



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 22 February, 2017

1. The House met at 11.26 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, 21 February, 2017.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
3. **Oaths of Allegiance and Membership**
A Member-elect, Oghuma Egwakhide Johnson (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*) took and subscribed the Oaths of allegiance and membership as prescribed by law.
4. **Messages**
(a) Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

05 February, 2017

Right Honourable Yakubu Dogara
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,

Further to my letter dated 18th January, 2017, in which I notified the Honourable Members of taking part of my annual leave.

During my leave, I took the opportunity to have routine check-ups and consult my long standing Doctors in London. In the course of the routine examinations, certain test result indicated the need for a course of medications and further appointments have been scheduled for next week.

I am therefore, notifying the Honourable Members, that I am extending my leave until the doctors are satisfied that certain factors are ruled out. In the circumstances, the Vice-President will continue to act on my behalf.

Please accept, Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

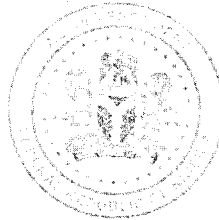
Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

- (b) Mr Speaker read the following messages from the Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

(i)



**ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/HOUSE/02/03

7th February, 2017

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker House of Representatives,
Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja.

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

**WITHHOLDING OF ASSENT TO AGRICULTURAL CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME
FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended, I hereby convey to the House of Representatives my decision to withhold Assent to the **Agriculture Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2016** recently passed by the National Assembly.

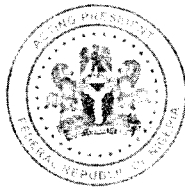
2. The rationale for withholding Assent to the Bill are the concerns surrounding board composition, funding arrangements, limitation of liability of funds, and proposal to increase level of uncollateralised loans from ₦5,000.00 to ₦250,000.00.

3. Honourable Speaker, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

(ii)



**ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/HOUSE/02/04

7th February, 2017

*Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker
House of Representatives, Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

**WITHHOLDING OF ASSENT TO CURRENCY CONVERSION (FREEZING ORDERS)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016**

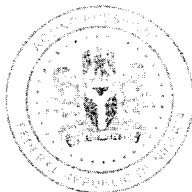
*Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended, I hereby convey to the House of Representatives my decision to withhold Assent to the **Currency Conversion (Freezing Orders) (Amendment) Bill, 2016** recently passed by the National Assembly.*

- 2. The rationale for withholding, Assent to the Bill is the concern regarding modalities for the communication of asset forfeiture orders.*
- 3. Honourable Speaker, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.*

(Signed)

***Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON**
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria*

(iii)



**ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/HOUSE/02/05

7th February, 2017

*Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker
House of Representatives, Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

WITHHOLDING OF ASSENT TO DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended, I hereby convey to the House of Representatives my decision to withhold Assent to the **Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 2016** recently passed by the National Assembly.

2. The rationale for withholding Assent to the Bill are the concerns regarding certain words and phrases utilised in the draft Bill that may be inconsistent with the Principal Act (for example section 6 of the Bill with section 21 of the Principal Act) and the spirit behind the proposed amendments.

3. Honourable Speaker, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

(iv)



ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/HOUSE/02/06

7th February, 2017

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker
House of Representatives, Federal Republic of Nigeria
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zone
Abuja

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

WITHHOLDING OF ASSENT TO NATIONAL LOTTERY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, as amended, I hereby convey to the House of Representatives my decision to withhold Assent to the **National Lottery (Amendment) Bill, 2016** recently passed by the National Assembly.

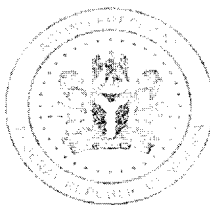
2. The rationale for withholding Assent to the Bill is the existence of pending legal challenge to the competence of the National Assembly to legislate on the subject matter.

3. Honourable Speaker, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

(v)



**ACTING PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

SH/AG. PRESIDENT/HOUSE/02/1/2

*The Rt. Honourable Speaker
The House of Representatives
National Assembly
Federal Republic of Nigeria
Three Arms Zone
Abuja*

Dear Rt Hon. Speaker,

**REQUEST FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE
ISSUANCE OF USD 500 MILLION EUROBOND IN THE INTERNATIONAL
CAPITAL MARKET FOR THE FUNDING OF THE 2016 BUDGET DEFICIT**

The Rt. Honourable Speaker may wish to refer to Line Items 229 and 244 of the 2016 Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) Appropriation Act, which provided for a Deficit of ₦2,204.742 billion and New Borrowings of ₦1,818.675 billion, respectively. The Act also provided for Domestic Borrowing of ₦1,182.798 billion and External Borrowing of ₦635.877 billion in Line Items 245 and 246 respectively.

2. The Rt. Honourable Speaker may also wish to note that whilst the approved Domestic Borrowing has been fully incurred, the ₦635.877 billion External Borrowing has not been fully accessed. The External Borrowings incurred to date consist of USD600 million from the African Development Bank and USD1 billion Eurobond from the International Capital Market (ICM) only. Thus, based on the 2016 appropriation and applying the average exchange rate, there is headroom to access further international funds.

3. Following the high oversubscription of the recent USD1 billion Eurobond issuance, we wish to take advantage of favourable market conditions to issue a Eurobond Debt Instrument of USD500 million to fund the implementation of the 2016 Budget, which is still ongoing.

4. The Rt. Honourable Speaker may wish to note that in line with the requirement of securities issuances in the ICM, a specific Resolution of the National Assembly, as a firm confirmation of the approval of the Legislature for the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) to borrow the USD500 million through the issuance of a Eurobond Debt Instrument in the ICM is required.

5. The Rt. Honourable Speaker may wish to note that the proceeds of the Eurobond are to be used as funding sources to finance the budget deficit, including capital expenditure projects as specified in the 2016 Appropriation Act.

6. With respect to the terms and conditions of the Eurobond, the House may wish to note that being a market-based instrument, the terms and conditions of the Eurobond may only be determined at the point of issuance. It is important to note that the previous issuance's of USD500 million, USD1 billion (consisting of two tranches of USD500 million)

and USD1 billion in January 2011, July 2013 and February 2017, respectively, were issued at coupons of 6.75%, 5.125%, 6.375% and 7.875% based on the prevailing market conditions. The Debt Management Office and the Federal Government's appointed Transaction Parties to the issue are committed to working assiduously to secure the best terms and conditions for the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

7. Accordingly, the Rt. Honourable Speaker is requested to kindly approve by Resolution of the National Assembly the issuance of USD500 million Eurobond in the international capital market for the funding of the Budget.

8. Given that the implementation of the 2016 Budget is still ongoing, we plan to issue the Eurobond between February and March 2017, subject to market conditions, in order to meet the Government's approved capital expenditure funding plan. In view of this, your timely response would be most appreciated in order to facilitate the prompt completion of the Eurobond Issuance.

9. Please, accept the assurances of my highest regards.

(Signed)

Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Ag. President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

5. Defection

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Emmanuel Ukoete (*Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency*), informing the House of his defection from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

6. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Ishmael Imiete & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Otatokuro family of Oloibiri community in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State on non-payment of compensation, and arrears of rent due to them by Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Sodaguwo A. Festus-Omoni (*Ogbia Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from Mr Hegeh Tarhembra Titus on his re-absorption into the Nigerian Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Mark Gbillah Terseer (*Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Kolawole Babatunde (*Akoko Southeast/Akoko Southwest Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Police Constable Amuleya Stephen, on his dismissal from service by the Nigeria Police Force;
 - (b) Corporal Elenikowa, on his dismissal from service by the Nigeria Police Force;
 - (c) Inspector Anjorin Olorunosebi, on his dismissal from service by the Nigeria Police Force;
- (iv) A petition from Ifeanyi Eme & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Mrs Theresa Nkechi Opara, on the damage to her properties in Uhu-Eziome Amaogwugwu, Obazu, Mbieri, Imo State by Chevron Nigeria Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Patrick Asadu (*Nsukka/Igboeze South Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

7. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**(i) *Need to Avert the Breakdown of Law and Order in Kano State:***

Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance.

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

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

(ii) *Killing of Nigerians and Looting of their Properties in South Africa:*

Hon. Rita Orji (*Ajeromi/Ifelodun 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.

Killing of Nigerian and Looting of their Property in South Africa:

The House:

Notes another outbreak of xenophobic attacks by South African Mobs against foreigners, mostly Nigerians;

Also notes that in the last 10 days, violence has broken out in Pretoria West, Rosettenville and other districts where residents looted and set the homes of foreigners on fire; many of them were Nigerians;

Aware that at least 10 houses belonging to mostly Nigerians were set alight between the hours of 08:00 and 12:00 and their various residences looted;

Disturbed that these particular attacks targeted at Nigerians whom they accused of several crimes including prostitution and drug peddling most of the times were executed without the intervention of the Law enforcement agencies. Incidents of Police inactions have been also reported, thus leaving the foreigners at the mercy of their attackers;

Also disturbed that the prosecution or punishment of alleged offenders have been left in the hands of several Mobs who, for various self-seeking reasons, have taken over the legitimate jobs of the Law enforcement agencies responsible for the arrest and prosecution of law defaulters;

Worried that if left unchecked, these attacks can spiral into deadly conflicts whereby foreigners could likely arm themselves for self defence, thus giving rise to anarchy;

Also worried that these incidents will likely go the way of past ones that took place in May 2015, and April 2016, which never reached any meaningful settlement and conclusion. The South Africans should note that they do not own even a single strand of hair on a foreigner's head, and thus, do not have the right to kill foreigners just because they are different from them. Attacking someone because they are different or being suspected of any crime is immoral, illegal, criminal and definitely leaves a huge moral stain on the records of South Africa as a country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Assembly send a high powered delegation to the Government of South Africa with strong worded message, reminding them of the consequences of these ongoing xenophobic attacks against Nigerian citizens and the likely resultant repercussions;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to independently investigate the immediate and remote causes of the attacks so as to bring it to an acceptable conclusion; and
- (iii) further urge the delegation to make it explicitly clear to the South African Government that Nigeria undoubtedly has no intention of abandoning her citizens in South Africa to the mercy of nationalists, mobsters and radical militants taking the law into their hands in a sovereign and democratic country (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted another outbreak of xenophobic attacks by South African Mobs against foreigners, mostly Nigerians;

Also noted that in the last 10 days, violence has broken out in Pretoria West, Rosettenville and other districts where residents looted and set the homes of foreigners on fire; many of them were Nigerians;

Aware that at least 10 houses belonging to mostly Nigerians were set alight between the hours of 08:00 and 12:00 and their various residences looted;

Disturbed that these particular attacks targeted at Nigerians whom they accused of several crimes including prostitution and drug peddling most of the times were executed without the intervention of the Law enforcement agencies. Incidents of Police inactions have been also reported, thus leaving the foreigners at the mercy of their attackers;

Also disturbed that the prosecution or punishment of alleged offenders have been left in the hands of several Mobs who, for various self-seeking reasons, have taken over the legitimate jobs of the Law enforcement agencies responsible for the arrest and prosecution of law defaulters;

Worried that if left unchecked, these attacks can spiral into deadly conflicts whereby foreigners could likely arm themselves for self defence, thus giving rise to anarchy;

Also worried that these incidents will likely go the way of past ones that took place in May 2015, and April 2016, which never reached any meaningful settlement and conclusion. The South Africans should note that they do not own even a single strand of hair on a foreigner's head, and thus, do not have the right to kill foreigners just because they are different from them. Attacking someone because they are different or being suspected of any crime is immoral, illegal, criminal and definitely leaves a huge moral stain on the records of South Africa as a country;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Assembly send a high powered delegation to the Government of South Africa with strong worded message, reminding them of the consequences of these ongoing xenophobic attacks against Nigerian citizens and the likely resultant repercussions;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to independently investigate the immediate and remote causes of the attacks so as to bring it to an acceptable conclusion; and
- (iii) further urge the delegation to make it explicitly clear to the South African Government that Nigeria undoubtedly has no intention of abandoning her citizens in South Africa to the mercy of nationalists, mobsters and radical militants taking the law into their hands in a sovereign and democratic country (**HR. 41/2017**).

8. Presentation and First Reading of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Stamp Duties Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 889).
- (2) Immigration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 899).
- (3) Civil Aviation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 900).
- (4) National Population Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 901).
- (5) Nigerian Security Forces Tax Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 902).
- (6) Institute of Healthcare Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 904).
- (7) Nigerian Railway Corporation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 905).
- (8) Nigeria Postal Service Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 906).
- (9) Government Infrastructural Continuity Establishment Bill, 2017 (HB. 907).
- (10) Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 908).
- (11) Oil Producing Companies (Mandatory Investment in Petroleum Refining) Bill, 2017 (HB. 909).
- (12) Sustainable Development Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 910).
- (13) Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 911).
- (14) Nigeria Ports Authority Bill, 2017 (HB. 912).
- (15) Bilateral Air Services Agreement (Nigeria and State of Qatar) Bill, 2017 (HB. 913).
- (16) United Nations Convention on Arms Trade Bill, 2017 (HB. 914).
- (17) South East Development Commission Bill, 2017 (HB. 915).
- (18) National Centre for Agricultural Mechanization Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 916).
- (19) Nigeria Academy of Science (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 917).

- (20) Public Holidays Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 918).
- (21) Trade Unions Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 919).
- (22) Council for the Regulation of Freight Forwarding Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 920).

9. **Presentation of Report**

Committee on Commerce:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to Provide for a Secured Transaction, Registration and Regulation of Security Interest in Movable Assets and for Other Related Matters (HB. 147)" (*Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga — Abakaliki/Izzi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

10. **Consolidation of Bills**

- (i) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Council for Public Assistance to Widows, Dependent Children and Orphans, a Bill for an Act to Establish a Welfare Trust Fund and Management Commission for Effective Management of the Welfare of the Unemployed, People with Disability (Temporal/Permanent), Orphans, Widows, the Elderly and the Youths, Compensation for Citizens who are deprived of means of Livelihood as a result of Population, Demolition, Forced Relocation, Retirement and Health, Provision of Medical Care and Subsidies for Poor Families and to Protect the Less Privileged in the Society, a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Registration and Control of Orphanages and Other Institutions for the Boarding, Care and Maintenance of Orphans and Deserted Children and a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Social Security and Welfare Board and vest it with Responsibility for the Control and Administration of Benefits and Assistance to Enhance the Welfare of Citizens, especially Disadvantaged Persons, Children, Women, the Handicapped, the Sick, the Aged and the Unemployed; and for Other Related Matters (HBs 124, 126, 183, 324), be further consolidated with a Bill for an Act to Regulate the Establishment, Registration, Provision and Management of Services and Residential Facilities for Elderly Persons and for Other Related Matters (HB. 602), and a Bill for an Act to Protect the Elderly and Vulnerable Persons who Lack Reasonable Mental and Physical Capacity to Guard against Financial Abuse and for Other Related Matters (HB. 822) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (ii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Inland Waterways Authority Act, Cap. N47, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and to Re-Enact the National Inland Waterways Authority Act to Provide for the Maintenance, Regulation and Development of the National Inland Waterways and to Promote Private Sector Participation in the Development of National Inland Waterways in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 854), and a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Inland Waterways Authority Act, Cap. N47, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Specify the Tenure of Office of the Secretary and Empower the Authority to Receive Donations and for Other Related Matters (HB. 267) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

11. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Inclusion of Vocational Training in the Syllabuses of Secondary Schools, to Provide for Development, Skill Acquisition and Self Employment of Youths in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 156) — *Second Reading*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Inclusion of Vocational Training in the Syllabuses of Secondary Schools, to Provide for Development, Skill Acquisition and Self Employment of Youths in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 156) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Rita O. Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun 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 Basic Education and Services.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund and Education Tax Act, Cap. E4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and the Education Tax Fund Amendment No. 17 of 2004 and Establish the Tertiary Education Trust Fund Charged with Responsibility for Imposing, Managing and Disbursing the Education Tax Fund to Public Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria, Including Private Universities and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund and Education Tax Act, Cap. E4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Include Colleges of Agriculture and Increase some Penalties and for Other Related Matters (HBs 531 and 620) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund and Education Tax Act, Cap. E4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and the Education Tax Fund Amendment No. 17 of 2004 and Establish the Tertiary Education Trust Fund Charged with Responsibility for Imposing, Managing and Disbursing the Education Tax Fund to Public Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria, Including Private Universities and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund and Education Tax Act, Cap. E4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Include Colleges of Agriculture and Increase some Penalties and for Other Related Matters (HBs 531 and 620) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Ahmed Abu — Edati/Lavun/Mokwa Federal Constituency and 1 other).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

13. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Inclusion of Fire Safety Education in Schools Curriculum and for Other Related Matters (HB. 813) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of City Technical University Yaba, Lagos and for Other Related Matters (HB. 874) — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. Call for Upgrade of the Federal College of Education (Technical), Bichi to the Status of a University of Technical Education

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. **Abandonment of the Construction of Bonny - Bodo Road**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **Need to Investigate the Scarcity and Incessant Hike in the Price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Popularly Referred to as Cooking Gas)**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that the liquefied petroleum gas (cooking gas) is produced and supplied to the domestic market by the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Limited (NLNG) in which the Federal Government is a major shareholder;

Notes that the gas is sold to marketers and paid for in Naira, unlike other petroleum products which are priced in United States Dollars and are therefore subject to foreign exchange fluctuations which sometimes affect the supply and availability of the products;

Informed that the price of the gas has been subjected to incessant hikes with the various players in the sector trading blames and ending up doing nothing to stem the rise in price which is usually preceded by scarcity of the product;

Also informed that in 2016, the price of 12.5 kilograms of the gas increased from ₦2,700 to between ₦3,500 and ₦4,000, depending on the vendor and the same quantity of the product is currently selling for between ₦5,000 to ₦6,000;

Worried that lack of information as to the exact reason for the constant scarcity and hike in the price of the product does not bode well for the nation as it gives the impression that the sector is completely unregulated and that citizens are at the mercy of the players in the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) Industry;

Concerned that if the reasons for the incessant hike in price and the scarcity of gas which is locally produced without any foreign exchange component is not investigated, the citizens will be further impoverished by the exorbitant price or be forced to adopt alternative but less healthy methods of cooking;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the reasons for the scarcity and incessant hike in the price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Sergius Ose Ogun — Esan Northeast/Esan Southeast Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that the liquefied petroleum gas (cooking gas) is produced and supplied to the domestic market by the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Limited (NLNG) in which the Federal Government is a major shareholder;

Noted that the gas is sold to marketers and paid for in Naira, unlike other petroleum products which are priced in United States Dollars and are therefore subject to foreign exchange fluctuations which sometimes affect the supply and availability of the products;

Informed that the price of the gas has been subjected to incessant hikes with the various players in the sector trading blames and ending up doing nothing to stem the rise in price which is usually preceded by scarcity of the product;

Also informed that in 2016, the price of 12.5 kilograms of the gas increased from ₦2,700 to between ₦3,500 and ₦4,000, depending on the vendor and the same quantity of the product is currently selling for between ₦5,000 to ₦6,000;

Worried that lack of information as to the exact reason for the constant scarcity and hike in the price of the product does not bode well for the nation as it gives the impression that the sector is completely unregulated and that citizens are at the mercy of the players in the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) Industry;

Concerned that if the reasons for the incessant hike in price and the scarcity of gas which is locally produced without any foreign exchange component is not investigated, the citizens will be further impoverished by the exorbitant price or be forced to adopt alternative but less healthy methods of cooking;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the reasons for the scarcity and incessant hike in the price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 42/2017**).

18. Call to Halt the Arrests and Prosecution of Returning Internally Displaced Persons over Loans Granted them by the Bank of Agriculture Ltd

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that several Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the North - East Zone are subsistence farmers who engage in either crop or livestock farming;

Aware that most of the farmers, at the point of displacement, were beneficiaries of popular government policies on agriculture such as Central Bank Agric loans, subsidy on fertilizer and implements, tractor hiring, etc.;

Also aware that during the peaceful days, there were hardly any reported case of default or infringement on the conditions of those agric services by the farmers which confirmed their positions as good citizens of Nigeria;

Disturbed that as at the time of the attacks on the North - East States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe by the Boko Haram insurgents, most farm produce were still unharvested while livestock were massively taken away by the insurgents;

Concerned that some farmers that were lucky to store produce from the early harvest could not take any along with them during the displacement process due to the urgency and chaotic nature of the displacement and upon returning, most of the IDPs did not meet their belongings, including their houses;

Also concerned that presently, several returnee IDPs in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe States are being confronted, threatened, arrested or prosecuted by the Bank of Agriculture over loans granted them before the displacement as a result of their failure to repay the loans;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Bank of Agriculture to stop the ongoing acts of harassments, threat, arrests or prosecution of returning internally displaced persons in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States over their failure to repay the loans granted to them before their displacements following the insurgency in the North - East Zone;
- (ii) urge the Presidential Initiative on North-East (PINE) to take over the repayment of the loans granted to the IDPs between 2013-2015; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to ensure implementation and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Adamu Dali Usman Kamale — Madagali/Michika Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (i) and *insert* as follows instead thereof:
“Urge the Bank of Agriculture to fall back on the Insurance Companies that insured the crops, since the cause of the default was not intentional” (*Hon. Danasabe Hosea — Gashaka/Kurfi/Sardauna Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* Prayer (ii) (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) In Prayer (iii), line 1, immediately after the words “Service to”, *leave out* the words “ensure implementation” and *insert* the words “investigate the matter” instead thereof (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that several Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the North - East Zone are subsistence farmers who engage in either crop or livestock farming;

Aware that most of the farmers, at the point of displacement, were beneficiaries of popular government policies on agriculture such as Central Bank Agric loans, subsidy on fertilizer and implements, tractor hiring, etc.;

Also aware that during the peaceful days, there were hardly any reported case of default or infringement on the conditions of those agric services by the farmers which confirmed their positions as good citizens of Nigeria;

Disturbed that as at the time of the attacks on the North - East States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe by the Boko Haram insurgents, most farm produce were still unharvested while livestock were massively taken away by the insurgents;

Concerned that some farmers that were lucky to store produce from the early harvest could not take any along with them during the displacement process due to the urgency and chaotic nature of the displacement and upon returning, most of the IDPs did not meet their belongings, including their houses;

Also concerned that presently, several returnee IDPs in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe States are being confronted, threatened, arrested or prosecuted by the Bank of Agriculture over loans granted them before the displacement as a result of their failure to repay the loans;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Bank of Agriculture to fall back on the Insurance Companies that insured the crops, since the cause of the default was not intentional; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services to investigate the matter and report to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 43/2017).

19. **Consideration of Reports**

- (i) *A Bill for an Act to Incorporate Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944 into Nigerian Law, to Establish the Nigerian Search and Rescue Service and to Provide for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 319) — Committee of the Whole:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Incorporate Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944 into Nigerian Law, to Establish the Nigerian Search and Rescue Service and to Provide for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 319) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Ekpenyong Essien Ayi — Calabar South/Akpabuyo/Bakassi 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 INCORPORATE ANNEX 12 TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION, 1944 INTO NIGERIAN LAW, TO ESTABLISH THE NIGERIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICE AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH (HB. 319)

Debate.

Consideration deferred.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Incorporate Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944 into Nigerian Law, to Establish the Nigerian Search and Rescue Service and to Provide for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 319)' to enable the Committees on Justice, and Rules and Business to examine provisions of the Bill vis-a-vis provisions of the National Emergency Management Agency Act and report back.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — 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 and approve the recommendations therein (HB. 475).

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

(iii) **Committees on Public Service Matters, Finance, Legislative Compliance and Special Duties:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Public Service Matters, Finance, Legislative Compliance and Special Duties on the Call for Lifting of Embargo on Foreign Training and International Travels by Public Servants and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi 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:

"That the current policy of Government towards Foreign Training and International travels for Public Servants should be sustained pending improvement in the economic situation of the country" (Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi 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 Committees on Public Service Matters, Finance, Legislative Compliance and Special Duties on the Call for Lifting of Embargo on Foreign Training and International Travels by Public Servants and approved the Recommendation of the Report.

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

(iv) **Committees on Public Service Matters and Governmental Affairs:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Public Service Matters and Governmental Affairs on the Need to Investigate the Multiple Appointments being held by some Nigerians and the Unlawful Payment of Emoluments to them in Those Capacities and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency).

Question agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

“That there should be continuous upgrading of the Integrated Personnel and Payroll Information System (IPPIS) module” (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

“That there is need to always check the Bank Verification Number (BVN) which is the only means open to public servants to receive their salaries and emoluments” (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

“That the Federal Civil Service Commission should be on the lookout for those who have already been employed for them not to be given other positions in any subsequent employment exercise” (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi 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 Committees on Public Service Matters and Governmental Affairs on the Need to Investigate the Multiple Appointments being held by some Nigerians and the Unlawful Payment of Emoluments to them in Those Capacities and approved Recommendations (i) - (iii) of the Report.

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

(iv) Ad-hoc Committee on the Investigation of the Award of Contract for the Installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras in Lagos and Abuja:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Investigation of the Award of Contract for the Installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras in Lagos and Abuja and approve the recommendations therein” (*Hon. Ahmed Yerima — Misau/Dambam 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)

Consideration deferred till the next legislative day.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Investigation of the Award of Contract for the Installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras in Lagos and Abuja, till the next legislative day.

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

20. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn, and suspend plenary sitting till Tuesday, 28 February, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. to enable the Appropriation Committee and its Sub-Committees conclude work on the details of the 2017 Appropriation Bill (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

Agreed to.

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.02 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceeding* of Tuesday, 21 February, 2017, item 3, insert a new item 3 (c) as follows:

(c) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Muhammed Sa'ad Nabunkari (*Silame/Binji Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of his father, Alhaji Sa'adu Nabunkari on Saturday, 18 February, 2017.