



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 18 January, 2017

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 Tuesday, 17 January, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

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

- (i) ***Appeal for Search and Unconditional Release of Kidnapped Teachers, Workers, and Students from Nigerian Turkish International College, Isheri, Ogun State:***
Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka (Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve the matter 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 Investigate the ₦100 Billion Naira (USD 625 Million Dollars) Released by the Central Bank of Nigeria for the Construction and Establishment of Mini-Modern Ranches Across the Nation:***

Hon. Karimi Steve Sunday (Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve the matter 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).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it consider more than 2 Motions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Need to Avert the Impending Strike Action at the Nations Insurance Sector Regulator (NAICOM) and Investigate the Protracted Face Off Between the Commissions Management and Labour Union Over Reported Cases of Intimidation, Victimization, and Discrimination by the Management of the Commission:***

Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah (*Gwer-East/Gwer-West Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve the matter 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).

- (iv) ***Expression of Sympathy following Yesterday's Accidental Airstrike of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camp at Rann, Kale-Balge Local Government Area, Borno State on Tuesday, 17 January, 2017:***

Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro (*Gumel/Maigatari/Sule/Tankarkar/Gagarawa 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.

Expression of Sympathy following Yesterday's Accidental Bombing of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camp at Rann, Kale-Balge Local Government, Borno State on Tuesday, 17 January, 2017:

The House:

Notes with regret and sadness the deaths of yet to be ascertained number of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and injury suffered by hundreds of others including humanitarian workers following the accidental air raid on an IDP site at Rann, Kale Balge local government of Borno State, yesterday;

Also notes the preliminary explanation by the armed forces command that the incident was neither a deliberate act of targeting, nor a hostile act on the civilian population whose lives it had the duty to safe guard and protect;

Aware of claims and counter claims among humanitarian actors and the media, surrounding the actual casualty figure so far recorded in the wake of the incident;

Mindful of the need to ascertain whether the air strike was in accordance with strict observance of the Rules of Engagement (ROE) under air law and as enshrined under international humanitarian law (IHL), otherwise known as the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC);

Resolves to:

- (i) constitutes a 10-member Committee selected from Committees on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on the North East Zone; Air Force, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness; Army, and Healthcare Services respectively, to among other things:

- (a) visit the scene of the disaster and commiserate with bereaved families of the victims, the Federal and Borno State Governments, respectively, and the entire people of Nigeria over the unfortunate accident;
 - (b) ascertain the level of response of the emergency assistance needed by the surviving victims of the air strike and members of their immediate families;
 - (c) also ascertain the extent to which emergency and adequate health service are being extended to the surviving victims of the mishap;
- (ii) observe a one-minute silence in honour of the unfortunate victims of the disaster (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro — Gumel/Gagarawa/Mai Gatari/Sule Tankarkar Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with regret and sadness the deaths of yet to be ascertained number of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and injury suffered by hundreds of others including humanitarian workers following the accidental air raid on an IDP site at Rann, Kale Balge local government of Borno State, yesterday;

Also noted the preliminary explanation by the armed forces command that the incident was neither a deliberate act of targeting, nor a hostile act on the civilian population whose lives it had the duty to safe guard and protect;

Aware of claims and counter claims among humanitarian actors and the media, surrounding the actual casualty figure so far recorded in the wake of the incident;

Mindful of the need to ascertain whether the air strike was in accordance with strict observance of the Rules of Engagement (ROE) under air law and as enshrined under international humanitarian law (IHL), otherwise known as the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC);

Resolved to:

- (i) constitutes a 10-member Committee selected from Committees on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on the North East Zone; Air Force, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness; Army, and Healthcare Services respectively, to among other things:
 - (a) visit the scene of the disaster and commiserate with bereaved families of the victims the Federal and Borno State Governments, respectively, and the entire people of Nigeria over the unfortunate accident;
 - (b) ascertain the level of response of the emergency assistance needed by the surviving victims of the air strike and members of their immediate families;
 - (c) also ascertain the extent to which emergency and adequate health service are being extended to the surviving victims of the mishap;
- (ii) observe a one-minute silence in honour of the unfortunate victims of the disaster (**HR. 13/2017**).

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

Ad-hoc Committee on Accidental Airstrike on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at Raan, Kale-Bulge Local Government Area, Borno State:

Mr Speaker named the membership of the *Ad-hoc* Committee as follows:

- | | | | |
|------|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Ezekiel Adaji | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Samson Okwu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (4) | Hon. Lawal Mu'azu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (5) | Hon. Rima M. Shawulu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (6) | Hon. Olufunke Adedoyin | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (7) | Hon. Satumari Jibrin | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (8) | Hon. Ali Isa J. C. | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (9) | Hon. Chike John Okafor | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (10) | Hon. Muhammed Usman | — | <i>Member</i> |

(v) ***Need to Intervene in the Imminent Nationwide Strike Action by the Non-Academic Unions of Universities:***

Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie (*Andoni/Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve the matter 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).

4. **Presentation of Report**

Committee on National Security and Intelligence:

That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence on the Terror Attacks Leading to Loss of over 145 Lives and Destruction of Properties in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State (**HR. 59/2016**).

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

5. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Import (Prohibition) Act, Cap. 13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Introduce Mental Element under the Act in the Offences and for Related Matters (HB. 673) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

6. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Customs and Excise Management Act, Cap. C45, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 631) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Customs and Excise Management Act, Cap. C45, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 631) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Akpatason Ohiozogh Reter — Akoko-Edo 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 Customs and Excise.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Export (Prohibition) Act, Cap. E22, LFN, 2004 to remove the Restrictions placed on Exportation of Agricultural Produce from Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 671) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Export (Prohibition) Act, Cap. E22, LFN, 2004 to remove the Restrictions placed on Exportation of Agricultural Produce from Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 671) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Francis Charles Uduyok — Ikot Abasi/Mkpat Enin/Eastern Obolo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Commerce, and Agricultural Production and Services.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Industrial Property Commission of Nigeria, Repeal the Trademarks Act, Cap. T13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Patents and Designs Act, Cap. P2, LFN, 2004 and make Comprehensive Provisions for the Registration and Protection of Trademarks, Patents and Designs, Plant Varieties, Annual Breeding and Farmers Rights and for Other Related Matters (HB. 640) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Industrial Property Commission of Nigeria, Repeal the Trademarks Act, Cap. T13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Patents and Designs Act, Cap. P2, LFN, 2004 and make Comprehensive Provisions for the Registration and Protection of Trademarks, Patents and Designs, Plant Varieties, Annual Breeding and Farmers Rights and for Other Related Matters (HB. 640) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Chime Oji Agu — Enugu North/Enugu South 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 Establish the Weights and Measures Council for Retail Commodities, to make Provision for Monitoring and Implementation of Standardized Measures of Consumables Products and for Other Related Matters (HB. 629) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Weights and Measures Council for Retail Commodities, to make Provision for Monitoring and Implementation of Standardized Measures of Consumables Products and for Other Related Matters (HB. 629) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Abdulraheem Olajide Jimoh — Lagos Mainland 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.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Weights and Measures Act, Cap. W3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated for Offences under the Act and for Other Related Matters (HB. 265) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Weights and Measures Act, Cap. W3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review Upwards the Fines Stipulated for Offences under the Act and for Other Related Matters (HB. 265) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Gabriel Onyenwufe — Ayamelum/Oyi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

11. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly (Standing Order Twelve (12), Rule 16)**

Proceeds of Crime Bill, 2016 (HB. 872):

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve (12), Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence were made or negatived or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence were made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the Proceeds of Crime Bill was passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

Aware that the Bill has been re-gazetted as HB. 872 and read the first time on Wednesday, 7 December, 2016;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Kayode Oladele — Egbado North/Imeko Afon Federal Constituency*).

... read to.

Bill committed to the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16

12. **Need to Rehabilitate the Lekkitaba-Gembu Road in Sardauna LGA of Taraba State**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Lekkitaba-Gembu Federal road which links other parts of the country to Gembu town is in a very deplorable condition as a result of heavy rain fall which has almost washed away large portions of the road;

Concerned that the deplorable state of the highway is causing enormous danger to lives and also giving opportunity to men of the underworld to rob natives and travelers at will, a situation that has adversely affected the economic activities of the people;

Also concerned that if the erosion is allowed to cut off the Road, there would be adverse consequences as work on the Hydro Electric Power Project at Barup after Gembu town would come to a halt as there is no alternative road to reach it;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to include the reconstruction of the Lekkitaba-Gembu Road in the 2017 budget in order to alleviate the hardships of residents and commuters plying the road; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure implementation and report within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Danasabe Charles Hosea — Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 14/2017).

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

13. Need for Dependent Relatives of over Three Thousand Police Personnel who Died in Active Service to be Paid Their Entitlements:

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the revelation by the Nigeria Police Force that the entitlements of over three thousand police personnel who died in active service over the years have not been paid to their dependent relatives;

Also notes that the reason for the non-payment of the entitlements is that the Insurance Companies were not paid premium to cover the police personnel;

Concerned that the dependent relatives of the deceased personnel have been suffering immense hardships as a result of the non-payment of the entitlements leading to their inability to pay their rents and school fees for their children, difficulties to feed and provide for other necessities of life in the face of the harsh economic situation in the country;

Conscious of the demoralizing effects of the non-payment of entitlements of personnel who died in the line of duty on those still in active service who are ready to put their lives on the line to protect lives and properties of fellow citizens;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Police Service Commission and the Inspector-General of Police to investigate the matter with a view to ensuring the payment of the entitlements within the shortest possible time; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure implementation and report to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Oghene Emma Ego — Anuwo Odofin Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the revelation by the Nigeria Police Force that the entitlements of over three thousand police personnel who died in active service over the years have not been paid to their dependent relatives;

Also noted that the reason for the non-payment of the entitlements is that the Insurance Companies were not paid premium to cover the police personnel;

Concerned that the dependent relatives of the deceased personnel have been suffering immense hardships as a result of the non-payment of the entitlements leading to their inability to pay their rents and school fees for their children, difficulties to feed and provide for other necessities of life in the face of the harsh economic situation in the country;

Conscious of the demoralizing effects of the non-payment of entitlements of personnel who died in the line of duty on those still in active service who are ready to put their lives on the line to protect lives and properties of fellow citizens;

Resolved to.

- (i) call on the Police Service Commission and the Inspector-General of Police to investigate the matter with a view to ensuring the payment of the entitlements within the shortest possible time; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure implementation and report to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 15/2017**).

14. Killings Along the Disputed Ebonyi-Cross River States Boundary and Urgent Need to Demarcate the Boundary between the Two States

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the series of crisis that had arisen between communities living along the boundary of Ebonyi and Cross River States for over twenty (20) years now over ownership of land;

Recalls that in 1984, the crisis was between the Edda Community axis of Ebonyi State and Oshopong of Cross River State, in 2006, it was between the Igbeagu people of Ebonyi and Ukele/Yala of Cross River and in 2010, it was between the Ikwo people of Ebonyi and Adadama people of Cross River, all over farmlands;

Informed that on 13 January, 2017, the people of Ogurude/Oshopong of Cross River State attacked the Edda Community of Ebonyi State over the killing of a man whose body was found at the boundary and whose killer was not identified, an incident that led to the death or missing of over fifty (50) persons, the rendering of thousands homeless and destruction of properties worth millions of Naira;

Aware that the effects of the crisis of 2006 between the Igbeagu/Ukele-Yala are still lingering as there are still displaced persons from the Igbeagu Community scattered in neighbouring communities as the area is now being manned by the military and neither of the States is permitted to provide social amenities in the secluded area while schools, markets, churches, health facilities, etc have all been put on hold;

Concerned that all the efforts of the Governments of Ebonyi and Cross River States in the last fifteen years to get the National Boundary Commission to demarcate the boundary have not yielded any result;

Worried that the failure to demarcate the boundary has led to loss of lives, destruction of properties, the souring of cordial relationship that existed between the communities which used to intermarry and socialize, and if the boundary is not urgently demarcated, the friction will remain, thereby leading to increased rancour and smeared neighbourhood;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the people of Edda Community of Ebonyi State;
- (ii) observe a minute silence for the people that lost their lives in the attack;
- (iii) commend the quick intervention of Ebonyi State Governor, the Cantonment Commander of the Nigerian Army and the Commissioner of Police, Ebonyi State on the matter;
- (iv) urge the National Boundary Commission to, as a matter of urgency, conclude the demarcation of the boundary between Ebonyi and Cross River States; and
- (v) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to ensure implementation and report to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga — Abakaliki/Izzi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the series of crisis that had arisen between communities living along the boundary of Ebonyi and Cross River States for over twenty (20) years now over ownership of land;

Recalled that in 1984, the crisis was between the Edda Community axis of Ebonyi State and Oshopong of Cross River State, in 2006, it was between the Igbeagu people of Ebonyi and Ukele/Yala of Cross River and in 2010, it was between the Ikwo people of Ebonyi and Adadama people of Cross River, all over farmlands;

Informed that on 13 January, 2017, the people of Ogurude/Oshopong of Cross River State attacked the Edda Community of Ebonyi State over the killing of a man whose body was found at the boundary and whose killer was not identified, an incident that led to the death or missing of over fifty (50) persons, the rendering of thousands homeless and destruction of properties worth millions of Naira;

Aware that the effects of the crisis of 2006 between the Igbeagu/Ukele-Yala are still lingering as there are still displaced persons from the Igbeagu Community scattered in neighbouring communities as the area is now being manned by the military and neither of the States is permitted to provide social amenities in the secluded area while schools, markets, churches, health facilities, etc have all been put on hold;

Concerned that all the efforts of the Governments of Ebonyi and Cross River States in the last fifteen years to get the National Boundary Commission to demarcate the boundary have not yielded any result;

Worried that the failure to demarcate the boundary has led to loss of lives, destruction of properties, the souring of cordial relationship that existed between the communities which used to intermarry and socialize, and if the boundary is not urgently demarcated, the friction will remain, thereby leading to increased rancour and smeared neighbourhood;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the people of Edda Community of Ebonyi State;
- (ii) observe a minute silence for the people that lost their lives in the attack;
- (iii) commend the quick intervention of Ebonyi State Governor, the Cantonment Commander of the Nigerian Army and the Commissioner of Police, Ebonyi State on the matter;
- (iv) urge the National Boundary Commission to, as a matter urgency, conclude the demarcation of the boundary between Ebonyi and Cross River States; and
- (v) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to ensure implementation and report to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 16/2017**).

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

15. Need for the Intervention of the Federal Government in the Recent Killings, Maiming and Wanton Destruction of Properties in Oku Iboku at Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State by Unknown Assailants from Ikot Offiong in Cross River State

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that there had been crisis between the Ibibio ethnic group in Itu LGA of Akwa Ibom State and the Efiks in Odukpani LGA of Cross River State since the 1970s and 1980s which became rampant in the late 1990s;

Also aware that the inter-communal conflicts between the two communities had, between 1998 and 2005, resulted in loss of lives, including those of women and children, with houses and markets burnt down, while vehicles traveling along the Calabar-Itu highway were set ablaze and properties along that corridor also razed to the ground;

Believed that by August 2005, the crises between the warring communities had been resolved amicably following the intervention of Akwa Ibom and Cross River States Governments;

Worried that on 17 December, 2016, armed men with sophisticated weapons, chanting war songs and shooting sporadically launched an unprovoked attack on the people of Oku Iboku, causing panic and fear in the villagers, many of whom have now fled their homes;

Also worried that 27 speedboats and outboard engines belonging to indigenes of Oku Iboku, its environs and the riverine communities have so far been stolen by those unknown assailants thereby incapacitating and denying the indigenes access to their main sources of livelihood which are farming and fishing, while Mben Inyang, a village near the foot of the bridge was completely burnt down;

Informed that no fewer than 38 persons from Oku Iboku were killed in the unprovoked attack by the assailants who, again on 12 January, 2017 attacked, overpowered and disarmed some police officers drafted on patrol in the area, killing one and severely wounding another;

Observes that the attacks appear to be criminally-motivated as they occurred at a time when the people of Oku Iboku and the adjoining villages were about to harvest their crops but after scaring away the indigenes, the assailants have continuously been stealing farm produce belonging to the people of Oku Iboku;

Worried that if these attacks, which have paralyzed social and economic activities in the affected communities are not quickly brought under control, it might lead to a retaliation by the indigenes with the prospect of a breakdown in law and order and extensive loss of lives;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to beef up security in and around Oku Iboku, Ikot Adakpan, Mben Inyang, Ayadehe, Mbiabo, Head bridge and their environs to forestall further attacks on the communities;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the affected communities as there are now thousands of internally displaced persons; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East to ensure resettlement of the internally displaced persons in the affected communities (*Hon. Henry Okon Archibong — Itu/Ibiono Ibom Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iv) as follows:

"Mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to investigate the remote causes of the attack, and report to the House in four (4) weeks" (*Hon. Diri Douye — Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that there had been crisis between the Ibibio ethnic group in Itu LGA of Akwa Ibom State and the Efiks in Odukpani LGA of Cross River State since the 1970s and 1980s which became rampant in the late 1990s;

Also aware that the inter-communal conflicts between the two communities had, between 1998 and 2005, resulted in loss of lives, including those of women and children, with houses and markets burnt down, while vehicles traveling along the Calabar-Itu highway were set ablaze and properties along that corridor also razed to the ground;

Believed that by August 2005, the crises between the warring communities had been resolved amicably following the intervention of Akwa Ibom and Cross River States Governments;

Worried that on 17 December, 2016, armed men with sophisticated weapons, chanting war songs and shooting sporadically launched an unprovoked attack on the people of Oku Iboku, causing panic and fear in the villagers, many of whom have now fled their homes;

Also worried that 27 speedboats and outboard engines belonging to indigenes of Oku Iboku, its environs and the riverine communities have so far been stolen by those unknown assailants, thereby incapacitating and denying the indigenes access to their main sources of livelihood which are farming and fishing, while Mben Inyang, a village near the foot of the bridge was completely burnt down;

Informed that no fewer than 38 persons from Oku Iboku were killed in the unprovoked attack by the assailants who, again on 12 January, 2017 attacked, overpowered and disarmed some police officers drafted on patrol in the area, killing one and severely wounding another;

Observed that the attacks appear to be criminally-motivated as they occurred at a time when the people of Oku Iboku and the adjoining villages were about to harvest their crops but after scaring away the indigenes, the assailants have continuously been stealing farm produce belonging to the people of Oku Iboku;

Worried that if these attacks, which have paralyzed social and economic activities in the affected communities are not quickly brought under control, it might lead to a retaliation by the indigenes with the prospect of a breakdown in law and order and extensive loss of lives;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to beef up security in and around Oku Iboku, Ikot Adakpan, Mben Inyang, Ayadehe, Mbiabo, Head bridge and their environs to forestall further attacks on the communities;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the affected communities as there are now thousands of internally displaced persons;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East to ensure resettlement of the internally displaced persons in the affected communities; and
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to investigate the remote causes of the attack, and report to the House in four (4) weeks (HR. 17/2017).

16. Need to Condemn the Twin Bomb Blasts by Suspected Boko Haram Suicide Bombers at the University of Maiduguri on 16 January, 2017

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the University of Maiduguri Community was attacked by two suicide bombers that killed Aliyu Mani, a Professor of Veterinary Medicine and two others, with seventeen other persons sustaining various degrees of injuries;

Aware that the University of Maiduguri and other tertiary institutions in Borno State had never been attacked and academic activities have been going on at the institutions since the beginning of the insurgency in 2009;

Concerned that this attack happened even after the Nigerian Armed Forces had practically won the war against the Boko Haram insurgents by overrunning the Sambisa forest;

Also concerned that this ugly incident may lead to disruption of academic activities in the University and other tertiary institutions if intensified intelligence gathering and proactive measures are not put in place in the institutions to prevent future occurrence;

Recalls that as a result of similar attacks in the past, academic activities in the post primary schools were disrupted for quite a long time in Borno State until recently when some of the schools resumed normal academic activities;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the attack in strong terms and observe a minute silence as a mark of respect to those who lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the security agencies in the State to intensify intelligence gathering operations and put adequate proactive measures in place around tertiary institutions in Borno State to avoid the occurrence of a similar attack;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to pay the medical expenses of the injured persons; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to ensure implementation (*Hon. Ayuba Mohammed Bello — Jere Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.***Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Insert a new Prayer (v) as follows:*
"Urge the communities in the North East to embark on advocacy campaigns and enlightenment on the need for people to be conscious of the presence of strangers among them at all times, and alert the security agencies from time to time" (*Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir — Gwoza/Dambo/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out Prayer (iii)* (*Hon. Aishatu J. Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the University of Maiduguri Community was attacked by two suicide bombers that killed Aliyu Mani, a Professor of Veterinary Medicine and two others, with seventeen other persons sustaining various degrees of injuries;

Aware that the University of Maiduguri and other tertiary institutions in Borno State had never been attacked and academic activities have been going on at the institutions since the beginning of the insurgency in 2009;

Concerned that this attack happened even after the Nigerian Armed Forces had practically won the war against the Boko Haram insurgents by overrunning the Sambisa forest;

Also concerned that this ugly incident may lead to disruption of academic activities in the University and other tertiary institutions if intensified intelligence gathering and proactive measures are not put in place in the institutions to prevent future occurrence;

Recalled that as a result of similar attacks in the past, academic activities in the post primary schools were disrupted for quite a long time in Borno State until recently when some of the schools resumed normal academic activities;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the attack in strong terms and observe a minute silence as a mark of respect to those who lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the security agencies in the State to intensify intelligence gathering operations and put adequate proactive measures in place around tertiary institutions in Borno State to avoid the occurrence of a similar attack;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on National Security and Intelligence to ensure implementation; and
- (iv) also urge the communities in the North East to embark on advocacy campaigns and enlightenment on the need for people to be conscious of the presence of strangers among them at all times, and alert the security agencies from time to time (**HR. 18/2017**).

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

17. Consideration of Reports

- (i) ***Committees on Finance, Appropriations, National Planning and Economic Development, Legislative Budget and Research, and Aids, Loans and Debt Management:***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Finance, Appropriations, National Planning and Economic Development, Legislative Budget and Research, and Aids, Loans and Debt Management on the 2017 - 2019 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP) and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency).

Question agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY)

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"The Joint Committee recommends an oil Output level of 2.2mpbd for the 2017 Budget" (Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"The Joint Committee recommends the adoption of \$44.5 per barrel as benchmark price for 2017 Budget" (Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"The Joint Committee recommends the adoption of ₦305/US Dollar as proposed by the Executive for the 2017 Budget. However, the CBN should initiate measures that will close the gap between the parallel market and the official exchange rate" (Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"The Joint Committee recommends the adoption of the projected ₦5.122 trillion for non-oil revenue in 2017. In addition, revenue generating agencies should intensify their revenue collection drive in order to boost the non-oil components of the revenue" (*Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

"The Joint Committee recommends the adoption of ₦807.57 billion for Federal Government Independent Revenue for 2017. It further recommends the review of the legal framework of relevant MDAs and Government owned enterprises. This will ensure that agencies pay operating surplus and remit appropriately their gross revenues into the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) This step may also include repealing of the existing Acts of some agencies which currently allow them to utilize their revenues outside the CRF" (*Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

"The Joint Committee recommends the adoption of the 2017 borrowings but insist that the new borrowings should be on project-tied basis. In borrowing more, Government must remain focused and ensure it is used to fund critical projects that will increase productivity and also contribute to financing such debt" (*Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):

"The relevant Committees of the National Assembly should constantly oversight the MDAs on the implementation of these programmes to ensure an effective, and result-oriented targets of the beneficiaries" (*Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (viii):

"The Joint Committee recommends that Government should implement drastic measures to achieve self-sufficiency and become an exporter of certain agricultural and mining products. In addition, increase in the local production of maize, soya, poultry and livestock, etc. must be emphasized so as to achieve self-sufficiency as well as attracting investments into the solid minerals, tourism and entertainment sectors" (*Hon. Ibrahim Babangida — Kafur/Malumfashi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Supply considered the Report of the Committees on Finance, Appropriations, National Planning and Economic Development, Legislative Budget and Research, and Aids, Loans and Debt Management on the 2017 - 2019 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP), and approved Recommendations (i) - (viii) of the Report.

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

(ii) **Committee on Public Procurement:**

That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Procurement on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by Adding a New Member to the Council, Amending the Procedure for Appointing the Director General of the Bureau and Extending the Application of the Act to Defence Procurement and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 475) and approve the recommendations therein.

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

(iii) **Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity on the Extortion of Employment Seekers by Government Agencies and Recruitment Firms (HR. 52/2015) and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West 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):

"Ministries, Departments and Agencies and private organizations found culpable of this crime should be made to face the full wrath of the Law to serve as a strong deterrent to others who might want to continue with the trend" (Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"The directive by the relevant authorities that Organizations with high financial responsibilities involved in their recruitment exercises should have such cost built into their budget proposals should be enforced in its totality" (Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"Such exploitation, especially for those who do not eventually secure the employment should therefore be treated as a case of financial crime and advance fee fraud" (Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"Government Agencies with the mandate of overseeing recruitment exercises like the Federal Ministry of Labour, Employment and Productivity, Federal Civil Service Commission and the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) should be alive to their responsibilities of protecting the interests of job seekers" (Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

"On no account should job seekers be compelled to deposit any sum of money into or buy scratch cards to enable them access web portals, fill on-line application forms or submit same" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

"All recruitment processes, including the publication of the names of successful candidates to the issuance of appointment letters should be conducted within one month from the date of the interview" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*)

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out the word "one" and insert the word "three" (*Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that the Recommendation (vi) as amended stand part of the Report — Agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):

"The Federal Government should urgently provide a regulatory framework in line with International best practices for employment by recruitment Agencies, whether in the public or private sectors of the economy" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (viii):

"Effective regulation, licensing, supervision, moderation and registration of recruiting agencies should constitute a major part of any regulatory system so established in order to check impunity in the Industry and the growing incidents of exploitation of employment seekers" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ix):

"To make up for the proposed stoppage of the use of private consultants in the Public Service, the Human Resources Departments of all relevant Government Agencies should be strengthened and have their capacities enhanced" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*)

Agreed to.

Recommendation (x):

"The Federal Character Commission's role should be expanded to include the role of equal-opportunities facilitator in order to ensure equal opportunities and protection against discrimination in recruitment and employment on the basis of race, ethnicity, age" (*Hon. Ezenwa Francis Onyewuchi — Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West 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 Labour, Employment and Productivity on the Extortion of Employment Seekers by Government Agencies and Recruitment Firms (**HR. 52/2015**) and approved Recommendations (i) - (v), approved Recommendation (vi) as amended, and approved Recommendations (vii) - (x) 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 Thursday, 19 January, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Feji Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.33 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker