



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA SUPPLEMENT TO THE ORDER PAPER Thursday, 20 February, 2020

MOTIONS

1. **World Day of Social Justice: A Call to Eliminate Inequalities and Barriers in Nigeria:**

Hon. Nkeriruka C. Onyejeocha:

The House:

Notes that February 20 every year has been declared as the World Day of Social Justice aimed at removing barriers based on Gender, Age, Race, Ethnicity, Religion, Culture and Disability;

Also notes that since 2009, every 20 February has been observed as the World Day of Social Justice whose purpose is to focus on eliminating Social Injustice and to press for improvement and inclusive solutions for Social Justice;

Further notes that this year's theme is tagged "Closing the inequalities gap to achieve Social Justice", focusing attention on inequalities as it affects labour relations such as exploitation in employment and decent work agenda;

Worried that five out of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN) (no Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic (Growth and Inequalities) covers issues that relates to Social Justice;

Aware that the acts of Social Justice visible in Nigeria includes; trafficking in women, political/social exclusion, inequality of opportunity, exploitation in employment, child labour, denial of human rights, environmental injustice;

Concerned that these social injustice indicators have a direct implication on the extreme poor and also widening the inequalities gap in Nigeria;

Believes that in commemoration of this years' theme on social justice, there is an urgent need to call on government agencies, Community Based Organizations and other relevant stakeholders to mobilize action to eliminate barriers that people face like unemployment, social exclusion and poverty, as Nigeria is signatory to the Copen Hagen declaration of 14 March, 1995, 45 years after.

Resolves to:

- (i) *Urge* the Federal government to develop short and long term action plans focused on eliminating these acts of inequality in Nigeria;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Women Affairs and Social Development, Justice and Labour, Employment and Productivity to ensure compliance.

2. Need for the Federal Government to Grant Operational Rights to the Bayelsa Airport:

Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu
Hon Gideon Gwani

Hon Peter Akpatason
Hon. Nkeriruka C. Onyejeocha

Hon Tobi Okechukwu
Hon Fred Obua

Hon Preye Oseke

The House:

Notes that in February 2019 the Bayelsa State Government completed the construction of its International Airport, which has a runway of 3.7Km (one of the longest in the country) with the capacity of providing about 2000 formal and informal jobs for the indigenes of the state;

Further notes that the Airport was constructed with a whopping sum of 60 billion naira of tax payers money and it has some of the best and latest equipment in the aviation industry;

Aware that since February 2019 when the Airport was completed till date the National Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) is yet to grant the airport operational rights and permit for a smooth take off, thereby causing the indigenes untold hardships and massive revenue loss to the state;

Also aware that the continuous denial of a permit has stalled the rapid development which the airport is meant to bring depriving about 2000 indigenes of the state employment opportunities;

Concerned that traveling to and from Bayelsa is to either through Omagwa in Rivers State or Sam Mbakwe airport in Imo State, which takes nearly 2hrs while is completely unnecessary and a waste of time and scarce resources since Bayelsa airport has been completed;

Cognizant that if urgent action is not taken to grant operational rights to the airport, Bayelsans will continue to suffer the difficulty of movement In and out of the state, deny the indigenes of the over 2000 jobs opportunities as well as business opportunities a functional airport would be availing the state;

Resolves to:

- (i) *Urge* Federal Government to direct NCAA and FAAN to immediately operational right to the Bayelsa Airport;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on aviation to ensure compliance and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.