



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 5 April, 2017

1. The House met at 11.14 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings**

Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 4 April, 2017.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

3. **Announcement**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of Staff and Students of *Pathrep Educational & Development Services Limited*, Koroduma, Nasarawa State.

(b) **Bereavement:**

Mr Deputy Speaker read a communication from Hon. Owoidighe Ekpoattai (*Eket/Onna/Esit Eket/Ibena Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Dr Akpabio Udo Ukpa (JP), a former Member of the Eastern House of Chiefs (1960 - 1966) and a Paramount Ruler of Onna Local Government Area.

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

4. **Petitions**

(i) A petition from Ohadaka Ifeanyichukwu, on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Chinda Kingsley (*Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

(ii) A petition from Luka Daniel Tighu and 28 others, on the de-ranking of 29 officers by the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Adamu Kamale (*Michika/Madagali Federal Constituency*).

*Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.*

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

***Need to Curb the Scourge of Meningitis in Nigeria:***

Hon. Johnson Egwakhide Oghuma (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central 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).*

6. **Presentation of Reports**

(i) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Attacks on Nigerians and Looting of their Properties in South Africa:***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Attacks on Nigerians and Looting of their Properties in South Africa (HR. 41/2017)" (Hon. Femi Gbajabamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(ii) ***Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream):***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Deep Offshore and Inland Basin Production Sharing Contracts and for Other Related Matters (HB.708)" (Hon. Victor Nwokolo — Ika Northeast/Ika South Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(iii) ***Committee on Public Petitions:***

***Report on the Petition by P. C. Rose Samuel:***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by P. C. Rose Samuel against the Nigeria Police Force on alleged unlawful dismissal from the Force" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(iv) ***Committee on Public Petitions:***

***Report on the Petition by Onyeme Felix:***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Onyeme Felix against Midwestern Oil and Gas Company Limited over unlawful termination of employment" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(v) ***Committee on Public Petitions:***

***Report on the Petition by Workers of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc:***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Workers of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc for Inhuman and degrading treatment meted out to workers affected by redundancy Circular of 28 June, 1999" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by Rev. David Abdulrah Mohammed:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Rev. David Abdulrah Mohammed against Lugbe District, FCT-Abuja on alleged threat to life" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(vii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by Isa Abdullahi and Augustine Adamu:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Isa Abdullahi and Augustine Adamu against the Federal Medical Centre, Jalingo on allegation of extortion of money from unsuspecting public for employment" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(viii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by Mr Pewe Phillip Kindel:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mr Pewe Phillip Kindel against the Nigeria Security Printing and Minting Company Plc" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(ix) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by Nwanokwara Eugene C.:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Nwanokwara Eugene C. against National Steel Raw Material Exploration Agency on non-payment of the sum of ₦4,031,408.02 being the balance of the contract sum owed" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

(x) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by CPL. Emmanuel Damaap:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by CPL. Emmanuel Damaap against the Nigeria Police Force on his premature retirement from Service" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

7. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria Act, Cap. I15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 212) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria Act, Cap. I15, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 212) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Lynda Ikpeazu — Onitsha South/Onitsha North 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.*

8. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Enhance greater Funding of Youth Activities in Political Parties and for Other Related Matters (HB. 800) — Second Reading**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

9. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Delete the Proviso to Section 11(4) of the Constitution to enable the National Assembly to Remove a Governor or Deputy Governor of a State in Appropriate Circumstances and for Other Related Matters (HB. 794) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Delete the Proviso to Section 11(4) of the Constitution to enable the National Assembly to Remove a Governor or Deputy Governor of a State in Appropriate Circumstances and for Other Related Matters (HB. 794) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

*Debate.*

*Bill withdrawn by leave of the House.*

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the University of Lagos Act, Cap U9, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Election and Tenure of Dean of Faculties, Schools, Institutes or Teaching Units and for Other Related Matters (HB. 263) — Second Reading**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Directors of Nigeria to serve as a Regulatory Body for Persons serving as Directors in both Public and Private Sectors, to Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons seeking to become Directors, to make Provisions for continuous Training and Development of Directors, to ensure Professionalism and Promote Corporate Governance Values in the Directors and for Other Related Matters (HB. 928) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Directors of Nigeria to serve as a Regulatory Body for Persons serving as Directors in both Public and Private Sectors, to Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons seeking to become Directors, to make Provisions for continuous Training and Development of Directors, to ensure Professionalism and Promote Corporate Governance Values in the Directors and for Other Related Matters (HB. 928) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed — Gwale Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned.*

*Ordered: Committees on Justice, and Rules and Business should examine the provisions of the Bill vis a vis the provisions of the Companies and Allied Matters Act and Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act, and advise the House.*

**12. Devastating Rainstorm in Akoko Edo Federal Constituency**

*Motion made and Question proposed;*

The House:

*Aware* that on Wednesday, 29 March, 2017, there was a devastating rainstorm in Akoko Edo Federal constituency which caused loss of lives and colossal damage to properties;

*Also aware* that the rainstorm, which happened in Lampese, Ibillo, Ugboshi Afe, Imoga, Ugboshi Ele, Ekpiedo, Uneme Nekhua, Aiyetoro, Igarra, Ojirami Petesh, Ojirami Afe and Ososo communities blew off roofs, damaged walls of about 250 buildings and rendered hundreds of people homeless, thereby exposing them to unhealthy weather conditions;

*Concerned* that those internally displaced persons are presently taking refuge in make-shift accommodations under harsh weather conditions, and if relief materials and other necessary supplies are not provided on good time, they will suffer avoidable health hazards from further exposure to the elements and more rainfall;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the displaced victims, and also take inventory of damages caused with a view to assisting the victims; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to visit the communities and make recommendations within two (2) weeks on how to prevent reoccurrence (*Hon. Peter Akpatason – Akoko Edo Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

(HR. 147/2017).

*Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5)*

**13. Call for Repair of Maiduguri-Damboia Road in Borno State**

*Motion made and Question proposed;*

The House:

*Notes* that Damboa road which spans a distance of 5.5km is a federal road and one of the busiest roads in Maiduguri metropolis;

*Also notes* that the road has deteriorated, and as a result is causing avoidable accidents as well as unnecessary traffic inconveniences to motorists;

*Aware* that this long stretch of road passes through important institutions in Maiduguri metropolis and plays an essential role in the socio-economic lives of inhabitants of the city;

*Convinced* that there is an urgent need to carry out repairs on the Maiduguri-Damboia Road to avert further loss of lives and property, more deterioration and consequent hardships on the people;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committees on Works, and Appropriations to include the reconstruction of the road in the 2017 budget (*Hon. Abdulkadir Rahis — Maiduguri Metropolitan Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

(HR. 143. 2017).

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

**14. Need to Establish a Federal Medical Centre at Tsanyawa, Kano State**

*Motion made and Question proposed;*

The House:

*Notes* with concern that Tsanyawa town with a fast growing population is lacking in the provision of medical services that will adequately handle the multifarious life threatening diseases prevalent in the area, especially the rising rate of child mortality;

*Also notes* that people have to travel long distances at times as far as 86km to Kano and 94km to Katsina and even 218km to Jigawa State to obtain treatment and other medical services;

*Concerned* that successive governments failed to take proactive measures to mitigate the hardships people encounter before accessing health care services;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to establish and equip a Medical Centre at Tsanyawa, headquarters of Tsanyawa Local Government Area of Kano State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services to ensure implementation and report back to the House in eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

(HR. 144. 2017).

*Motion referred to the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).*

**15. Need to Intervene in the Practice of Way Leave/Right of Way Assessment and Payment of Compensation in the Power Sector**

*Order read: deferred by leave of the House.*

16. **Need to Investigate the Exorbitant Charges and Refusal of Multi-choice Satellite Television Company to Adopt "Pay As You Go" Package Option**

*Motion made and Question proposed;*

The House:

*Notes* the ever increasing prices of the various bouquet on offer by Multi-choice Satellite Television Company and its refusal to offer a "Pay As You Go" package option on its Digital Satellite Television which is causing a financial strain on its subscribers;

*Aware* that it has been the practice for the company to increase the prices of its various packages almost on a yearly basis, for instance, in 2013 the monthly subscription increased by 7-10%; in 2014 by 10-15% and in 2015 by 10-22%, and just recently, the company sent a notification of another price increase with effect from May 1, 2017;

*Also aware* that DSTV does not have a "Pay As You Go" plan like most similar communication companies around the world, thereby making its subscription plan to expire at the end of the monthly subscription period, whether or not the subscriber used the services;

*Cognizant* that the regular increases in the prices of the various bouquet and refusal to adopt a "Pay As You Go" option is against all known and fair business practices all over the world;

*Concerned* about the seeming inability of the regulatory company to exercise its authority in the industry;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Telecommunications to interface with the Nigerian Communications Commission, the Consumer Protection Council and the Multi-choice Satellite Television Company to address these concerns and report back in eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen —Zaria Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

In the Prayer, immediately after the word "on", *leave out* the word "Telecommunications" and *insert* the words "Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values" instead thereof (*Hon. Ayo Omidiran —Irewole Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made —Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended —Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* the ever increasing prices of the various bouquet on offer by Multichoice Satellite Television Company and its refusal to offer a "Pay As You Go" package option on its Digital Satellite Television which is causing a financial strain on its subscribers;

*Aware* that it has been the practice for the company to increase the prices of its various packages almost on a yearly basis, for instance, in 2013 the monthly subscription increased by 7-10%; in 2014 by 10-15% and in 2015 by 10-22%, and just recently, the company sent a notification of another price increase with effect from May 1, 2017;

*Also aware* that DSTV does not have a "Pay As You Go" plan like most similar communication companies around the world, thereby making its subscription plan to expire at the end of the monthly subscription period, whether or not the subscriber used the services;

*Cognizant* that the regular increases in the prices of the various bouquet and refusal to adopt a "Pay As You Go" option is against all known and fair business practices all over the world;

*Concerned* about the seeming inability of the regulatory company to exercise its authority in the industry;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values, to interface with the Nigerian Communications Commission, the Consumer Protection Council and the Multichoice Satellite Television Company to address these concerns and report back in eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 150/2017**).

**17. Need to Investigate Illegal Transportation of Petroleum Products and the Attendant Fire Incident at Suleja Depot**

*Motion made and Question proposed;*

The House:

*Notes* that Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) was transported by trucks from Lagos to Suleja Depot in 2008/2009 as strategic reserve when the Depot was not functioning;

*Also notes* that the product stored at the Depot was evacuated without following safety procedures, thus making loading of trucks at restricted areas of the Depot dangerous;

*Further notes* that there was a fire incident at the Depot as a result of illegal loading at restricted areas at odd hours, which caused the destruction of the Depot's generator and tanker trucks;

*Concerned* that this illegal loading practice has negative effects on the nation's economy as it reduces government revenues, especially as the country is in recession;

*Convinced* that if this trend is not properly investigated and the perpetrators sanctioned, the practice may persist, thereby worsening the country's economic situation;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the matter and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Muazu Lawal — Gunmi/Bukuru* Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to*

The House:

*Noted* that Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) was transported by trucks from Lagos to Suleja Depot in 2008/2009 as strategic reserve when the Depot was not functioning;

*Also notes* that the product stored at the Depot was evacuated without following safety procedures, thus making loading of trucks at restricted areas of the Depot dangerous;

*Further noted* that there was a fire incident at the Depot as a result of illegal loading at restricted areas at odd hours, which caused the destruction of the Depot's generator and tanker trucks;

*Concerned* that this illegal loading practice has negative effects on the nation's economy as it reduces government revenues, especially as the country is in recession;

*Convinced* that if this trend is not properly investigated and the perpetrators sanctioned, the practice may persist, thereby worsening the country's economic situation;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the matter and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 151/2017)

**18. Call on the Federal Government to urgently Detonate Mines in Areas Recaptured to Enable Farmers Return to their Farm Lands**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**19. Consideration of Reports**

- (i) *A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Ahmadu Bello University (Transitional Provisions) Act, Cap. A 14, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 260) (Committee of the Whole):*

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

- (ii) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Wages Boards and Industrial Councils Act, Cap. W1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 282) (Committee of the Whole):*

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

- (iii) *A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Academy of Science to Promote the Growth, Acquisition and Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge and to Facilitate the use of Science in the Solution to problems of National Interest and for Other Related Matters (HB. 917) (Committee of the Whole):*

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Academy of Science to Promote the Growth, Acquisition and Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge and to Facilitate the use of Science in the Solution to problems of National Interest and for Other Related Matters (HB. 917) and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu 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)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE TO PROMOTE THE GROWTH, ACQUISITION AND DISSEMINATION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND TO FACILITATE THE USE OF SCIENCE IN THE SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS OF NATIONAL INTEREST AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 917)

**Clause 1: Establishment of the Academy.**

- (1) There is established a body to be known as the Nigerian Academy of Science (in this Bill referred to as "the Academy").

- (2) The Academy shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and may sue or be sued in corporate name (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 1 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 2: Objects of the Academy.**

The objects of the Academy shall be to:

- (a) provide advice on issues of scientific and technological nature presented to it by the government and its agencies, as well as by private organizations;
- (b) bring to the attention of government and its agencies, problems of national interest that science and technology can help to solve;
- (c) establish and maintain the highest standards of scientific endeavour and achievement in Nigeria;
- (d) develop a good working relationship with other national and international scientific bodies and academies (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 3: Relationship with Government.**

- (1) The Academy is the only Academy of Science recognized by Government.
- (2) The Minister may advise the Academy to perform acts on behalf of Government which are in accordance with its objectives (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 4: Membership of the Academy.**

- (1) There shall be two categories of members of the Academy, that is Nigerian members and Foreign members, and membership shall be in the categories of:
  - (a) Fellows for Nigerian members; and
  - (b) Foreign Fellows for non-Nigerian members;
- (2) A Member of the Academy is a person who can be expected by the Academy to significantly assist the Academy in achieving its objectives.
- (3) The criterion for election to membership is significant achievement in the pursuit, advancement or application of science as members.
- (4) New candidates for membership of the Academy are proposed and recommended at least once a year by means of a prescribed certificate signed by not less than four members, at least two of whom have personal knowledge and understanding of the scientific work and significant contribution to science of the candidate.
- (5) The certificate must contain a draft citation explaining why the election of the candidate to membership of the Academy would further the objectives of the Academy.

- (6) The certificate must be accompanied by a prescribe statement from the candidate indicating the candidate's willingness to be considered for election to membership of the Academy, together with a curriculum vitae.
- (7) The council of the academy must annually evaluate, in terms of the prescribed criteria for membership, all new candidates and candidates brought forward from the previous year.
- (8) All existing members of the Academy will then be required, in a secret ballot to cast votes that are either for or against every candidate shortlisted by the council, or that indicate a neutral position.
- (9) Members of the Academy who do not vote are regarded as having recorded neutral votes.
- (10) A candidate is considered elected to membership of the Academy if at least half of the votes cast (by Fellows at an annual general meeting) are in his favour.
- (11) Every person who is elected a member of the Academy must attend an annual general meeting of the Academy to sign the register of members and to subscribe to the oath of obligation contained in the schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 5: Establishment of Organs of the Academy.**

The Academy shall consist of:

- (a) "The General Assembly", comprising all Fellows, shall be the highest authority of the Academy,
- (b) "The Council", which shall be the governing body of the Academy, shall have the responsibility for the administration and general management of the Academy, and must ensure that the objectives of the Academy are actively pursued.
- (c) "The Secretariat", to be maintained by the Academy and headed by an Executive Secretary (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 5 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 6: Composition of the Council.**

(1) The Council shall consist of:

- (i) Nine officers, that is:
  - (a) the President of the Academy who is the Chairman;
  - (b) the Vice-President;
  - (c) the Immediate Past President
  - (d) the President-elect
  - (e) the Treasurer

- (f) two Academic Secretaries (for the Biological and Physical Sciences)
- (g) the Foreign Secretary
- (h) the Public Affairs Secretary and Chairman Publications Committee;
- (ii) four Fellows representing the Biological Sciences and Four Fellows representing the Physical Sciences;
- (iii) the representative of the Honourable Minister.
- (iv) the Executive Secretary shall be the Secretary to the Council.
- (2) The members of the Council, except the member contemplated in subsection (1) (iii), who has observer status, are elected by members of the Academy from their number.
- (3) The provisions of the First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the supplementary provisions of the Council and the qualifications and tenure of office of members of the Council, and the other matters therein mentioned (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 6 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 7: Termination of Membership of the Academy.**

- (1) A Fellow shall cease to be a member of the Academy:
  - (a) in the event of the following:
    - (i) if he resigns by notice in writing to the President;
    - (ii) if he is in default for two consecutive years in the payment of the subscription and the Council resolves that he shall cease to be a Fellow; provided that, on payment of all arrears of subscriptions, a Fellow may be reinstated as a Fellow by a resolution of the Council such person shall be deemed to be in default in the payment of subscription for one year if on the first day of April of any year, the Treasurer has not received his subscription for that year.
  - (b) if a resolution is passed by ballot of the members of the Council to the effect that, in their opinion, a Fellow:
    - (i) has been found guilty in a court of law or through such other judicial process as the laws of Nigeria may prescribe of (1) treason (2) all such other felonies, as may be construed by Council;
    - (ii) has committed an act of misconduct that may likely bring the Academy into disrepute or is detrimental to the good name of Academy.
- (2) Before the provisions in subsections (1) (b) (i) or (1) (b) (ii) are invoked, the following provisions shall apply:

- (i) the resolution must be submitted to a ballot, the Fellow shall be informed of the conduct complained of and given a reasonable opportunity to defend himself in person or by a representative of his choice;
- (ii) the Fellows of the Academy who participate in the investigation of such acts of misconduct shall not be present in Council when a ballot is taken in arriving at such a resolution;
- (iii) such a resolution of Council must be carried by no less than sixty seven percent of the membership of Council, upon which the person is suspended from the Academy until ratification or otherwise by a simple majority of the General Assembly (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 7 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 8: Committees of the Council.**

- (a)
  - (1) The council may establish one or more committees which may exercise such powers or perform such functions of the Academy as the council may determine from time to time.
  - (2) A committee referred to in subsection (1) consists of such number of members and employees of the Academy, if any, as the council may deem necessary, and the council may at any time dissolve or reconstitute a committee
  - (3) The council shall appoint among members of the committee a chairman.
  - (4) The council is not absolved from the performance of any function entrusted to any Committee of the council in terms of this section
- (b) Specifically, there shall be the following Standing Committees of Council:
  - (1) Executive Committee: made up of officers of the Academy, viz: President, Vice-President, President-Elect, Treasurer, the Academic Secretaries, Foreign Secretary, Public Affairs Secretary and Chairman Publications Committee. The Executive Committee will assist the President in the execution of all decisions of the Council, and act expeditiously on any matter of interest to the Academy. The Executive Secretary shall be the Secretary to the Committee.
  - (2) Sectional Committees:
    - (a) Council shall appoint sectional committees to represent the principal branches of academic research. Council shall, from time to time, with respect to each sectional committee:
      - (i) fix the number of fellows of which it is to consist;
      - (ii) prescribe its title and function;
      - (iii) propose a Fellow for election as the chair (an Academic Secretary may be a member or chairman of a relevant Sectional Committee); and

- (iv) give direction for its guidance.
- (b) In exercising its powers of appointing sectional committees, Council should ensure that the whole field of the Sciences is adequately covered by Sectional Committees consisting of Fellows who are competent to assess the qualifications of candidates (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 8 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 9: Accounting Officer.**

- (1) In addition to the other functions entrusted to the President under this Bill, he shall be the accounting officer charge with responsibility of accounting for and the utilization thereof and be responsible for the assets of the Academy.
- (2) (a) The President may:
  - (1) delegate to another member of the council a power conferred upon the accounting officer under this Bill.
  - (2) authorize such person to perform a duty assigned under this Bill to the accounting officer:
- (b) A delegation under subsection (2) (a) does not prevent the exercise of the powers in question or the performance of the duties in question by the accounting officer (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 9 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 10: Staff and conditions of service of employees.**

- (1) The council may on such conditions as it may determine, appoint such numbers of employees as it deems necessary to enable the Academy to perform its functions.
- (2) The council must out of its own fund pay to its employees such remunerations, allowances, subsidies and other benefits as the council may determine.
- (3) The council may, on such condition as it may deem fit and if the employee consents thereto, second an employee's either for a particular task or for a period of time to the service of a department, ministry, or any organization on such condition that such employees' right, privileges and benefits by virtue of his conditions of service as an employee of the Academy are not adversely affected by such secondment (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 10 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 11: Establishment of fund and expenditure.**

- (1) The Council shall establish and maintain a fund for the Academy, into which shall be paid:
  - (a) all monies received by the Council in pursuance of this Bill, including regular subventions and grants from government

- (b) all subscriptions, fees and other charges payable to the Academy by members, individuals and bodies corporate;
  - (c) all monies raised for the purposes of the Academy by way of gifts, donations, grants-in-aid; testamentary dispositions from individuals, bodies corporate or philanthropic organisations, non-governmental organisations within and outside Nigeria, or otherwise howsoever;
- (2) The Council shall, from time to time, apply the proceeds of the fund of the Academy to:
  - (a) all expenditure incurred by the Academy in the discharge of its functions under this Bill;
  - (b) the remunerations and allowances of staff of the Academy;
  - (c) the maintenance of the premises and property owned and vested in the Academy;
  - (d) the payment of traveling allowances and such stipend for members of the Council as may be determined by the Council; and
  - (e) the payment of such other charges as may be reasonably incurred in the exercise of the functions of the Academy and the Council.
- (3) For the purposes of the Companies Income Tax, any donation made by any company in Nigeria to the Academy shall be a deductible donation within the meaning of that Act (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 11 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 12: Borrowing and investment power.**

- (1) The Council may, with the consent of its members and in accordance with the general guidelines or authority given by the Government of the Federation, borrow, on behalf of the Academy, by way of loan or overdraft from any source, any monies required by the Council to meet the obligations of the Academy in order to perform its functions under this Bill, so however that such consent or authority shall be required where the sum or aggregate of the sums involved at any time does not exceed such amount as is for the time being projected in relation to the Academy in any particular year.
- (2) The Council may, subject to the provisions of this Bill and conditions of trust in respect of funds held or any property owned by the Institute, invest any but not all of its funds with the same consent or general authority (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 12 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 13: Annual estimates, account and audit.**

- (1) The Chairman of the Council shall cause to be prepared not later than six months before the end of the year, estimates of recurrent and capital expenditure (if any) and income of the Academy during the next succeeding financial year which shall be presented to the annual general meeting of the Academy by the Council for approval.

- (2) The Council shall keep proper accounts and records in relation thereto, and shall prepare in respect of each financial year, a statement of account in such form as the Chairman or the Council shall direct.
- (3) The Council shall as soon as may be after the end of a financial year, cause the accounts of the Academy and those of the Council to be audited by qualified auditors appointed from the list of auditors and in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Auditor-General for the Federation.
- (4) The auditors appointed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section shall, on completion of the audit of the accounts of the Academy and the Council for each financial year, prepare and submit to the Council two reports, that is to say:
  - (a) a general report setting out the observations and recommendations of the said auditors on the financial affairs of the Academy and the Council for that year, and on any important matters which the auditors may consider necessary to bring to the notice of the Council; and
  - (b) a detailed report containing the observations and recommendations of the auditors on all aspects of the operations of the Academy and the Council (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 13 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 14: Functions of the Academy.**

- (1) In order to achieve its objectives the Academy may:
  - (a) at the request of any person or on its own initiative, investigate matters of public interest concerning science and on the strength of the findings act in opinion-forming and advisory manner;
  - (b) publish scientific reports and other publications;
  - (c) promote and inspire outstanding achievements in the different fields of sciences in Nigeria and recognition for excellence
  - (d) promote the general interest in science and science education;
  - (e) establish reciprocal arrangements and enter into agreement with organizations with similar objectives, locally and in other countries to promote the exchange of information and ideas;
  - (f) protect the interests of members through the provision of professional consultative advice and the issue of journals and other publications, organization and conduct of seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.;
  - (g) offer advice and assistance to the scientific academic community and to various scientific societies in Nigeria;
  - (h) establish a fellowship programme which would create opportunities for outstanding new PhDs in the sciences to conduct postdoctoral research at various institutions before they take up regular job as lecturers;

- (i) seek an active role in the selection of candidates for government postgraduate scholarships and fellowships in the Science and in the identification of candidates for the award of honours and distinctions by government and private sector organizations.
  - (j) offer to assist the government, the universities, and other similar institutions, in the operation of exchange programmes with other countries for students, scholars and teachers for the purpose of study and research;
  - (k) maintain a library and take interest in the documentation of scientific literature.
  - (l) award medals and honours for outstanding contributions in the various branches of Science;
  - (m) Establish exchange agreements with other national academies to enable fellows and Nigerian Scientists visit such other nations for scientific purposes;
  - (n) do such other things that are incidental and supplementary to the foregoing objects of the Institute;
- (2) The Academy must:
- (a) advise the Minister on matters concerning science;
  - (b) undertake or cause to be undertaken such investigations and research concerning its objectives as the Minister may assign to it;
  - (c) perform such duties in respect of its objectives as the Council may assign to it; and
  - (d) from time to time review its structure, organisation and programmes (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 14 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 15: Performance of functions outside Nigeria.**

- (1) The Academy may, in order to achieve its objectives, render support relevant thereto of any Nigeria citizen in any territory outside the country.
- (2) This Bill must, as far as it can be applied with the necessary changes, apply in connection with the performance by the Academy of its functions (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 15 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 16: Regulations.**

- (1) The Council may make regulations regarding:
  - (a) any matter required to be prescribed in terms of this Bill;
  - (b) the code of conduct for members of the Academy; and

- (c) any matter which it is necessary or expedient to prescribe in, order to implement and administer this Bill (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 16 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 17: Transfer to the Academy of certain property, etc.**

- (1) On the commencement of this Bill:
- (a) all property held immediately before that day by or on behalf of the former Academy shall, by virtue of this subsection and without further assurance vest in the Academy and be held by it for the purposes of the Academy;
- (b) the former Academy shall cease to exist; and
- (c) subject to the next succeeding subsection, any act, matter or thing made or done by the former society shall continue to have effect.
- (2) The provisions of the Third Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to matters arising from the transfer by this section to the Academy of the property of the former Academy, and with respect to other matters therein mentioned (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 17 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 18: Interpretation.**

In this Bill, except the context otherwise implies, the following words and expressions have the meaning assigned to them, that is:

"Council" means the governing body of the Academy established under section 5 (1) of this Bill (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Council" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Academy" means the Nigerian Academy of Science established pursuant to section 1 (1) of this Bill (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Academy" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Member" means a member of the Academy (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Member" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters relating to Science and Technology (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Minister" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"President" and "Vice-President" means president and vice president, elected and appointed in terms of section 6 (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the words "President" and "Vice-President" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Executive Secretary" means the Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Academy of Science appointed in terms of section 5 of this Bill (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the words "Executive Secretary" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 18 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 19: Citation.**

This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Academy of Science (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2017 (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 19 stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

## SCHEDULES

### FIRST SCHEDULE

#### Section 4 (II)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ACADEMY

##### *Oath of Obligation*

1. (1) I (full name) hereby solemnly promise to promote, declare and disseminate scientific knowledge, promote the well-being of Nigeria through scientific thought, and generally to further the objectives of the Nigerian Academy of Science as far as lies within my power, and
- (2) I shall also serve the Nigerian Academy of Science by observing the prescribed constitution and prescribed standing orders of the Academy for as long as I remain a member thereof.

##### *Proceedings of the Council*

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Council may in the name of the Academy, make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Academy or of the Council, and in the exercise of its powers under this Bill, may set up committees in the general interest of the Academy, and make standing orders thereof.
- (2) Standing orders shall provide for decision to be taken by a majority of the members, and, in the event of equality of votes, for the President or the Chairman, as the case may be, to have a second or casting vote.
- (3) Standing orders made for a committee shall provide that the committee report back to the Council on any matter not within its competence to decide upon.
- (4) The quorum of the Council, or committee of the Council shall be as may be fixed by the Council, subject to the Constitution of the Academy.

*Meetings of the Academy*

3. (1) The Council shall convene the annual general meeting of the Academy on a day as the Council may from time to time appoint in any particular year, which shall also be the annual anniversary meeting, so however that if the meeting is not held within one year after the previous annual general meeting, not more than fifteen months shall elapse between the respective dates of the two meetings.
- (2) A special meeting of the Academy may be convened by the Council at any time, and if not less than thirty members of the Academy require it by notice in writing addressed to Executive Secretary of the Academy setting out the objects of the proposed meeting, the Chairman of the Council shall convene a special meeting of the Academy
4. (1) Subject to the provisions of any standing orders of the Council, the Council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman, and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice in writing given to him by not less than seven other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Council to be held within seven days from the date on which the notice is given.
- (2) At any meeting of the Council, the Chairman or in his absence the Vice- Chairman shall preside; but if both are absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their numbers to preside at that meeting.
- (3) Where the Council desires to obtain advice of any person on a particular matter, the Council may co-opt him as a member for such period as the Council thinks fit, but a person who is a member by virtue of the provisions of this subparagraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and shall not count towards a quorum.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the first meeting of the Council shall be summoned by the Minister, who may give such directions as he thinks fit as to the procedure which shall be followed at the meeting.

*Miscellaneous*

5. (1) The fixing of the seal of the Academy shall be authenticated by the signature of the President or of some other member of the Council authorized generally by the Academy to act for that purpose.
- (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Academy or the Council as the case may require, by any person generally or specifically authorised to act for that purpose by the Council.
- (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Academy shall be received in evidence and shall unless the contrary is proved be deemed to be so executed.
6. The validity of any proceedings of the Academy or the Council or of a committee of the Council shall not be affected by any vacancy in membership, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the Academy or of the Council or of a person to serve on the Committee, or by reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings.

7. Any member of the Academy or of the Council, and any person holding office on a committee of the Council, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Council or a committee thereof, shall forthwith disclose his interest to the President or to the Council, as the case may be, and shall not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.
8. A person shall not by reason only of his membership of the Academy be required to disclose any interest relating solely to the audit of the accounts of the Academy (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the provisions of the First Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

#### SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 16)

#### TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AS TO PROPERTY, ETC.

1. (1) Every agreement to which the former Academy was a party immediately before the appointment day, whether in writing or not and whether or not of such a nature that the rights, liabilities and obligations thereunder could be assigned by the former Academy shall, unless its terms or subject matter make it impossible that it should have effect as modified in the manner provided by this subparagraph, have effect from the appointed day, so far as it relates to property transferred by this Bill to the Academy, as if:
  - (a) the Academy had been a party to the agreement;
  - (b) for any reference (however worded and whether expressed or implied) to the former Academy they were substituted, as respect anything falling to be done or after the appointed day, a reference to the Academy; and
  - (c) for any reference (however worded and whether expressed or implied) to a member or members of the Council of the former Academy or an officer of the former Academy they were substituted, as respects anything falling to be done on or after the appointed day, a reference to members of the Council under this Bill or the officers of the former Academy who corresponds as nearly as may be to the member or officer in question of the former Academy.
2. Other documents which refer, whether specially or generally, to the former shall be construed in accordance with subparagraph (1) of this paragraph so far as applicable.
3. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Schedule, where, by the operation of any of them or any right, liability or obligation vests in the Academy, the Academy and all other persons shall, as from the appointed day, have the same rights, powers and remedies (and, in particular, the same rights as to the making or resisting of legal proceedings or the making or resisting of applications to any authority) for ascertaining, perfecting or enforcing that right, liability or obligation as they would have had if it had at all times been a right, liability or obligation of the Academy.
4. Any legal proceedings or application to any authority pending on the appointed day by or against the former Academy and relating to property transferred by this Bill to the Academy may, be continued on or after that day by or against the Academy.

- (5) If the law in force at the place where any property transferred by this Bill is situated (whether by reference to an instrument of transfer or otherwise), the law shall, so far as it provides for alterations of a Register (but not for avoidance of transfer, the payment of fees or any other matter) apply with the necessary modifications to the transfer of the property aforesaid, and it shall be the duty of the Council to furnish the necessary particulars of the transfer to the proper officer of the registration authority, and of that officer to register the transfer accordingly.

*Transfer of Functions, etc.*

2. (1) At its first meeting, the Council of the Academy shall fix a date (not later than six months after the appointed day) for the annual general meeting of the Academy.
- (2) The members of the Council of the former Academy shall be deemed to be the members of the Council of the Academy until the date determined in pursuance of the foregoing subparagraph when the Academy shall have its first annual general meeting, and they shall cease to hold office at the conclusion of such meeting.
- (3) Any person who, immediately before the appointed day, held office as the President or Vice-President of the Council of the former Academy shall on that day become the President or, as the case may be, the Vice-President of the Academy, and shall be deemed:
- (a) to have been appointed to that office in pursuance of the provision of this Bill; and
- (b) to have been so appointed on the date on which he took office, or last took office;
- (4) The members of the former Academy shall, as from the appointed day, be registered as members of the Academy, and without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of this schedule relating to the transfer of property, any person who, immediately before the appointed day, was a member of the staff of the former Academy shall on that day become the holder of an appointment with the Academy;
- (5) Any person being an office-holder on, or member of, the Council of the former Academy immediately before the appointed date and deemed under this paragraph to have been appointed to any like position in the Academy, or on the Council of the Academy, and thereafter ceasing to hold office otherwise by reason of his misconduct, shall be eligible for appointment to office in the Academy or to membership of the Council, as the case may be.
- (6) All regulations, rules and similar instruments made for the purposes of the former Academy and in force immediately before the appointed day shall, except in so far as they are subsequently revoked or amended by any authority having power in that regard, have effect with any necessary modifications, as if duly made for the corresponding purposes of the Academy (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the provisions of the Second Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Long Title:**

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Academy of Science to Promote the Growth, Acquisition and Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge and to Facilitate the Use of Science in the Solution to Problems of National Interest and for Related Matters (HB. 917) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report Bill.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Academy of Science to Promote the Growth, Acquisition and Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge and to Facilitate the use of Science in the Solution to problems of National Interest and for Other Related Matters (HB. 917) and approved Clauses 1 – 19, the Schedules, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

- (iv) *A Bill for an Act to Confer Pioneer Status, Tariff Incentives and Income Tax Reliefs on Automobile and Automotive Components by the Federal Government to the Automobile and Enterprises under the Nigeria Automotive Industry Development Plan and for Other Related Matters (HB. 896) (Committee of the Whole):*

*Order read: deferred by leave of the House.*

- (v) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

*Report on the Petition by the Firm of Rose and Associates on behalf of Geospan Marine Services Nigeria Limited:*

*Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Firm of Rose and Associates on behalf of Geospan Marine Services Nigeria Limited against the Ministry of Defence on the Illegal Act of the Joint Task Forces in Bayelsa State in disposing of a dumb barge property and approve the recommendation therein” (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa 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:**

*“Urge the Ministry of Defence to either release the dumb barge to the petitioner forthwith or compensate him with the sum ₦1.5 billion (one billion, five hundred thousand Naira) only” (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).*

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out the Recommendation, and insert a new Recommendation as follows:*

*“Urge the Ministry of Defence to pay for the cost of the dump barge” (Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde — Kajuru Chikun Federal Constituency).*

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that the Recommendation as amended, stand part of the Report — Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report proceeding.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole do considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Firm of Rose and Associates on behalf of Geospan Marine Services Nigeria Limited against the Ministry of Defence on the Illegal Act of the Joint Task Forces in Bayelsa State in disposing of a dumb barge property and approved the Recommendation of the Report as amended.

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

(vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Report on the Petition by Messrs Mike Ozekhome's Chambers:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Messrs Mike Ozekhome's Chambers on the unlawful seizure and vandalization of two ships belonging to his clients by the Nigerian Navy and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu 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:**

"Urge the Minister of Defence to ensure that the Nigerian Navy, through its budgetary allocation, compensates the petitioners, with the sum of \$29,283,500.00 and (₦8,750,000.00 (Eight Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira) only for the destruction of MT FLOMAG and MT Bestkid" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

**Additional Recommendation:**

*Insert a new Recommendation (ii) as follows:*

"The Navy Personnel that carried out this act should be further investigated by the Naval Command for possible disciplinary actions" (Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde — Kajuru/Chikun Federal Constituency).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that the new Recommendation stand part of the Report — Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report proceedings.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole do considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Messrs Mike Ozekhome's Chambers on the unlawful seizure and vandalization of two ships belonging to his clients by the Nigerian Navy and approved the Recommendation of the Report, and approved an additional Recommendation as proposed.

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

**20. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 6 April, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 2.54 p.m.*

**Yussuff Sulaimon Lasun**  
*Deputy Speaker*