



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 12 January, 2017

1. The House met at 11.07 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, 11 January, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Eva D. Egbedu & Co (Legal Practitioners), on the failure of the Inspector General of Police and the Police Service Commission, to comply with Federal High Court judgment in Suit No: FHC/OW/CS/114/2006, and Court of Appeal order in Suit No: CA/OW/12/2015, was presented and laid by Hon. Austine Chukwukere (*Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Agbonayinma Jonson Ehiozuwa (*Egor/Ikpoba/Okha Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Enogie of Evbonmodu and 4 others, on the threat posed by the construction works on the Benin - Aduwawa - Auchi road to lives and property in their communities by Reynolds Construction Company (RCC) Limited;
 - (b) FREDOROSA CASOLINI LIMITED (Environmental Consultants and Engineering Services), on behalf of Ikara community of Ikpo-Okha Local Government Area, Edo State, on the post-spill impact assessment, and adequate compensation of the Ikara community degraded by crude oil spills;
- (iii) A petition from Kaikeh Z. Jok, against the Chief of Naval Staff and Naval Authorities, on the disappearance of Lieutenant Kaikeh Bege (NN 2811), was presented and laid by Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung (*Jaba/Zango Kataf Federal Constituency*);
- (iv) A petition from Bala Ibrahim, on the termination of his appointment by the Yola Electricity Distribution Company (YEDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Lawal Abubakar Garba (*Yola North/Yola South/Gire Federal Constituency*);

- (v) A petition from Bashir Nasiru & Co. (Barristers & Solicitors), on behalf of the family and relatives of Ibrahim Badamasi, who was allegedly killed by officers and men of the Kano State Police Command, was presented and laid by Hon. Garba Mohammed (*Gwale Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition from Bala Jidda, on his retrenchment from the service of the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), was presented and laid by Hon. Chede Hamman-Julde Garba (*Bali/Gassol Federal Constituency*);
- (vii) A petition from Emeka Sabastian, on the delay of his promotion and withholding of payment of his pension arrears, was presented and laid by Hon. Henry Nwawuba (*Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*); and
- (viii) A petition from Adonye Apiafi, on alleged harassment and extortion by the Nigeria Police Force, Surulere Division, Oluwole Tinubu House, Area "C" Command, Lagos State, was presented and laid by Hon. Jones Onyereri (*Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Violent Terror Attacks on the People of Kaura Federal Constituency (Southern Kaduna) by Unknown Gunmen:***

Hon. Gideon Gwani (*Kaura Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Matter to stand over till next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 4 (3).

- (ii) ***Need to Intervene in the Non Judicious Exercise of Discretion by Public Officers:***

Hon. Kingsley Chinda (*Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Matter to stand over till next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 4 (3).

5. **Need to Commend the Nigerian Armed Forces for Overrunning the Sambisa Forest and to Celebrate its Serving and Retired Personnel on the Occasion of the 2017 Armed Forces Remembrance Day**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that Members of the Boko Haram Sect had, in the last couple of years, terrorized Communities in the North-East zone of Nigeria, especially Communities in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States;

Recalls that before President Muhammadu Buhari assumed office, many Local Government Areas in Borno State were overrun by the Sect which declared the town of Goza as its administrative headquarters;

Also aware that the terrorists had caused the death of no fewer than 100,000 people, rendered over two million people homeless and destroyed properties worth millions of naira;

Regrets that the insurgency had crippled the business and economic activities of the people of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States in particular, but the political will exhibited by the Government has brought the Sect to its knees by sacking the members from the Sambisa Forest which was the operational base from which they launched attacks and ran back to hide;

Appreciates the gallantry of the Armed Forces in defeating the Sect which resulted in the recovery of the areas hitherto under the control of the Sect as well as capturing the symbolic flag which the Sect's leader, Shekau usually placed at the background while making his radical speeches;

Believes that the capturing of Sambisa Forest symbolizes a major defeat of the Sect and by implication, the beginning of the revival of economic and business activities of the North East Zone;

Notes that the Armed Forces Remembrance Day is a time for the nation to reflect on the significant sacrifices that the men and women of the Armed Forces have made and have continued to make to ensure that we remain a united, free and prosperous nation;

Further aware that the Armed Forces Remembrance Day which was formerly celebrated on 11 November of every year to coincide with the Remembrance Day (Poppy Day) for the World War II veterans in the British Commonwealth of Nations, was changed to 15 January in commemoration of the Civil War that nearly tore the nation apart;

Cognizant that the Armed Forces, despite enormous challenges have contributed to the enthronement of peace and prosperity in the nation but realizes that more than at anytime in the nation's history, save the Civil War period, the Armed Forces has not been as stretched in an effort to secure the territorial integrity of the nation as at the present time;

Also cognizant that the men and women of the Armed Forces are deployed for several internal security operations nationwide in a bid to ensure that the nation is secured, especially at the Niger Delta Area which has led to a drastic reduction in the activities of economic saboteurs who once reigned supreme in the nation's territorial waters;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Chief of Defence Staff to work towards instituting Insurance and Housing Schemes for the personnel of the Armed Forces in the event of disability or death, in order to ensure that our fallen heroes are not forgotten;
- (ii) also urge Corporate Organizations to key into programs aimed at bettering the lives of the veterans;
- (iii) commend President Muhammadu Buhari for his commitment towards the restoration of peace in the North-East Zone of Nigeria;
- (iv) also commend the Chiefs of Defence, Army, Air and Naval Staffs and members of the Armed Forces for their doggedness and courage which led to the defeat and consequent capturing of the Sambisa Forest from the Boko Haram Sect;
- (v) further commend the authority of the Armed Forces for re-opening the Maiduguri - Monguno - Bama Road and the Maiduguri-Gubio-Damasak Road;
- (vi) urge Nigerians to be more vigilant as escapee Boko Haram members may seek to integrate themselves into the Communities; and
- (vii) mandate the Committee on Defence to monitor developments so as to avert a relapse back to the harrowing events of the last couple of years (*Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

(i) *Insert* a new Prayer (viii) as follows:

“Urge the Authority of the Armed Forces to immediately take up the welfare of the family members of the soldiers that died, especially feeding, education, and medical needs of their spouse and children” (*Hon. Aishatu Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ii) In Prayer (iv) immediately after the word “Staffs”, *insert* the words “Police, Directorate of State Security (DSS)” (*Hon. Baballe Bashir — Minjibir/Ungogo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(iii) *Leave out* Prayer (i) and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:

“Urge the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Chief of Defence Staff, to ensure the provision of Armed Personnel welfare for both serving and retired officers” (*Hon. Baballe Bashir — Minjibir/Ungogo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(iv) *Insert* a new Prayer (ix) as follows:

“Also commend various Stakeholders particularly The Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) Organization, for their sensitization and consciousness, and Governor Kashim Shetima of Borno State” (*Hon. Jimoh A. Olajide — Lagos Mainland Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(v) *Insert* a new Prayer (x) as follows:

“That the House do rise to observe a minute silence in honour of the gallant men and women of the Nigerian Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in defence of our nation” (*Hon. Nnenna Elendu-Ukeje Ijeoma — Bende Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(vi) *Insert* a new Prayer (xi) as follows:

“Urge the Sub-Committee on Economic Development of the Presidential Committee on North East Initiative (PCNI) to create economic development programme for widows/orphans of fallen heroes” (*Hon. Yusuf Buba — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(vii) *Insert* a new Prayer (xii) as follows:

“Commend the Civilian JTF for their support to the Armed Forces in fighting Boko Haram” (*Hon. Abdulrahman Shuaibu — Mubi North/Mubi South/Maiha Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(viii) *Insert* a new Prayer (xiii) as follows:

“Urge the Federal Government to award substantial parts of the construction work in North East to members of the Army Engineering Corps, to build, maintain and protect the areas” (*Hon. Mohammed Sani Zorro — Gumel/Maigatari/S/Tankar/Gagarawa Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ix) *Insert a new Prayer (xiv) as follows:*

“Urge the Armed Forces to step up efforts to release the remaining Chibok Girls and other people captured by Boko Haram insurgents or militants” (Hon. Ayo Omidiran — Ayedaade/Irewole/Isokan Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Members of the Boko Haram Sect had, in the last couple of years, terrorized Communities in the North-East zone of Nigeria, especially Communities in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States;

Recalled that before President Muhammadu Buhari assumed office, many Local Government Areas in Borno State were overrun by the Sect which declared the town of Goza as its administrative headquarters;

Also aware that the terrorists had caused the death of no fewer than 100,000 people, rendered over two million people homeless and destroyed properties worth millions of naira;

Regretted that the insurgency had crippled the business and economic activities of the people of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States in particular, but the political will exhibited by the Government has brought the Sect to its knees by sacking the members from the Sambisa Forest which was the operational base from which they launched attacks and ran back to hide;

Appreciated the gallantry of the Armed Forces in defeating the Sect which resulted in the recovery of the areas hitherto under the control of the Sect as well as capturing the symbolic flag which the Sect's leader, Shekau usually placed at the background while making his radical speeches;

Believed that the capturing of Sambisa Forest symbolizes a major defeat of the Sect and by implication, the beginning of the revival of economic and business activities of the North East Zone;

Noted that the Armed Forces Remembrance Day is a time for the nation to reflect on the significant sacrifices that the men and women of the Armed Forces have made and have continued to make to ensure that we remain a united, free and prosperous nation;

Further aware that the Armed Forces Remembrance Day which was formerly celebrated on 11 November of every year to coincide with the Remembrance Day (Poppy Day) for the World War II veterans in the British Commonwealth of Nations, was changed to 15 January in commemoration of the Civil War that nearly tore the nation apart;

Cognizant that the Armed Forces, despite enormous challenges have contributed to the enthronement of peace and prosperity in the nation but realizes that more than at anytime in the nation's history, save the Civil War period, the Armed Forces has not been as stretched in an effort to secure the territorial integrity of the nation as at the present time;

Also cognizant that the men and women of the Armed Forces are deployed for several internal security operations nationwide in a bid to ensure that the nation is secured, especially at the Niger Delta Area which has led to a drastic reduction in the activities of economic saboteurs who once reigned supreme in the nation's territorial waters;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Chief of Defence Staff to ensure the provision of Armed Personnel welfare for both serving and retired officers;
- (ii) also urge Corporate Organizations to key into programs aimed at bettering the lives of the veterans;
- (iii) commend President Muhammadu Buhari for his commitment towards the restoration of peace in the North-East Zone of Nigeria;
- (iv) also commend the Chiefs of Defence, Army, Air and Naval Staffs, Police, Directorate of State Security (DSS) and members of the Armed Forces for their doggedness and courage which led to the defeat and consequent capturing of the Sambisa Forest from the Boko Haram Sect;
- (v) further commend the authority of the Armed Forces for re-opening the Maiduguri-Monguno-Bama Road and the Maiduguri-Gubio-Damasak Road;
- (vi) further urge Nigerians to be more vigilant as escapee Boko Haram members may seek to integrate themselves into the Communities; and
- (vii) mandate the Committee on Defence to monitor developments so as to avert a relapse back to the harrowing events of the last couple of years;
- (viii) still urge the Authority of the Armed Forces to take up the welfare of the family members of our soldiers that died immediately, especially feeding, education, and medical needs of their spouse and children;
- (ix) still commend various Stakeholders particularly The Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) Organization, for their sensitization and consciousness, and Governor Kashim Shetima of Borno State;
- (x) observe a minute silence in honour of the gallant men and women of the Nigerian Armed Forces who scarified their lives in defence of our nation;
- (xi) equally urge Sub-Committee on Economic Development of the PCNI to create economic development program for widows/orphans of fallen heroes;
- (xii) equally commend the Civilian JTF for their support to the armed forces in fighting Boko Haram;
- (xiii) urge the Federal Government to award substantial parts of the construction work in North East to members of the Army Engineering Corps, to build, maintain and protect the areas; and
- (xiv) urge the Armed Forces to step up efforts to release the remaining Chibok Girls and other people captured by Boko Haram insurgents or militants (HIR. 04/2017).

The House observed a minute silence in honour of the fallen heroes.

6. **Call for a Review of the Planned Closure of the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the report published in national newspapers that the Federal Ministry of Transportation (Aviation) is proposing to close the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja for six (6) weeks commencing on 8 March, 2017 to enable the Ministry carry out comprehensive renovation of the runway and construct a second runway;

Also notes that the Ministry stated that during the period of the closure, all flights, both local and international, will be re-routed to the Kaduna International Airport from where passengers will be conveyed to Abuja by road or rail, with security to be provided by the security agencies;

Cognizant of the incumbency on the Government to facilitate and ease the conduct of economic activities and travels, especially at this period of economic recession, hence the quandary and obvious difficulties to understand the rationale behind the intended closure of an airport of the Capital City of the country, which invariably amounts to shutting down the city;

Conscious of the fact that the nation has lost an estimated \$80 billion worth of foreign investments in the last two years, the Government ought to be more concerned about facilitating the return of capital to the nation rather than taking a measure that is bound to exacerbate the situation given that both international and local airlines are opposed to the proposal and the nature of their reaction if the plan is carried out is yet to be determined; and the aggregate losses to be incurred by the country to the closure cannot be quantified;

Wonders why there has to be a complete closure in order to repair the runway when there exists new technologies that can be applied in such a way that the repair works can be undertaken at night over the six weeks period while the airport remains in operation during the day time given that the earliest scheduled flight into the airport arrives at 5.30a.m.;

Aware that the "upgrading" and construction of the terminal building have been on-going for over five years now without a completion date in sight and given the experience of the Port Harcourt International Airport which was shut down to undergo renovation for a couple of weeks but the work lasted for over a year, what then is the guarantee that this particular exercise will be completed within the projected six weeks period;

Concerned about subjecting local and foreign travelers to the perils of road travels, particularly in a period of recession with the attendant economic hardships which have occasioned high incidents of armed robberies, kidnappings and other sundry crimes along the Kaduna-Abuja highway;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Transportation (Aviation) to halt the planned closure of Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja and explore alternative methods of carrying out the renovation of the Runway; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Aviation to ensure implementation and report back within two (2) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Olufunke Adedoyin — Ekiti/Isin/Irepodun /Oke-Ero Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out all the Prayers and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:

"Invite the Minister of Aviation, Technical Experts and other Stakeholders in the Aviation industry to brief the House on why the Ministry cannot carry out renovation on the runway without disruptions, or re-routing of domestic and international flights to Kaduna International Airport" (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen — Zaria Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the report published in national newspapers that the Federal Ministry of Transportation (Aviation) is proposing to close the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja for six (6) weeks commencing on 8 March, 2017 to enable the Ministry carry out comprehensive renovation of the runway and construct a second runway;

Also noted that the Ministry stated that during the period of the closure, all flights, both local and international, will be re-routed to the Kaduna International Airport from where passengers will be conveyed to Abuja by road or rail, with security to be provided by the security agencies;

Cognizant of the incumbency on the Government to facilitate and ease the conduct of economic activities and travels, especially at this period of economic recession, hence the quandary and obvious difficulties to understand the rationale behind the intended closure of an airport of the Capital City of the country, which invariably amounts to shutting down the city;

Conscious of the fact that the nation has lost an estimated \$80 billion worth of foreign investments in the last two years, the Government ought to be more concerned about facilitating the return of capital to the nation rather than taking a measure that is bound to exacerbate the situation given that both international and local airlines are opposed to the proposal and the nature of their reaction if the plan is carried out is yet to be determined; and the aggregate losses to be incurred by the country to the closure cannot be quantified;

Wondered why there has to be a complete closure in order to repair the runway when there exists new technologies that can be applied in such a way that the repair works can be undertaken at night over the six weeks period while the airport remains in operation during the day time given that the earliest scheduled flight into the airport arrives at 5.30a.m.;

Aware that the "upgrading" and construction of the terminal building have been on-going for over five years now without a completion date in sight and given the experience of the Port Harcourt International Airport which was shut down to undergo renovation for a couple of weeks but the work lasted for over a year, what then is the guarantee that this particular exercise will be completed within the projected six weeks period;

Concerned about subjecting local and foreign travelers to the perils of road travels, particularly in a period of recession with the attendant economic hardships which have occasioned high incidents of armed robberies, kidnappings and other sundry crimes along the Kaduna-Abuja highway;

Resolved to:

Invite the Minister of Aviation, Technical Experts and other Stakeholders in the Aviation industry to brief the House on why the Ministry cannot carry out renovation on the runway without disruption or re-routing of domestic and international flights to Kaduna International Airport (**HR. 05/2017**).

7. **Call to Offer a Safe Haven to President Yahya Jammeh as Part of Nigeria's Mediation Initiative for the Gambia**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes and supports the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regional mediation efforts led by President Muhammadu Buhari to find lasting solution to the political impasse in the Gambia;

Aware that the clock is ticking fast for the survival of democracy in the country and there is therefore the need to intensify preventive diplomacy to save the Gambia from descending into chaos with dire consequences for the West African sub-region, as a result of a likely armed conflict and mass displacement of persons;

Cognizant of Nigeria's past leadership roles in restoring peace and settling conflicts in various Central, Southern and West African nations, including the Congo, Chad, Southern African countries, Liberia, Sierra-Leone, etc;

Also aware of Nigeria's policy of extending safe-haven status to endangered African leaders as part of dispute settlement and that such gestures had, in the past been extended to Presidents Felix Malloum of Chad, Siad Barre of Somalia, Thabo Mbeki of the ANC, Messrs' Charles Taylor and Yomi Johnson of Liberia and several other leaders;

Resolves to:

- (i) express full support for the President Muhammadu Buhari-led diplomatic efforts at stabilizing the Gambia as it faces this difficult stage of transition from one political regime to another;
- (ii) stand in solidarity with the Parliament and people of the Gambia in their trying times;
- (iii) call on President Muhammadu Buhari to extend Nigeria's readiness to offer outgoing President Yahya Jammeh a safe haven in Nigeria to live securely as a way of ending the political stalemate in the Gambia; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Foreign Affairs to ensure implementation (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro — Gumel/Maigatari/S/Tankar/Gagarawa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iv), immediately after the word "Affairs", *insert* the words "and Legislative Compliance" (*Hon. Chinda Kingsley — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (v) as follows:
"Call on the outgoing President of the Gambia, Yahya Jammeh to respect the wishes of the people of the Gambia expressed in the last presidential election and allow peaceful transfer of power in that country" (*Hon. Mojeed Alabi — Ede North/Ede South/Egbedore/Ejigbo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted and supports the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regional mediation efforts led by President Muhammadu Buhari to find lasting solution to the political impasse in the Gambia;

Aware that the clock is ticking fast for the survival of democracy in the country and there is therefore the need to intensify preventive diplomacy to save the Gambia from descending into chaos with dire consequences for the West African sub-region, as a result of a likely armed conflict and mass displacement of persons;

Cognizant of Nigeria's past leadership roles in restoring peace and settling conflicts in various Central, Southern and West African nations, including the Congo, Chad, Southern African countries, Liberia, Sierra-Leone, etc;

Also aware of Nigeria's policy of extending safe-haven status to endangered African leaders as part of dispute settlement and that such gestures had, in the past been extended to Presidents Felix Malloum of Chad, Siad Barre of Somalia, Thabo Mbeki of the ANC, Messrs' Charles Taylor and Yomi Johnson of Liberia and several other leaders;

Resolved to:

- (i) express full support for the President Muhammadu Buhari-led diplomatic efforts at stabilizing the Gambia as it faces this difficult stage of transition from one political regime to another;
- (ii) stand in solidarity with the Parliament and people of the Gambia in their trying times;
- (iii) call on President Muhammadu Buhari to extend Nigeria's readiness to offer outgoing President Yahya Jammeh a safe haven in Nigeria to live securely as a way of ending the political stalemate in the Gambia;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance, and Foreign Affairs to ensure implementation; and
- (v) call on the outgoing President of the Gambia, Yahya Jammeh to respect the wishes of the people of the Gambia expressed in the last presidential election and allow peaceful transfer of power in that country (HR. 06/2017).

8. Need to Check the Abuse of Personnel of the Nigerian Armed Forces and Other Security Outfits by Civilians

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes with concern the indiscriminate use of men of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force), as body guards of civilians who are ordinarily not entitled to such privileges;

Also notes that though the problem cuts across virtually all sectors of the polity, it is more common among politicians, political and ex-political office holders and businessmen;

Further notes that the most commonly abused of these security personnel are the Mobile Police Force (MOPOL), Soldiers and in the some cases, men of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC);

Concerned that on several occasions, these armed security personnel, acting as body guards to civilians, have brutally assaulted, harassed and in some cases whipped, gun butted, severely beaten and manhandled innocent civilians who are left at the mercy of the personnel;

Also concerned that the above trend, if left unchecked could lead to anarchy and in turn negatively affect the society by causing despondency in the minds of the people;

Further concerned that these acts have lowered the image and reputation of the Armed Forces of Nigeria and indeed compromised national security;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the indiscriminate use and/or abuse of personnel of the Armed Forces and other security outfits by civilians and urge the heads of those establishments to immediately withdraw those personnel attached to civilians; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Army, Air Force, Navy, Police, and Interior, to investigate the matter and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Kingsley Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with concern the indiscriminate use of men of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force), as body guards of civilians who are ordinarily not entitled to such privileges;

Also noted that though the problem cuts across virtually all sectors of the polity, it is more common among politicians, political and ex-political office holders and businessmen;

Further noted that the most commonly abused of these security personnel are the Mobile Police Force (MOPOL), Soldiers and in the some cases, men of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC);

Concerned that on several occasions, these armed security personnel, acting as body guards to civilians, have brutally assaulted, harassed and in some cases whipped, gun butted, severely beaten and manhandled innocent civilians who are left at the mercy of the personnel;

Also concerned that the above trend, if left unchecked could lead to anarchy and in turn negatively affect the society by causing despondency in the minds of the people;

Further concerned that these acts have lowered the image and reputation of the Armed Forces of Nigeria and indeed compromised national security;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the indiscriminate use and/or abuse of personnel of the Armed Forces and other security outfits by civilians and urge the heads of those establishments to immediately withdraw those personnel attached to civilians; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Army, Air Force, Navy, Police, and Interior, to investigate the matter and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 07/2017**).

9. Call to Review the Level of Utilization of Prison Farms/Skills Acquisition in Support of the Diversification Agenda and Compliance with Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) of the African Union 2003 (CAADP)/ECOWAP Compact 2010 and National Agriculture Investment Plan, (NAIP) 2011

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria is a signatory to the Maputo Declaration of 2003 on Agriculture by the Conference of Heads of States and Governments of African Union (AU) in respect of Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) which projected a minimum annual productivity of 6% growth rate;

Aware that Nigeria also signed the (CAADP)/ECOWAP Compact in October 2010 and finalized its National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) in 2011;

Also notes that prison farms across Nigeria form part of the Comprehensive National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) from where productivity can grow above 6% annually;

Realizes that out of about 56,785 prison inmates in the country, about 17,775 are convicts, leaving about 39,010 inmates on the awaiting trial list and this category of inmates cannot be engaged in farming activities but partake in the limited allocations to the prisons service;

Also aware that ten percent of the convicts are on death row and cannot be released for any domestic engagement in view of security considerations and international standard requirements;

Concerned that the prison service no longer obtains farm produce since prison farms became moribund, a situation that is making it impossible to cater for the inmates only from the budgetary allocations, and a fact that has been compounded by the current economic recession;

Believed that the recurring incidents of jail breaks across the country, which have led to the death of over forty six prison staff, may not be unconnected with scarcity of food in the prisons, thus giving vent to the essential requirement for the resuscitation of prison farms to help in addressing the problems of hunger in the prisons;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to ensure compliance with the relevant African Union Instruments and Plans towards the attainment of increased productivity within the expected threshold;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Interior and the Nigerian Prison Service to resuscitate the prison farms as a means of reducing extreme hunger in the prisons across the nation;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to assess the level of compliance with the African Union Instruments targeting food security and comprehensive productivity and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Interior to ensure compliance with the demand for resuscitation of Prison farms and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Oji Chime Agu — Enugu North/Enugu South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria is a signatory to the Maputo Declaration of 2003 on Agriculture by the Conference of Heads of States and Governments of African Union (AU) in respect of Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) which projected a minimum annual productivity of 6% growth rate;

Aware that Nigeria also signed the (CAADP)/ECOWAP Compact in October 2010 and finalized its National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) in 2011;

Also noted that prison farms across Nigeria form part of the Comprehensive National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) from where productivity can grow above 6% annually;

Realized that out of about 56,785 prison inmates in the country, about 17,775 are convicts, leaving about 39,010 inmates on the awaiting trial list and this category of inmates cannot be engaged in farming activities but partake in the limited allocations to the prisons service;

Also aware that ten percent of the convicts are on death row and cannot be released for any domestic engagement in view of security considerations and international standard requirements;

Concerned that the prison service no longer obtains farm produce since prison farms became moribund, a situation that is making it impossible to cater for the inmates only from the budgetary allocations, and a fact that has been compounded by the current economic recession;

Believed that the recurring incidents of jail breaks across the country, which have led to the death of over forty six prison staff, may not be unconnected with scarcity of food in the prisons, thus giving vent to the essential requirement for the resuscitation of prison farms to help in addressing the problems of hunger in the prisons;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to ensure compliance with the relevant African Union Instruments and Plans towards the attainment of increased productivity within the expected threshold;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Interior and the Nigerian Prison Service to resuscitate the prison farms as a means of reducing extreme hunger in the prisons across the nation;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to assess the level of compliance with the African Union Instruments targeting food security and comprehensive productivity and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Interior to ensure compliance with the demand for resuscitation of Prison farms and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (HIR. 08/2017).

10. **Refusal and Deliberate Failure of the Inspector-General of Police to Honour the Invitations of the Committee on Police Affairs over the Violations of the 2016 Appropriation Act, the Fiscal Responsibility Act and the Public Procurement Act**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the sum of 1.2 billion Naira was approved in the Appropriation Act of 2016 for the purchase of ten (10) numbers of Armoured Personnel Carriers by the Nigeria Police Force but the amount was diverted for the purchase of sixty-four (64) Toyota Hiace Commuter vehicles without the approval of the National Assembly;

Also notes that the sum of 6 billion Naira was appropriated in the same Act for rehabilitation and reconstruction of One Hundred and Two (102) Police Stations nationwide but the amount was also diverted for other uses without the approval of the National Assembly;

Concerned that these infractions of the Appropriation Act, 2016, the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 and the Public Procurement Act, 2007 are just two of the several infractions committed by the Nigeria Police Force in the course of implementation of the 2016 budget;

Recalls that the Committee on Police Affairs invited the Inspector-General of Police on 6 December, 2016 and 13 December, 2016 in his capacity as the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Force to explain or justify these perceived infractions but he failed or refused to honour the invitations or justify his failure or refusal to attend;

Cognizant that the diversion of a sum appropriated in the budget without the approval of the National Assembly constitutes a breach of the Appropriation Act and a gross violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999;

Concerned that the persistent failure or refusal of the Inspector-General of Police to honour the invitations has stalled the investigation of the diversion of the funds;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn in the strongest terms, the failure or refusal of the Inspector-General of Police to honour the invitations of the Committee on Police Affairs;
- (ii) summon the Inspector-General of Police to appear before the Committee, unfailingly by 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 19 January, 2017 at Conference Room 023, New Wing, House of Representatives, National Assembly Complex; and
- (iii) cause a bench warrant to be executed for the arrest of the Inspector-General of Police for the purpose of his appearance before the Committee in the event of his refusal or failure to appear on 19 January, 2017 (*Hon. Onyenwufe Gabriel O. — Ayamelum/Oyi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv), as follows:
“Mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Public Procurement, and Reforms of Government Institutions, to investigate the infractions” (*Hon. Oluwale Busayo Oke — Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
“That the Inspector-General of Police be given the last chance to appear before the Committee with a specific constitutional provisions stating our powers to do so under the intervention of Mr Speaker after which a warrant could be issues for his arrest” (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Abdu — Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

- (iii) *Leave out Prayer (iii) (Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi — Ifelodun/Boripe/Odo-Otin Federal Constituency)*

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the sum of 1.2 billion Naira was approved in the Appropriation Act of 2016 for the purchase of ten (10) numbers of Armoured Personnel Carriers by the Nigeria Police Force but the amount was diverted for the purchase of sixty-four (64) Toyota Hiace Commuter vehicles without the approval of the National Assembly;

Also noted that the sum of 6 billion Naira was appropriated in the same Act for rehabilitation and reconstruction of One Hundred and Two (102) Police Stations nationwide but the amount was also diverted for other uses without the approval of the National Assembly;

Concerned that these infractions of the Appropriation Act, 2016, the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 and the Public Procurement Act, 2007 are just two of the several infractions committed by the Nigeria Police Force in the course of implementation of the 2016 budget;

Recalled that the Committee on Police Affairs invited the Inspector-General of Police on 6 December, 2016 and 13 December, 2016 in his capacity as the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Force to explain or justify these perceived infractions but he failed or refused to honour the invitations or justify his failure or refusal to attend;

Cognizant that the diversion of a sum appropriated in the budget without the approval of the National Assembly constitutes a breach of the Appropriation Act and a gross violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999;

Concerned that the persistent failure or refusal of the Inspector-General of Police to honour the invitations has stalled the investigation of the diversion of the funds;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn in the strongest terms, the failure or refusal of the Inspector-General of Police to honour the invitations of the Committee on Police Affairs; and
- (ii) summon the Inspector-General of Police to appear before the Committee, unfailingly by 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 19 January, 2017 at Conference Room 023, New Wing, House of Representatives, National Assembly Complex (HR. 09/2017).

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Quarantine Act, Cap. Q2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB 289) — Second Reading**

Order deferred by leave of the House.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Agricultural Quarantine Service Act, Cap. Q2, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB 471) — Second Reading**

Order deferred by leave of the House.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Capital Territory HIV/AIDS Control Agency (FACA) and for Other Related Matters (HB. 71) — *Second Reading***

Order deferred by leave of the House.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Treaty to Establish the African Union (Ratification and Enforcement) Act, Cap. T26, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by giving the Assembly the Power to Determine the Subjects or Areas on which the Pan-African Parliament may Propose Draft Model Laws and for Other Related Matters (HB. 208) — *Second Reading***

Order deferred by leave of the House.

15. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 17 January, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Bukar Goni Lawal — Busari/Geidam/Yunusari Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 4.02 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker