performance of Reformatory Institutions in Nigeria;
 - (d) oversight of Prisons;
 - (e) annual budget estimates (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the new Committees as recommended stand part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS ON COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTIONS

1. "Nigerian Institute of Animal Science" move from the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions to the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services.
2. "National Park Services" move from the Committee on Culture and Tourism to the Committee on Environment and Habitat.
3. Add to the Committee on Diaspora, a new Commission known as "Nigerians in Diaspora Commission".
4. Add to the Committee on Capital Market and Institutions, "Investment and Securities Tribunal".
5. Add to the Committee on Commerce, "Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission".
6. Add to the Committee on Woman Affairs and Social Development "National Commission for Persons with Disability".
7. Move "ASCON" from the Committee on Governmental Affairs to the Committee on Public Service matters.
8. Move SMEDAN from the Committee on Industry to the Committee on Poverty Alleviation.
9. Move JAMB, WAEC, NTI, External Aid for Education, National Library and Federal Scholarship from the Committee on Basic Education and Services to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.
10. Leave out the phrase "Federal" from the Committee on Federal Judiciary
11. Move oversight of the Budget office of the Federation from the Committee on Appropriations to the Committee on National Planning and Economic Development.
12. Move SMEDAN from the Committee of Industry to the Committee on Poverty Alleviation (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency).

Question that the Consequential amendments as recommended, stand part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

ORDER NINETEEN

MISCELLANEOUS

8. (iii) Senators, former Senators and Senators-elect.

Definition

"Principal Officers" includes the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, the House Leader, the Chief Whip, the Deputy House Leader, the Deputy Chief Whip, the Minority Leader, the Minority Whip, the Deputy Minority Leader and the Deputy Minority Whip (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency).

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In the Standing Orders of the House, Hon. Members of the Standing Committees shall be nominated and appointed by the Committee on Selection" (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Mela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

- (ii) In the Standing Order of the House, Hon. Members of the Special or *Ad-hoc* Committees shall be nominated and appointed by the Speaker and headed by Chairman appointed by the Speaker" (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Mela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question that the Order Nineteen as amended, stands part of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives — Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Review of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives and approved recommendations in the Prayers, approved Recommendations in Order 2 (as amended), approved Recommendations in Order 3, approved Recommendations in Order 5, approved Recommendations in Orders 6 - 13, approved Recommendations in Order 15, Order 16, Order 17 (as amended) and approved the Recommendation in Order 19 of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Ad-hoc Committee on Ethics and Privileges:***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Ethics and Privileges and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Peter Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

Personal Explanation:

Rising on Order Eight, Rule 5, Hon. Gogo Bright Tamuno (*Okrika/Ogu/Boko Federal Constituency*), recalled the incident on the Floor of the House on Wednesday, 3 July, 2019, whereby he handled the Mace, contrary to the Rules. He expressed regret and apologized for his unparliamentary conduct and pleaded with the House, to temper justice with mercy and forgive him.

Mr Speaker stated that the House Rule on misconduct of Members is clear, and noted that the action of some Members of the Minority Parties on Wednesday, 3 July, 2019, was absolutely needless and should ordinarily attract the necessary sanctions in accordance with the Rules. However, he regarded the apology tendered by Hon. Gogo Bright Tamuno as a demonstration of true repentance and underscored the need for the House to forgive Hon. Gogo in the spirit of oneness and reconciliation and to strike out the matter from the records of the House.

Question that the Report be withdrawn and the matter struck out from the records of the House — Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole withdrew the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on Ethics and Privileges and struck out the matter out of its records.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

19. Adjournment of First Sitting:

That this House do now adjourn the First Sitting till 5.15p.m. (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 5.06 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker