



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 6 July, 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 Wednesday, 5 July, 2017.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
3. **Announcement**
 - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:
 - (i) Staff and Students of *Lyngra High School*, British-Nigerian, One Man Village, Karu, Nasarawa State;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of *Lizdav Academy*, Mararaba, Karu, Nasarawa State; and
 - (iii) Staff and Students of *Star Light Private School*, Nyanya, Abuja.
 - (b) **Zonal Intervention Projects:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from the Chairman, Committee on Appropriations requesting Hon. Members from Bayelsa, Benue, Ekiti, Kano, Niger, Osun and Plateau States to resolve and confirm the threshold (amount) of their Zonal Intervention Projects on or before Wednesday, 12 July, 2017, failing which the Committee will decide and communicate to the Ministries and Agencies concerned who are waiting for the information to commence implementation.
4. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from M. E. Ukusare & Associates (Barristers & Solicitors) on behalf of Ogbe family of Erovie Quarters, Effurun, on the alleged threat to peace and security in Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area and the refusal by the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) and Commissioner of Police, Delta State, to comply with the court judgment in Suit No. EHC/206/2012, was presented and laid by Hon. Evelyn Oboro Omavowan (*Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie Federal Constituency*);

- (ii) A petition from Granville Abibo SAN (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Dame Patience Ibifaka Jonathan, on alleged attack and harassment by officials of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), was presented and laid by Hon. Gogo Bright Tamuno (*Okrika/Ogu/Bolo Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Agbonayinma Johnson Ehiozuwa (*Egor/Ikpoba/Okha Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Christopher I. Egbon, on alleged professional negligence and refusal by Medical Doctors to attend to patients in government hospitals;
 - (b) Chukwuka Emmanuel Bosa Esq., on the alleged neglect of Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, by Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) and the Ministry of Petroleum Resources;
 - (c) C. O. Agbikimi, on the refusal by the Ministry of Power to comply with the resolutions of the Sixth, and Eight House of Representatives, and the directive of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation concerning the termination of his appointment with the defunct Power Holding Company of Nigeria;
 - (d) Morrison Onunu, on behalf of Loretta Chinwe and 4 others on the refusal by the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), to comply with the resolution of the House of Representatives in respect of their disengagements;
 - (e) Aruaya G. Louis, on alleged corruption, contract fraud in the sum of ₦46,180,000 (Forty-six million, One hundred and eighty thousand Naira) only owed Enogar Marine Trans Service Limited since 2011, by Delta Energy Generation Company Limited;
- (iv) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Rita Orji (*Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Cyprian Iyke Nwanmadi, on behalf of I-Collette Engineering, on the non-payment for the renovation of a house in the University of Calabar (UNICAL), by the University Authorities;
 - (b) Ojiakor Maxwell Ekwunife, on the non-payment of his pension by the defunct Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), Onitsha Business Unit;
 - (c) B. T. Okporu & Co. (Barristers & Solicitors), on behalf of Pascal Asieri, on the non-payment of his 27 months outstanding salaries, allowances and severance package, by Ogbia Local Government Council;
 - (d) Ozurumba J. O. & Co. (Solicitors & Advocates), on behalf of Chibuzor Anyanwu and Chibuzor Okamgba, on their retrenchment by the National Root Crop Research Institute, Umudike, Umuahia, Abia State;
- (v) A petition by Emawodia & Attorneys (Legal Practitioners & Arbitrators), on behalf of Peter Ayomide and three others, on the refusal by K. C. Gaming Network-BET9JA to pay the amount won in coupon game, was presented and laid by Hon. Diya Oyewole (*Somolu Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition by Disabled Rehabilitation Foundation, on the discriminatory practices by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, and the Director, Department of Land Administration, Abuja Geographic Information Service (AGIS), was presented and laid by Hon. Oghuma Johnson Egoakhide (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*); and

- (vii) A petition from Enoch Ade Ojo, on the delay in the payment due to him from proceeds of the contract jointly executed with them, by Mr Sassine Sayegh of Parsons Science Construction Company, Abuja, was presented and laid by Hon. Agbola Emmanuel Kehinde (*Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Presentation of Reports

(i) Committee on Industry:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Industry on a Bill for an Act to make it Mandatory for Tyres to bear Manufacturing and Expiry Dates, and to Prohibit the Importation of Used, Substandard and Expired Tyres and for Other Related Matters (HB. 499)" (*Hon. Abubakar Husaini Moriki — Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Industry:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Industry on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Small And Medium Scale Industries Development Agency (Establishment) Act, 2003 and to Establish the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria to Regulate, Oversee, Coordinate, Monitor and Evaluate the Developmental Activities and Operation of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Nigeria and amend the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Development Agency Act to Expressly Provide the Agency with Power to Protect Artisans, Market Women and Traders and to Organize them into Clusters for Optimum Benefits and for Other Related Matters (HB. 803 and HB. 808)" (*Hon. Abubakar Husaini Moriki — Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) Committee on Industry:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Industry on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Training and Development of Nigeria, a body charged with Responsibility to Regulate the Practice and Profession of Training and Development and for Other Related Matters (HB. 401)" (*Hon. Abubakar Husaini Moriki — Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

6. A Bill for an Act to Establish a Regulatory Framework for the Water Resources Sector in Nigeria, Provide for the Equitable and Sustainable Development, Management, Use and Conservation of Nigeria's Surface Water and Groundwater Resources and for Related Matters (HB. 1021) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish a Regulatory Framework for the Water Resources Sector in Nigeria, Provide for the Equitable and Sustainable Development, Management, Use and Conservation of Nigeria's Surface Water and Groundwater Resources and for Related Matters (HB. 1021) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Water Resources.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Council of Ministers (Evidence) Act, Cap. C32, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make the Provisions of the Act Apply to the Executive Council of the Federation and for Related Matters (HB. 1027) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Council of Ministers (Evidence) Act, Cap. C32, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make the Provisions of the Act Apply to the Executive Council of the Federation and for Related Matters (HB. 1027) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Gideon Lucas Gwani — Kaura Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Justice.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Polymer Institute of Nigeria to Promote, Advance and Develop the Application of Polymer Science, Engineering and Technology in Polymer and Allied Industries in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1029) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Polymer Institute of Nigeria to Promote, Advance and Develop the Application of Polymer Science, Engineering and Technology in Polymer and Allied Industries in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 1029) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2006 and for Related Matters (HB. 964) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2006 and for Related Matters (HB. 964) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Obinna Chidoka — Idemili North/Idemili 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 Environment and Habitat.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Communications Commission Act, Cap. N97, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Payment of all Monies Received by the Commission into the Federation Account in Accordance with Section 162 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and for Related Matters (HB. 933) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. **Call for Repair of Guard/Protective Rails on the Bridges at Kotonkarfe, Kogi State**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that most portions of the guard/protective rails on the three bridges at Koton Karfe, near the Murtala Muhammed Bridge along the Abuja-Lokoja highway have been ripped off;

Also notes that the absence of the rails on the bridges constitutes grave risks to motorists plying the major highway that links the Southern and Northern halves of Nigeria;

Aware that accidents had occurred on those bridges leading to loss of lives as a result of the absence of the guard/protective rails which could have lessened the severity of those accidents and prevented the vehicles from plunging into the river, thereby saving lives;

Cognizant of the urgent need for repair of the guard/protective rails on the afore-mentioned bridges;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to urgently repair the guard/protective rails on the three bridges at Koton Karfe; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance (*Hon. Tony Nwoye — Anambra East/Anambra West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 35/2017)

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

12. **Need to Address the Persistent Refusal of Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs) to Connect Electrified Towns and Villages to the National Grid**
*Motion made and Question proposed; **

The House:

Notes that governments at all levels are striving very diligently to better the living standards of Nigerians through provision of the needed infrastructural facilities which include electrification of rural areas as a catalyst for the nation's overall development;

Also notes that since the inception of the current democratic dispensation, almost all the States of the Federation have completed many electrification projects which are yet to be connected to the national grid due to the refusal of the Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs) to do so on the ground that it is not quantifiable to the billions of naira expended on such projects and the benefits available to the communities;

Observes that the refusal of the DISCOs to connect the towns even when all the conditions have been met is frustrating government's efforts over the years to provide electricity for the people;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to interface with Electricity Distribution Companies with a view to ensuring the connection of all completed electrification projects to the national grid and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun Dokun — Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that governments at all levels are striving very diligently to better the living standards of Nigerians through provision of the needed infrastructural facilities which include electrification of rural areas as a catalyst for the nation's overall development;

Also noted that since the inception of the current democratic dispensation, almost all the States of the Federation have completed many electrification projects which are yet to be connected to the national grid due to the refusal of the Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs) to do so on the ground that it is not quantifiable to the billions of naira expended on such projects and the benefits available to the communities;

Observed that the refusal of the DISCOs to connect the towns even when all the conditions have been met is frustrating government's efforts over the years to provide electricity for the people;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to interface with Electricity Distribution Companies with a view to ensuring the connection of all completed electrification projects to the national grid and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 36/2017**).

13. Need to Avert the Imminent Closure of University of Maiduguri Due to Rising Insecurity Occasioned by the Spate of Suicide Bomb Attacks

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the disturbing trend of rising insecurity at the University of Maiduguri, one of the foremost Institutions of learning in Nigeria;

Also notes that due to the location of that great institution in Maiduguri which is the epicenter of the protracted Boko Haram insurgency, the school is gradually but persistently becoming a soft target for the Boko Haram Insurgents;

Concerned that this foremost institution which can safely be described as the last institution standing in Maiduguri following the advent of Boko Haram insurgency in the North-East is on the verge of caving in to the relentless assault on it by the insurgents;

Observes that in the recent time, the insurgents have adopted the tactics of suicide bombings targeted at the institution with a view to bringing the University down, a situation that must not be allowed to happen;

Acknowledges that this unfortunate new wave of violence, which is drawing public outcry and condemnations from home and abroad, has heightened the fears that the once most peaceful and globally competitive center for multi-cultural research and learning may be converted into another theatre of war;

Recalls that the institution used to be the jewel of and the main signpost of academic excellence in Nigeria boasting of and attracting some of the best and finest Professors from across the globe;

Also concerned that the University has lost some of its best hands to the current insecurity on the campus, notably Late Professor Aliyu Usman Mani who was killed along with two other students when the Institution was attacked by two suicide bombers on Monday, 16 January 2017;

Aware that over seventy (70) Professors, several students and staff left the University at the height of the insecurity in the campus to other universities within and outside the country out of fear;

Also aware that between January 16 and June 25, 2017, the University community was hit with six suicide bomb blasts which resulted in the death of 19 students and staff;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to urgently intervene and put in place extraordinary measures to ensure restoration of peace and tranquility to the University of Maiduguri, including the immediate perimeter fencing of the school and the deployment of critical security systems to ensure full surveillance and detection of security breaches;
- (ii) also urge the Security Agencies to submit a comprehensive plan of action to maintain constant security of the University in particular and the host community of the school in general to the House; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to ensure implementation and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency and 15 others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the disturbing trend of rising insecurity at the University of Maiduguri, one of the foremost Institutions of learning in Nigeria;

Also noted that due to the location of that great institution in Maiduguri which is the epicenter of the protracted Boko Haram insurgency, the school is gradually but persistently becoming a soft target for the Boko Haram Insurgents;

Concerned that this foremost institution which can safely be described as the last institution standing in Maiduguri following the advent of Boko Haram insurgency in the North-East is on the verge of caving in to the relentless assault on it by the insurgents;

Observed that in the recent time, the insurgents have adopted the tactics of suicide bombings targeted at the institution with a view to bringing the University down, a situation that must not be allowed to happen;

Acknowledged that this unfortunate new wave of violence, which is drawing public outcry and condemnations from home and abroad, has heightened the fears that the once most peaceful and globally competitive center for multi-cultural research and learning may be converted into another theatre of war;

Recalled that the institution used to be the jewel of and the main signpost of academic excellence in Nigeria boasting of and attracting some of the best and finest Professors from across the globe;

Also concerned that the University has lost some of its best hands to the current insecurity on the campus, notably Late Professor Aliyu Usman Mani who was killed along with two other students when the Institution was attacked by two suicide bombers on Monday, 16 January 2017;

Aware that over seventy (70) Professors, several students and staff left the University at the height of the insecurity in the campus to other universities within and outside the country out of fear;

Also aware that between January 16 and June 25, 2017, the University community was hit with six suicide bomb blasts which resulted in the death of 19 students and staff;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to urgently intervene and put in place extraordinary measures to ensure restoration of peace and tranquility to the University of Maiduguri, including the immediate perimeter fencing of the school and the deployment of critical security systems to ensure full surveillance and detection of security breaches;
- (ii) also urge the Security Agencies to submit a comprehensive plan of action to maintain constant security of the University in particular and the host community of the school in general to the House; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to ensure implementation and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 37/2017**).

14. Call on the Federal Government to Establish a Polytechnic in Oyo State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 11 July, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.28 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker