



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 11 October, 2016

1. The House met at 11.16 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 6 September, 2016.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**
 - (i) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of Post-Graduate Students of Public Policy Analysis, Department of Political Science, Nasarawa State University, Keffi.
 - (ii) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from:
 - (a) Hon. Nnanna Igbokwe (*Ahiazu Mbaise/Ezinihitte Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Hon. Nzu Desmond Iwuagwu, a former Member who represented Ahiazu/Ezinihitte Federal Constituency (1992 - 1993) on Friday, 16 September, 2016.
 - (b) Hon. Benjamin Ikani Okolo (*Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of his mother, Mrs Roseline Aladi Okolo on Sunday, 9 October, 2016.

The House observed a minute silence in honour of the deceased.

4. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from A. G. Atimosusari (Legal Attorneys) on behalf of Mr Ege Solomon and 2 others on the removal of their names as beneficiaries of the first phase of the 2009 Presidential Amnesty Programme, was presented and laid by Hon. Sodagwo A. Festus Omoni (*Ogbia Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Agbedi Y. Frederick (*Ekeremor/Sagbama Federal Constituency*):

- (a) Osusu, Osusu & Associates (Legal Practitioners) on behalf of the family of Mr Bozimo Agbogi on the shooting and incapacitation of Mrs Christiana Agbogi by officers and men of Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) Borokiri, Rivers State Police Command;
- (b) Osusu, Osusu & Associates (Legal Practitioners) on the gruesome murder of ASP Matthew Akpo by officers and men of Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) Borokiri, Rivers State Police Command;
- (c) Tonye Yemoleigba on the assault and inhuman treatment meted to him by an officer of the Nigerian Air Force in Yenegoa, Bayelsa State.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Need to Investigate the Invasion and Arrest of Judicial Officers for Alleged Corruption and similar Incidences by the State Security Service (SSS):***

Hon. Kingsley Chinda (*Obio/Akpor 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 Investigate the Invasion and Arrest of Judicial Officers for Alleged Corruption and Similar Incidences by the State Security Service (SSS):

The House:

Aware of numerous media reports of the invasion of the residences and arrest of some judges of Federal High courts and Justices of the Supreme Court of Nigeria in the wee-hours of Friday, October 8, 2016 at Abuja, Gombe, Enugu, Sakata, Kana and Port Harcourt;

Also aware of the press release by the Spokesperson of the SSS confirming this worrisome incident and the reason stated therein;

Cognizant of the principle of separation of powers and the constitutionally guaranteed independence of the three arms of government;

Apprised of the provisions of section 153 (1) (i) and Part 1 of the Third Schedule of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), establishing the National Judicial Council (NJC) with powers to regulate and discipline judicial officers in the country;

Conscious of the powers of the SSS as enumerated in sections (2), (3) and (6) of the National Security Agencies Act 1986; which does not include the investigation and prosecution of corruption, and abuse of office;

Alarmed that the affected judicial officers had never been invited for questioning by the SSS before the sudden invasion and arrest was carried out;

Recalls past incidences of similar invasion and arrest by the SSS, including the Akwa Ibom State Government House, Ekiti and Zamfara State Houses of Assembly for matters unrelated to its lawfully prescribed duties;

Worried that neither the Attorney General as the Chief Law Officer of the Federation nor the National Judicial Commission (NIC) was informed by the State Security Service before these raid and arrests were carried out;

Disturbed that this trend, if unchecked, is capable of truncating the nation's democracy or could result in the introduction of self-help by concerned citizens, which could lead to anarchy;

Desirous of protecting the principle of the rule of law and the nation's democracy;

Resolves to:

Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate all cases of invasion of property and arrest of persons for reasons outside the general duties of the SSS as prescribed by the National Securities Act; since May 29, 2015 and report back to the House within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Kingsley O. Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

(HR. 112/2016).

(ii) **The Undue Reduction in Quota of Students to be Mobilized Annually for the NYSC Scheme by Tertiary Institutions:**

Hon. Nnanna Igbokwe (*Ahiazu Mbaise/Ezinihitte 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.

The Undue Reduction in Quota of Students to be Mobilized Annual for the NYSC Scheme by Tertiary Institutions:

The House:

Notes that the NYSC introduced three batches of NYSC to reduce the backlog of students due for National Youth Service Scheme;

Also notes that NYSC further reduced the batch to two yearly;

Observed that the 2016 Budget made provision for call up of Corp Members with a short fall of about 50,000 students;

Cognizant that the NYSC made request to the presidency for funding of the shortfall which was approved and released through the Ministry of Finance;

Aware that 2016 Budget life runs till May 2017;

Worried that the NYSC has released circular to mobilising institutions reducing their quota by almost 70%;

Concerned that this would amount to untold hardship on the part of graduated students in participating in the National Youth Service Schemes in one hand and in the other hand, thrown into the excruciating Labour market with no jobs in place;

Also concerned that if no action is taken, it might lead to major crisis in the tertiary education sector;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Youth Development to investigate the matter and report back to the House within one week (*Hon. Raphael Nnanna Igbokwe — Ahiazu Mbaise/Ezinihitte Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

(HR. 113/2016).

7. Consolidation of Bills

- (i) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agricultural Development Authority Act, Cap. N4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to increase its Membership and Functions for Strategic Operations and Interests and to Vest in the Authority Powers to Establish Farm Settlements across the Country for the Purposes of Attaining Food Sufficiency; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 458); a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Farm Settlement and Youth Empowerment Agency to create a Mechanized System of Farming that will be driven by Trained Youths as a means of Creating Job Opportunities, Wealth, Commercial and Sustainable Agricultural System; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 771) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (ii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Hire Purchase Act of 1968 and Re-Enact the Hire Purchase Bill, 2016 to Provide for Regulation of Hire-Purchase and Credit Sale Transactions in Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 87); a Bill for an Act to Amend the Hire Purchase Act, Cap. H4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 228) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (iii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Police Act, Cap. F19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Transfer the Prosecutorial Rights of Police Officers to the Federal Ministry of Justice; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 11); a Bill for an Act to Amend the Police Act, Cap. F19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Need for Male Police Officers, like their Female Counterparts Seeking to Get Married, to Apply for Permission; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 179); a Bill for an Act to Amend the Police Act, Cap. F19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the

Recruitment Age of Traffic Wardens, Include Mental Element in Certain Offences and Increase some Penalties; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 312) be now consolidated" (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the International Trade Commission of Nigeria for the Purposes of Co-ordinating Policies, Interests and Issues Related to International Trade for Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 36) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the International Trade Commission of Nigeria for the Purposes of Co-ordinating Policies, Interests and Issues Related to International Trade for Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 36) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Make Development Planning Compulsory for all Tiers of Government in Nigeria and to Create Coherent and Measureable Targets in Developmental Initiatives in support of the Attainment of the Goals of Vision 20:2020; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 592) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Make Development Planning Compulsory for all Tiers of Government in Nigeria and to Create Coherent and Measureable Targets in Developmental Initiatives in support of the Attainment of the Goals of Vision 20:2020; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 592) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Negated.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 to make it Mandatory for States to have Democratically elected Local Government Councils before such States can access Funds from the Capital Market; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 138) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 to make it Mandatory for States to have Democratically elected Local Government Councils before such States can access Funds from the Capital Market; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 138) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Finance.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board Act, Cap. J1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to strengthen the Membership of the Board and to ensure that Results and Scores Obtained by the Candidates into Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria are Valid within Four Subsequent and Consecutive Academic Sessions; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 131) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Surveyors Registration Council of Nigerian Act, Cap. S18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Fines; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 367) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Surveyors Registration Council of Nigerian Act, Cap. S18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Fines; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 367) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung — Barikinladi/Riyom Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Works.

13. A Bill for an Act to Harmonize the Functions of the National Manpower Board and the National Planning Commission and Empower the National Planning Commission to Determine and Advise the Federal Government on National Manpower Needs in all Occupations; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 285) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Inland Waterways Authority Act, Cap. N47, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to specify the tenure of Office of the Secretary, Empower the Authority to receive Donations; and for Other Related Matters. (HB. 267) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. Urgent Need for the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria to Strengthen Security and Checks at the Nation's Airports

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. Urgent Need to Develop a National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Cervical Cancer
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that cervical cancer, though a preventable disease, is one of the leading killers of women all over the world, accounting for up to 275,000 deaths every year;

Also notes that recent statistics indicate that no fewer than one Nigerian woman dies every hour with an average of 26 deaths every day and 8,000 deaths annually, making Nigeria to be ranked fifth with worst indices of cervical cancer deaths in the world;

Observes that cervical cancer is a disease that can infect and inhabit in a woman for up-to 10-20 years without any clear manifestation or symptoms and the World Health Organization (WHO) has projected a 25% increase over the next decade in the absence of widespread interventions;

Aware that in developed countries such as Australia, Britain and the United States, the widespread use of cervical cancer screening programs has dramatically reduced the rate of cervical cancer and regular screening and use of HPV vaccines could prevent up to 99.9 percent of cervical cancer occurrence;

Concerned that less than 0.1 percent of Nigerian women have ever had cervical cancer screening in their life time and less than 1 percent is aware of the existence of this silent killer disease;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to develop a National Plan for the prevention and control of cervical cancer, including raising public awareness through the National Orientation Agency (NOA) on the need for screening by women for cervical cancer disease; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to ensure compliance, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (ii), line 1, immediately after the word “Healthcare”, *leave out* the word “Services”, and *insert* the word “Institutions” (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
“Urge the Federal Ministry of Education to carry out cervical cancer screening test in all the secondary schools across the federation, as early detection and immunization is the best solution” (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that cervical cancer, though a preventable disease, is one of the leading killers of women all over the world, accounting for up to 275,000 deaths every year;

Also noted that recent statistics indicate that no fewer than one Nigerian woman dies every hour with an average of 26 deaths every day and 8,000 deaths annually, making Nigeria to be ranked fifth with worst indices of cervical cancer deaths in the world;

Observed that cervical cancer is a disease that can infect and inhabit in a woman for up-to 10-20 years without any clear manifestation or symptoms and the World Health Organization (WHO) has projected a 25% increase over the next decade in the absence of widespread interventions;

Aware that in developed countries such as Australia, Britain and the United States, the widespread use of cervical cancer screening programs has dramatically reduced the rate of cervical cancer and regular screening and use of HPV vaccines could prevent up to 99.9 percent of cervical cancer occurrence;

Concerned that less than 0.1 percent of Nigerian women have ever had cervical cancer screening in their life time and less than 1 percent is aware of the existence of this silent killer disease;

Resolved to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to develop a National Plan for the prevention and control of cervical cancer, including raising public awareness through the National Orientation Agency (NOA) on the need for screening by women for cervical cancer disease;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Institutions to ensure compliance, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Education to carry out cervical cancer screening test in all the secondary schools across the federation, as early detection and immunization is the best solution (HR. 114/2016).

17. Consideration of Report

Committee on Ethics and Privileges:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Ethics and Privileges, and Foreign Affairs on the Allegations of Sexual Misconduct against Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah, Hon. Mohammed Garba Gololo and Hon. Samuel Ikon by the United States Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr James F. Entwistle, while they were attending the International Visitors Leadership Program in Cleveland, Ohio, USA from 7-13 April, 2016 and approve the Recommendations therein" (Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency).

Question agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"That Hon. Mohammed Garba Gololo, Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah and Hon. Samuel Ikon are cleared of and exonerated from the allegations leveled against them by the United States Ambassador to Nigeria in his June 9, 2016 letter to the Rt. Hon. Speaker for want of evidence" (Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That in the light of the foregoing, the Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs do engage with the United States Ambassador to Nigeria, with a view to finding a seamless resolution of the domestic fallout of this unfortunate incident as it relates to Hon. Mohammed Garba Gololo, Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah and Hon. Samuel Ikon" (Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency).

Recommendation (iii):

“That the Ministry of Foreign Affairs do write to remind the United States Embassy of the need to always adopt the official channels of communication in its dealings with any organ or institution of government” (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committees on Ethics and Privileges and Foreign Affairs on the Allegations of Sexual Misconduct against Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah, Hon. Mohammed Garba Gololo and Hon. Samuel Ikon by the United States Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr James F. Entwistle, while they were attending the International Visitors Leadership Program in Cleveland, Ohio, USA from 7-13 April, 2016 and approved Recommendations (i), (ii) and (iii) of the Report.

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

18. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 12 October, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.50 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker