



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 1 December, 2016

1. The House met at 11.15 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 30 November, 2016.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**
 - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of Staff and Students of *Kings Care Universal School*, Lugbe, Abuja.
 - (b) **Conference Committee on a Bill to Establish the Nigerian Peace Corps (NPC) to Empower, Develop and Provide Alternative Employment for the Youths, to Facilitate Peace, Volunteerism, Community Services, Nation-Building and for Other Related Matters:**
Mr Speaker named Members of the Conference Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Jagaba Adams Jagaba	—	<i>Chairman</i>
(2)	Hon. Sunday Marshal Katung	—	<i>Member</i>
(3)	Hon. Yakubu Balogun	—	<i>Member</i>
(4)	Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso	—	<i>Member</i>
(5)	Hon. Shehu Aliyu Musa	—	<i>Member</i>
(6)	Hon. Beni Lar	—	<i>Member</i>
 - (c) **Outstanding Committee Reports:**
Mr Speaker enjoined Chairmen of all Standing and *Ad-hoc* Committees to conclude work on all outstanding assignments and submit their Reports on or before Thursday, 8 December, 2016.

4. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Ekinadonosen (Omoleme) Bello Osagie (*Nee Omoleme*), on the renewal of her professional licence by the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria, was presented and laid by Hon. Ehiozuwa Johnson Agbonayinna (*Egor/Akpoba/Okha Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Tukur Bala Sagagi and 3999 others, on the non-payment of their retirement benefits since November, 2015, by the National Pensions Commission (PENCOM), was presented and laid by Hon. Danburam Abubakar Nuhu (*Kano Municipal Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) A petition from Tanimu Aliyu Magaji and 9 others, on the suspension of their appointment by the National Teachers Institute (NTI), Kaduna, was presented and laid by Hon. Abbas Tajudeen (*Zaria Federal Constituency*);
- (iv) A petition from I. C. Bamiloye, T. A., on his dismissal by the Nigeria Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Chika Adamu (*Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*); and
- (v) A petition from Oluchukwu U. Ulasi Esq. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Messrs Dressman Desi and 3 others, on the alleged criminal negligence and gruesome murder of Arerebo Desi Dressman, by the Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHEDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo (*Ihaje/Esse Odo 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 Issue of Malnutrition and Starvation of over 400,000 Children in Northeast:***
Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku (*Dukku/Nafada 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 Issue of Malnutrition and Starvation of Over 400,000 Children in North East:

The House:

Notes that the United Nations report of Tuesday, 15 November, 2016, indicates that about 75,000 children in Nigeria's northeast may die of malnutrition and starvation over the next few months unless urgent humanitarian aid is provided;

Also notes that the children are part of seven million persons in need of humanitarian assistance in the region that has been ravaged by over six years of insurgency;

Concerned that 400,000 out of the seven million in need of humanitarian assistance are children, with 75,000 in critical condition, arising from grossly inadequate funding for humanitarian aid, especially food supply needs which the UN puts at \$5.1 million;

Also concerned that only about 4.7 million persons are targeted for aid in 2016, out of the 14.8 million people affected by Boko Haram activities in the region;

Aware that 5.5 million persons need protection, safe and secure environment while over one million children are in need of access to education;

Disturbed that there is a sharp rise in the figure when compared with the figure that the UNICEF gave few months ago;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees and Initiatives on Northeast Zone (IDPs), and Healthcare Services to make appropriate recommendations on the issue and report back to the House in one week (*Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku* *Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (ii) as follows:

"Urge the Presidential Committee on the North East Initiative to urgently intervene" (*Hon. Yusuf Buba - Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the United Nations report of Tuesday, 15 November, 2016, indicates that about 75,000 children in Nigeria's northeast may die of malnutrition and starvation over the next few months unless urgent humanitarian aid is provided;

Also noted that the children are part of seven million persons in need of humanitarian assistance in the region that has been ravaged by over six years of insurgency;

Concerned that 400,000 out of the seven million in need of humanitarian assistance are children, with 75,000 in critical condition, arising from grossly inadequate funding for humanitarian aid, especially food supply needs which the UN puts at \$5.1 million;

Also concerned that only about 4.7 million persons are targeted for aid in 2016, out of the 14.8 million people affected by Boko Haram activities in the region;

Aware that 5.5 million persons need protection, safe and secure environment while over one million children are in need of access to education;

Disturbed that there is a sharp rise in the figure when compared with the figure that the UNICEF gave few months ago;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees and Initiatives on Northeast Zone (IDPs), and Healthcare Services, to make appropriate recommendations on the issue and report back to the House in one week; and

- (ii) urge the Presidential Committee on the North East Initiative to urgently intervene" (HR. 225/2016).
- (ii) ***Rampant Cases of Intimidation and Harassment of Innocent and Law-Abiding People of Bauchi State; Including False Imprisonment of the Former Governor of the State Mal. Isa Yuguda, By the Bauchi State Command of the Nigeria Police, under C. P. Ahmed Zaki:*** Hon. Ahmed Yerima (Misau/Dambam 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.

Rampant Cases of Intimidation and Harassment of Innocent and Law-Abiding People of Bauchi State; Including False Imprisonment of the Former Governor of the State Mal. Isa Yuguda, By the Bauchi State Command of the Nigeria Police, under C. P. Ahmed Zaki:

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria Police Force as an instrument of State to protect lives and property of the people, is increasingly turning into an instrument of abuse of power in Bauchi State, against the general ideals of democracy and freedom from aggression entrenched in our Constitution;

Observes that innocent citizens of the State are being harassed and falsely imprisoned without bail and the very institution that should protect the citizens is turning against them;

Also observes that there are many law abiding indigenes of Bauchi State arrested without charges, languishing in police custody or prisons: most of these intimidation and harassment are allegedly linked to dictatorial tendencies in the state of their command;

Worried that the present Police Commissioner in Bauchi State, Ahmed Zaki has been accused of being the centre of the current political controversy and crisis in the State, taking sides and harassing his perceived enemies of the State;

Also worried that this kind of attitude may lead to violence, abuse of power, and at the end, a breakdown of law and order;

Also notes that Armed political thugs roam the street of Bauchi and other towns, intimidating innocent Nigerians.

Resolves to:

Call on the House to constitute a high-powered *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the alleged cases of harassment, intimidation and gross breach of constitutional rights of indigenes and residents of Bauchi State by the Nigeria Police Command, to forestall the breakdown of law and order, and to report back within 4 weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Ahmed Yerima — Misau/Dambam Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Police Force, as an instrument of State to protect lives and property of the people, is increasingly turning into an instrument of abuse of power in Bauchi State, against the general ideals of democracy and freedom from aggression entrenched in our Constitution;

Observed that innocent citizens of the State are being harassed and falsely imprisoned without bail and the very institution that should protect the citizens is turning against them;

Also observed that there are many law abiding indigenes of Bauchi State arrested without charges, languishing in police custody or prisons; most of these intimidation and harassment are allegedly linked to dictatorial tendencies in the state of their command;

Worried that the present Police Commissioner in Bauchi State, Ahmed Zaki has been accused of being the centre of the current political controversy and crisis in the State, taking sides and harassing his perceived enemies of the State;

Also worried that this kind of attitude may lead to violence, abuse of power, and at the end, a breakdown of law and order;

Also noted that Armed political thugs roam the street of Bauchi and other towns, intimidating innocent Nigerians.

Resolved to:

Call on the House to constitute a high-powered *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the alleged cases of harassment, intimidation and gross breach of constitutional rights of indigenes and residents of Bauchi State by the Nigeria Police Command, to forestall the breakdown of law and order, and to report back within 4 weeks for further legislative action (H.R. 226/2016).

Motion made and Question proposed. "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 to enable it take more than two Matters of Urgent Public Importance" (Hon. Orker Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(iii) *Need to Revive the Textile Industries in Kaduna and Kano Axis:*

Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung (Zangon Kataf/Jaba 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 Revive the Textile Industries in Kaduna and Kano Axis:

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria's textile industry blossomed in the 60s and 70s, following committed government interventionist schemes such as the ban on importation of textiles, which ultimately drove many investors into the sector;

Also notes that Kaduna was referred to as the 'Textile City' because it housed giant integrated mills and had the headquarters of the Nigerian Textile Manufacturers Association (NTMA), then the state could actually boast of about 11 textile companies, including the Arewa Textile Plc, Fantext Nigeria Ltd, Notext Nigeria Ltd, Super text Ltd, United Nigeria Textile Ltd, providing employment and business opportunities to thousands of people;

Aware that the Kaduna Textile Limited (KTL), one of the oldest mills in the country, established in 1957, was shut down in 2002, with its over 7,000 employees laid off, and its once admirable structure now a shadow of itself;

Concerned that today, though there are local textile companies trying to raise their voice with various designs and fabrics in the Nigerian market, we cannot feign ignorance of the fact that there is still a wide gap that need sto be filled in the Nigerian textile industry;

Also concerned that it is undeniable that the lost glory is yet to be restored. Presently, it is even hard to believe that the Nigerian textile industry once occupied an enviable spot of being the third largest in Africa in the 80s, generating as much as \$2 billion annually and with a capacity of producing more than 1.4 billion different pieces of textile products, including African prints, shirting, bed sheets, furnishing fabrics, towels, embroidery lace, table and bed linen, guinea brocades, wax prints, java prints, jutes and fishing nets;

Worried that despite the introduction of an Industrial Revolution Plan aimed at revamping and fast-tracking the growth and development of the cotton, textile and garment (CTG) sector, and addressing the various problems facing it, it is obvious that, at the moment, one of the most daunting challenges staring the sector on the face is the influx of foreign textiles into the country;

Also worried that with the lifting of the ban on textile importation in 2010, Nigeria now has almost 80% of its textiles imported from China, Indonesia, Taiwan and other countries. This trend is definitely not helping the Nigerian economy, in terms of employment/job creations and needed foreign exchange;

Resolves to:

- (i) calls on the Federal Government, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the Federal Ministry of Trade and Commerce as a matter of urgency to ensure the revival of the Textile Industries in Kaduna and Kano as this will further create job opportunities to the unemployed population of our country;
- (ii) urge the Nigerian Customs Service to increase surveillance of our borders to check the activities of smugglers and ensure collections of the right tariffs for all imported textile and other related producers; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Industry, and Appropriations to include special intervention funds in the 2017 budget proposal (*Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung — Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:

"Mandate the Committee on Industry, to investigate the utilization or otherwise of the intervention fund set aside by the Federal Government for the Textile industry" (Hon. Abdulrahman Shuaibu — Mubi North/Mubi South/Miaha Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria's textile industry blossomed in the 60s and 70s, following committed government interventionist schemes such as the ban on importation of textiles, which ultimately drove many investors into the sector;

Also noted that Kaduna was referred to as the Textile City because it housed giant integrated mills and had the headquarters of the Nigerian Textile Manufacturers Association (NTMA), then the state could actually boast of about 11 textile companies, including the Arewa Textile Plc, Fantext Nigeria Ltd, Notext Nigeria Ltd, Super text Ltd, United Nigeria Textile Ltd, providing employment and business opportunities to thousands of people;

Aware that the Kaduna Textile Limited (KTL), one of the oldest mills in the country, established in 1957, was shut down in 2002, with its over 7,000 employees laid off, and its once admirable structure now a shadow of itself;

Concerned that today, though there are local textile companies trying to raise their voice with various designs and fabrics in the Nigerian market, we cannot feign ignorance of the fact that there is still a wide gap that need sto be filled in the Nigerian textile industry;

Also concerned that it is undeniable that the lost glory is yet to be restored. Presently, it is even hard to believe that the Nigerian textile industry once occupied an enviable spot of being the third largest in Africa in the 80s, generating as much as \$2 billion annually and with a capacity of producing more than 1.4 billion different pieces of textile products, including African prints, shirting, bed sheets, furnishing fabrics, towels, embroidery lace, table and bed linen, guinea brocades, wax prints, java prints, jutes and fishing nets;

Worried that despite the introduction of an Industrial Revolution Plan aimed at revamping and fast-tracking the growth and development of the cotton, textile and garment (CTG) sector, and addressing the various problems facing it, it is obvious that, at the moment, one of the most daunting challenges staring the sector on the face is the influx of foreign textiles into the country;

Also worried that with the lifting of the ban on textile importation in 2010, Nigeria now has almost 80% of its textiles imported from China, Indonesia, Taiwan and other countries. This trend is definitely not helping the Nigerian economy, in terms of employment/job creations and needed foreign exchange;

Resolved to:

- (i) calls on the Federal Government, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the Federal Ministry of Trade and Commerce as a matter of urgency to ensure the revival of the Textile Industries in Kaduna and Kano as this will further create job opportunities to the unemployed population of our country;

- (ii) urge the Nigerian Customs Service to increase surveillance of our borders to check the activities of smugglers and ensure collections of the right tariffs for all imported textile and other related producers;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Industry, and Appropriations to include special intervention funds in the 2017 budget proposal; and
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Industry, to investigate the utilization or otherwise of the intervention fund set aside by the Federal Government for the Textile industry (HR. 227/2016).

6. **Consolidation of Bills**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine Commission to Encourage, Promote and Co-ordinate Traditional Medicine Practice in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 409), and a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Traditional Medicine Council of Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 695) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jey Emmanuel Yisa – Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Customers Relationship Management to be charged with the Responsibility for Registration and Disciplining of its Members, Regulation and Control of the Practice of Customer Service Profession and for Other Related Matters (HB. 69) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Customers Relationship Management to be charged with the Responsibility for Registration and Disciplining of its Members, Regulation and Control of the Practice of Customer Service Profession and for Other Related Matters (HB. 69) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba – Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Chartered Institute of Export and Commodity Brokers of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 85) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Chartered Institute of Export and Commodity Brokers of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 85) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba – Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of the Identities of National Security Agencies Officers, Agents, Sources, Informants and Operational Methods from Unlawful Disclosure and to Protect their Establishments, Facilities and Equipment against Unauthorized Access, as well as Provide for the Promotion and Engagement of Nigeria's External Security and for Other Related Matters (HB. 830) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of the Identities of National Security Agencies Officers, Agents, Sources, Informants and Operational Methods from Unlawful Disclosure and to Protect their Establishments, Facilities and Equipment

against Unauthorized Access, as well as Provide for the Promotion and Engagement of Nigeria's External Security and for Other Related Matters (HB. 830) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Oluwale Oke — Obokun/Oriade 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 National Security and Intelligence.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission Act, Cap. R7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to make Provisions for Sanctions for Erring Revenue Generating Agencies and Enhance the Revenue Profile and Remittances into the Federation Account to Facilitate National Development; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 542) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission Act, Cap. R7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to make Provisions for Sanctions for Erring Revenue Generating Agencies and Enhance the Revenue Profile and Remittances into the Federation Account to Facilitate National Development; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 542) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Abbas Tajudeen — Zaria 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 Federal Character Commission Act, Cap. F7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for the Establishment of Federal Character Tribunal for the Prosecution of Violators of the Federal Character and Review of the Penalties and for Other Related Matters (HB. 832) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Agency for Foreign Assistance (NAFA) to Coordinate and Facilitate the Rapid Realization of NAFA Programmes and Processes in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 24) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Agency for Foreign Assistance (NAFA) to Coordinate and Facilitate the Rapid Realization of NAFA Programmes and Processes in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 24) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Gideon Gwani — Kaura 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 Foreign Affairs.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the University of Ibadan Act, Cap. U6, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for the Election and Tenure of the Dean of a Faculty and for Other Related Matters (HB. 261) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. **Need to Complete the Rehabilitation of Nguru/Gashua and Gashua/Bayamari Federal Roads**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. **Need for Reconstruction of Auchi-Agenebode-Idah-Odolu-IbagwuNsukka Road**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Auchi/Fugar/Agenebode/Odolu/Ibagwu/Nsukka Road dates back to the pre-colonial days but was constructed in the 1970s, in the process of which the bridge across River Niger was abandoned, along with some parts of the earmarked route;

Also notes that while the Auchi/Atashi stretch was recently dualised by the Government of Edo State, the Agenebode/Idah bridge, which was designed in the 1990s is yet to be constructed;

Aware that the Idah/Nsukka stretch which was partially constructed has now failed, leaving it in a deplorable state;

Cognizant that when the Road is reconstructed, it will link the former Midwestern, Eastern and North Central regions of Nigeria with the great potentials to promote social and economic activities in the areas;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, Power and Housing to include the reconstruction of the road in the 2017 budget proposal; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Appropriations to ensure implementation and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Emmanuel Makoji Egwu — Idah/Igalamela/Ibaji/Ofu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 228/2016).

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

16. **Need for reconstruction of Mayo-Belwa-Ganye Road in Adamawa State**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the 78km Mayo-Belwa-Ganye Road which links Ganye, Jada, Toundou and Mayo-Belwa local government areas with Yola, the capital of Adamawa State is in a very deplorable state;

Also notes that the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) had awarded contracts worth ₦342,065,747.75 (Three Hundred and Forty-Two Million, Sixty Five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira, Seventy Five Kobo) to various Contractors, including MS Global Resources Ltd and Messrs Reed Engineering Construction Ltd, to reconstruct the road but the contracts were terminated for non-performance after the contractors had collected 45% and 50% of the contract sums, respectively;

Informed that the contractors merely carried out scarifications, patched up potholes in some failed sections, laid laterite base course and asphaltic concrete wearing course at some sections of the road;

Concerned that all the efforts by FERMA to rehabilitate the road have not yielded the desired results and the degraded state of the road is now beyond the capacity of FERMA as it will require a complete reconstruction;

Cognizant of the vision of the present administration to ensure that all Federal roads are reconstructed to ensure smooth motoring and enhance socio-economic activities in the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, Power, and Housing to cause a redesigning and re-award of the Mayo-Belwa-Ganye Road for reconstruction; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to ensure that priority attention is given to the road in the 2017 Budget (*Hon. Abdulrazak Sa'ad Namdas—Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 229/2016).

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

17. Need to Investigate the Joint Venture Agreement between the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) and StarTimes Communications Network Technology Company Limited

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

18. Need to Regulate the Establishment of Pharmaceutical Shops and Drug Stores

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House.

Notes that the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. P17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, was enacted in 1992, to regulate members of the profession and their professional activities;

Also notes that by sections 8 (3) and 10 of the Act, all persons or premises engaged in the manufacture, distribution, sales, and dispensing of drugs and medicine must be approved and registered with the Council;

Aware that pharmaceutical shops or practice can be classified into five broad categories, namely:

- (a) retail pharmacies,
- (b) wholesale pharmacies,

- (d) pharmacy within hospital, clinic, and other facility approved to render medical services.
- (e) manufacturing wholesale pharmacy;

Also aware that each of those categories of pharmaceutical shops has its peculiar needs, in terms of manpower, equipment and premises specification and ideally, a retail pharmaceutical shop should be located some distance from other retail activities and the premises should include a main customer area, office, dispensary, a counseling area, toilet, etc.;

Concerned that one-room apartment pharmaceutical shops, otherwise known as 'chemist shops' are in all sorts of locations and buildings which lack basic facilities like electricity and water, and in most cases manned by laymen;

Also concerned that it is common in cities and villages to see drugs displayed for sales in public places;

Worried that some so called spiritual and healing homes masquerading as worship centers or charity homes operate freely as drugs and medicines dispensaries, while some local manufactures of drugs and medicines use all sorts of rickety vehicles to advertise and sell their drugs and medicines;

Further concerned that these unprofessional and unethical ways of warehousing and dispensing drugs and medicine serve as channels for the infiltration of quacks into the pharmaceutical profession and also for the marketing of unwholesome, fake and expired drugs and medicines;

Convinced that the infiltration of the pharmaceutical practice by unqualified persons and the attendant unprofessional services being rendered by these people have resulted to the death of countless number of innocent Nigerians, not counting the economic losses due to the supply and purchase of fake, expired and unwholesome drugs and medicine;

Doubtful of the capacity of the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria to perform its regulatory functions effectively and efficiently;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria to commence inspection of all pharmaceutical shops with a view to closing down those that are not operated by registered pharmacists or those operating in unregistered premises and to carry out disciplinary measures against defaulters, and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services, to ensure compliance (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen – Zaria Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House.

Noted that the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. P17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, was enacted in 1992, to regulate members of the profession and their professional activities;

Also noted that by sections 8 (3) and 10 of the Act, all persons or premises engaged in the manufacture, distribution, sales, and dispensing of drugs and medicine must be approved and registered with the Council;

Aware that pharmaceutical shops or practice can be classified into five broad categories, namely:

- (a) retail pharmacies,
- (b) wholesale pharmacies,
- (c) retail and wholesale pharmacies,
- (d) pharmacy within hospital, clinic, and other facility approved to render medical services,
- (e) manufacturing wholesale pharmacy;

Also aware that each of these categories of pharmaceutical shops has its peculiar needs, in terms of manpower, equipment and premises specification and ideally, a retail pharmaceutical shop should be located some distance from other retail activities and the premises should include a main customer area, office, dispensary, a counseling area, toilet, etc.;

Concerned that one-room apartment pharmaceutical shops, otherwise known as 'chemist shops' are in all sorts of locations and buildings which lack basic facilities like electricity and water, and in most cases manned by laymen;

Also concerned that it is common in cities and villages to see drugs displayed for sales in public places;

Worried that some so called spiritual and healing homes masquerading as worship centers or charity homes operate freely as drugs and medicines dispensaries, while some local manufactures of drugs and medicines use all sorts of rickety vehicles to advertise and sell their drugs and medicines;

Further concerned that these unprofessional and unethical ways of warehousing and dispensing drugs and medicine serve as channels for the infiltration of quacks into the pharmaceutical profession and also for the marketing of unwholesome, fake and expired drugs and medicines;

Convinced that the infiltration of the pharmaceutical practice by unqualified persons and the attendant unprofessional services being rendered by these people have resulted to the death of countless number of innocent Nigerians, not counting the economic losses due to the supply and purchase of fake, expired and unwholesome drugs and medicine;

Doubtful of the capacity of the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria to perform its regulatory functions effectively and efficiently;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria to commence inspection of all pharmaceutical shops with a view to closing down those that are not operated by registered pharmacists or those operating in unregistered premises and to carry out disciplinary measures against defaulters, and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services, to ensure compliance (HR. 220/2016).

19. Need for Government to Check the Prevalent Cases of Diabetes in Nigeria

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Consideration of Reports

(i) *Committee on Army:*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Army on the Need for the Nigerian Army to Allow Farmers Purchase Fuel in Jerry Cans in Yobe State (**HR. 191/2016**) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum 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 the Committee should officially write a request to the Chief of Army Staff who would review the security situation in the areas and authorize the sale of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) to farmers through their village heads and also relax the ban on the Sale of PMS and the use of Motor Bikes" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (i) (*Hon. Muhammad Sani Abdu — Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That the House do urge the Chief of Army Staff to review the restrictions on the sale of PMS in Jerry cans and regulate the use of motor cycles in such a manner that it will not jeopardize the fight against the Boko Haram insurgency in the North East Zone" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum 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 Committee on Army on the Need for the Nigerian Army to Allow Farmers Purchase Fuel in Jerry Cans in Yobe State (**HR. 191/2016**), and rejected Recommendation (i) and approved Recommendation (ii) of the Report.

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

(ii) *Committee on Army:*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Army on the Need to Curb Kidnappings, Armed Robberies and Killings in Aba, Abia State (**HR. 28/2016**) and approved the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum 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 there should be an immediate activation of a uniform national emergency number for a more robust fight against kidnappings and other violent crimes” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

“That there should be an urgent improvement and revamping of the intelligence gathering network of the security agencies to enable them to be more pro-active in the fight against kidnapping and other violent crimes” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

“That the Mobile Network Providers should be mandated to install more robust equipment and tools for tracking of numbers used by kidnappers for ransom purposes, and collaborate closely with the security agencies in the fight against kidnappings and other violent crimes that require dedication and hard work” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

“That the number of soldiers and other security agents in Aba and environs should be increased for a sustainable management of the vices that are the subject matter of this report” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

“That provision of operational vehicles, such as Toyota Hilux and Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) to enable the soldiers and other security agencies have access to the routes within and out of Aba should be made a matter of utmost urgency” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

“That communications equipment, such as high frequency radio communications system should be provided for the security agents on patrol, especially those manning check points” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):

“That Frequent rotation of officers should be adopted” (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (viii):

"That the government should have control of the national biometric information data used by the banks, the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC), the Nigerian Immigration Service and other agencies as this will increase inter agency cooperation and sharing of resources and intelligence" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ix):

"That the Security Agencies should increase public awareness of the procedures and processes available to the public in times of emergency" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (x):

"That the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) should immediately introduce location based information and/or emergency call before the end of the year" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (xi):

"That prosecution of apprehended culprits should be heightened and given publicity to serve as deterrence" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (xii):

"That installation of security cameras in all public places, including business premises should be made compulsory" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Ussa/Takum 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 Committee on Army, on the Need to Curb Kidnappings, Armed Robberies and Killings in Aba, Abia State (**HR. 28/2016**) and approved Recommendations (i) - (xii) of the Report.

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

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 6 December, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Orker Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.37 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker