



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 17 October, 2017

1. The House met at 11.29 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 Thursday, 12 October, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Message**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

9th October, 2017

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

Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,

SUBMISSION OF 2018-2020 MEDIUM-TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK AND FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER

I am pleased to submit the 2018 - 2020 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP) to the House of Representatives. Let me use this opportunity to express my gratitude for the enduring partnership between the Legislative and Executive Arms of Government.

Pursuant to provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007, the preparation towards the submission of the 2018 Budget to the National Assembly is progressing well. The MTEF and FSP were prepared against the backdrop of a generally adverse global economic uncertainty; as well as fiscal challenges and recovery in the domestic economy to ensure that planned spending is set at prudent and sustainable levels and is consistent with Government's overall developmental objectives and inclusive growth.

I hereby forward the 2018-2020 MTEF and FSP to the House of Representatives and trust that it would be kindly considered and approved expeditiously in order to bring the 2018 FGN Budget preparation process to timely closure.

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

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

Request referred to the Committees on Appropriations, Finance, Aids, Loans and Debt Management, and Legislative Compliance.

4. Announcement

(a) Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following visitors in the Gallery:

- (i) Staff and Students of *Doveland International School*, Wuse 2, Abuja; and
- (ii) Members of *National Association of Delta State Students (NADESSTU)*, Asaba, Delta State.

(b) Conference Committee on the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) Budget:

Mr Speaker named the Membership of the Conference Committee as follows:

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|-----|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Pally Iriase | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Babangida Ibrahim | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Ayo Omidiran | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (4) | Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (5) | Hon. Chris Azubogu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (6) | Hon. Rita Orji | — | <i>Member</i> |

(c) Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Deplorable Condition of the State House Clinic:

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

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|-----|---------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) | Hon. Da'u Magaji | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (2) | Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (3) | Hon. Femi Adebajo | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (4) | Hon. Henry Okon Archibong | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (5) | Hon. Nkole Uko Ndukwe | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (6) | Hon. Mato Dorothy | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (7) | Hon. Tajudeen Abass | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (8) | Hon. Evelyn Oboro | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (9) | Hon. Stella Ngwu | — | <i>Member</i> |

5. Notification of Election as Deputy Chairman, West African Caucus, Pan African Parliament

Mr Speaker read a letter from Hon. Abdulrazak Sa'ad Namdas (*Tounga/Mayo-Belwa/Ganye/Jada*) informing the House of his election as Deputy Chairman of the West African Caucus of the Pan African Parliament, during the Fifth Ordinary Session held in South Africa.

6. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**(i) Need to Curb Encroachment, Intimidation and Killing of Nigerians in Danare Community in Boki Local Government Area of Cross River State by Cameroonian Militants:**

Hon. Agibe Christopher Ngoro (*Boki/Ikom Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance — *Agreed to.*

Matter to stand over till the next legislative day.

(ii) Need for Presidential Amnesty Committee to Deploy Successful Candidates to Nigerian Universities for 2017/2018 Academic Session:

Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo (*Eseodo/Ilaje Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance — *Agreed to.*

Matter to stand over till the next legislative day.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency) — Agreed to.

(iii) Need to Strengthen the Fight Against Poverty as the World Commemorates the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty:

Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil (*Wudil/Garko 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.

Need to Strengthen the Fight Against Poverty as the World Commemorates the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

The House:

Notes that in its General Assembly Session of 22 December, 1992, the United Nations (UN) passed Resolution 47/196 adopting October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty which seeks to end poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world;

Also notes that this year, 2017, marks the 25th Anniversary of the declaration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by the UN General Assembly;

Further notes that the date is a wake-up call on governments worldwide to rise up to the challenge of providing basic necessities of life for citizenry;

Aware of the efforts of the Federal Government to eradicate poverty in Nigeria through the 2017 budgetary provision for the Special Intervention Fund to cater for unemployed youths, women empowerment and job creation;

Worried that measures being taken by the Federal Government have not impacted as positively as expected on the country's poverty index record;

Concerned that the UN report on Nigeria's Common Country Analysis (CCA) published by the Daily Post on September 5, 2016 described the nation as one of the poorest and most unequal countries in the world with over 80 million or 64% of her estimated population of 175 million living below globally defined poverty line of \$1.90 per day;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to be more effective in implementing various Special Intervention Projects (SIP) programmes aimed at tackling poverty in the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to efficiently promote the establishment of small and medium scale enterprises through its relevant Agencies, particularly, the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), so that the nation's teeming unemployed people could be gainfully employed thereby improving their living standards;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to ensure the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), most especially No. 1, which targets poverty eradication; and
- (iv) show a sober reflection on this day and to support the poverty eradication programme in Nigeria (*Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil — Wudil/Garko Federal Constituency*)

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in its General Assembly Session of 22 December, 1992, the United Nations (UN) passed Resolution 47/196 adopting October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty which seeks to end poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world;

Also noted that this year, 2017, marks the 25th Anniversary of the declaration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by the UN General Assembly;

Further noted that the date is a wake-up call on governments worldwide to rise up to the challenge of providing basic necessities of life for citizenry;

Aware of the efforts of the Federal Government to eradicate poverty in Nigeria through the 2017 budgetary provision for the Special Intervention Fund to cater for unemployed youths, women empowerment and job creation;

Worried that measures being taken by the Federal Government have not impacted as positively as expected on the country's poverty index record;

Concerned that the UN report on Nigeria's Common Country Analysis (CCA) published by the Daily Post on September 5, 2016 described the nation as one of the poorest and most unequal countries in the world with over 80 million or 64% of her estimated population of 175 million living below globally defined poverty line of \$1.90 per day;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to be more effective in implementing various Special Intervention Projects (SIP) programmes aimed at tackling poverty in the country;

- (ii) urge the Federal Government to efficiently promote the establishment of small and medium scale enterprises through its relevant Agencies, particularly, the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), so that the nation's teeming unemployed people could be gainfully employed thereby improving their living standards;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to ensure the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), most especially No. 1, which targets poverty eradication; and
- (iv) show a sober reflection on this day and to support the poverty eradication programme in Nigeria (HR. 108/2017).

7. **Presentation of Report**

Committee on Foreign Affairs:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Alleged Killing of Ninety-Seven Nigerians at the Bakassi Peninsular by the Cameroonian Gendarmes (HR. 46/2017)" (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Dutse — Dutse/Kiyawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agency for Ethics and Values to provide for the Functions and Powers of the Agency, the Qualifications and Procedures for Appointment of the Chairman and Members; and for Related Matters (HB. 519) — Third Read**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agency for Ethics and Values to provide for the Functions and Powers of the Agency, the Qualifications and Procedures for Appointment of the Chairman and Members; and for Related Matters (HB. 519) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).

Question Agreed to.

Bill read the Third time and passed.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the Total Sum of ₦222,360,551,512 (Two Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Three Hundred and Sixty Million, Five Hundred and Fifty-One Thousand, Five Hundred and Twelve Naira) only, of which the Sum of ₦52,574,479,667 (Fifty-Two Billion, Five Hundred and Seventy-Four Million, Four Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty-Seven Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs and the Sum of ₦41,294,590,480 (Forty-One Billion, Two Hundred and Ninety-Four Million, Five Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Four Hundred and Eighty Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs whilst the Balance of ₦128,491,481,366 (One Hundred and Twenty-Eight Billion, Four Hundred and Ninety-One Million, Four Hundred and Eighty-One Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixty-Six Naira) only, is for Capital Projects for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the Financial Year Commencing from 1 January and Ending on 31 December, 2017 (HB.1165) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the Total Sum of ₦222,360,551,512 (Two Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Three Hundred and Sixty Million, Five Hundred and Fifty-One Thousand, Five Hundred and Twelve Naira) only, of which the Sum of ₦52,574,479,667 (Fifty-Two Billion, Five Hundred and

Seventy-Four Million, Four Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty-Seven Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs and the Sum of ₦41,294,590,480 (Forty-One Billion, Two Hundred and Ninety-Four Million, Five Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Four Hundred and Eighty Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs whilst the Balance of ₦128,491,481,366 (One Hundred and Twenty-Eight Billion, Four Hundred and Ninety-One Million, Four Hundred and Eighty-One Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixty-Six Naira) only, is for Capital Projects for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the Financial Year Commencing from 1 January and Ending on 31 December, 2017 (HB.1165) 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 Committees on Federal Capital Territory, and Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters.

10. **A Bill for an Act Requiring Telecommunications Facilities to Facilitate the Lawful Interception of Information Transmitted by means of those Facilities and Respecting the Provision of Telecommunications Subscriber Information; and for Related Matters (HB. 35) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, No. 14, 2015 to Empower the Organization to carry out Inspection of all Goods to be Imported into Nigeria at all the Nigerian Borders, Sea and Air Ports to ensure Quality Control of all Imported Goods; and for Related Matters (HB. 980) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, No. 14, 2015 to Empower the Organization to carry out Inspection of all Goods to be Imported into Nigeria at all the Nigerian Borders, Sea and Air Ports to ensure Quality Control of all Imported Goods; and for Related Matters (HB. 980) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Emmanuel Akpan — Ikot Ekpene/Essien/Essien Udim/Obot Akara 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 Industry.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Niger Delta Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. N86, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to clarify the Appointment into certain positions in the Commission for proper Representation, Equity, Fairness and Justice among Member States; and for Related Matters (HB.921) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Niger Delta Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. N86, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to clarify the Appointment into certain positions in the Commission for proper Representation, Equity, Fairness and Justice among Member States; and for Related Matters (HB.921) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Kolade Victor Akinjo — Eseodo/Ilafe 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 Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC).

13. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly (Order Twelve, Rule 16, Standing Orders of the House of Representatives)**
National Automotive Design and Development Council Bill, 2016 (HB. 845)

Order deferred by leave of the House.

14. **Need to Rehabilitate the Katsina-Ala Bridge in Benue State**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Katsina-Ala Bridge is a major link connecting the Northern and Southern parts of Nigeria;

Also notes that the bridge is critical to the socio-economic activities that are carried out along Wukari-Zaki-Biam-Katsina-Ala-Ugep-Calabar Road, the Ugbema-Vandeikya-Obudu-Obudu Cattle Ranch Road and the Lafia-Makurdi-Gboko-Katsina-Ala axis;

Aware that the roads enhance transportation of agricultural produce to and from the Zaki-Biam Yam market and other business activities such as distribution of cement from the Gboko plant of the Dangote Cement to Taraba and Adamawa States, respectively;

Concerned that the Katsina-Ala Bridge is on the verge of collapse, thus creating transportation difficulties for commuters and hampering socio-economic activities;

Also concerned that Ugbema Junction, a major intersection linking the Katsina-Ala Bridge with Gboko Road and the Ikon-Calabar axis is also dilapidated and requires urgent repairs, and the damaged portion of the bridge has become a death trap and den of criminals who hide under the bridge from where they terrorize commuters;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing and the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to urgently rehabilitate the Katsina-Ala Bridge and the Ugbema Junction intersection to facilitate free flow of traffic and enhance economic activities; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, FERMA, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Emmanuel Menga Udende — Katsina Ala/Logo/Ukum Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 109/2017).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, FERMA, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

15. **Need to Investigate the Non Patronage of the Nigerian Communications Satellite Limited (NIGCOMSAT)**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Recalls that the Federal Government had contracted Kosmo - 3m Rocket from Russian Plesetsk Spaceport to launch its first Earth Observation Satellite, the Nigeria - 1 on September 17, 2003, at the cost of ₦30 million;

Also recalls that subsequently, Nigcomsat - 1 Communications Satellite was launched in China at the cost of ₦200 million, but it failed in orbit in 2008 after running out of power, owing to an anomaly in its solar array;

Aware that the Federal Government had, since 2003, spent about ₦85 billion on five (5) Satellites which were meant to provide communication data and images for government agencies and the private sector with the aim of saving billions of foreign exchange and generating revenues estimated at \$20 billion for the country;

Also aware that Nigcomsat - IR was relaunched in 2011 at no extra cost while Nigeria sat-2 and Nigeria sat X Satellite, which was built at a cost of \$35 million was launched in the same year;

Concerned that the Multi-Billion Naira Communication Satellites are under-utilized in space due to low patronage by Government agencies and private companies which continue to spend money running into billions of Naira to procure satellite images from other Service Providers, services which Nigeria's Satellite could supply, thereby depleting our foreign reserves;

Cognizant that Nigcomsat IR has effective signal coverage of the entire country and the West African sub-region, and if Federal and States Government agencies are mandated to subscribe with the Nigerian Communications Satellite for their satellite services, the billions of Naira being expended for their need of satellite images will be conserved.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to issue a guideline making it mandatory for agencies to patronize the Nigeria Communications Satellite Limited (NIGCOMSAT);
- (ii) also urge Governments of the States of the Federation to mandate their Agencies to do likewise; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Information Technology to determine the cause of non-patronage of the Nigeria Communications Satellite Limited, proffer solutions to it and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Danasabe Charles Hosea — Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayers (i) and (ii) (Hon. Chris Azubogu — Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that the Federal Government had contracted Kosmo - 3m Rocket from Russian Plesetsk Spaceport to launch its first Earth Observation Satellite, the Nigeria - 1 on September 17, 2003, at the cost of ₦30 million;

Also recalled that subsequently, Nigcomsat - 1 Communications Satellite was launched in China at the cost of ₦200 million, but it failed in orbit in 2008 after running out of power, owing to an anomaly in its solar array;

Aware that the Federal Government had, since 2003, spent about ₦85 billion on five (5) Satellites which were meant to provide communication data and images for government agencies and the private sector with the aim of saving billions of foreign exchange and generating revenues estimated at \$20 billion for the country;

Also aware that Nigcomsat - IR was relaunched in 2011 at no extra cost while Nigeria sat-2 and Nigeria sat X Satellite, which was built at a cost of \$35 million was launched in the same year;

Concerned that the Multi-Billion Naira Communication Satellites are under-utilized in space due to low patronage by Government agencies and private companies which continue to spend money running into billions of Naira to procure satellite images from other Service Providers, services which Nigeria's Satellite could supply, thereby depleting our foreign reserves;

Cognizant that Nigcomsat IR has effective signal coverage of the entire country and the West African sub-region, and if Federal and States Government agencies are mandated to subscribe with the Nigerian Communications Satellite for their satellite services, the billions of Naira being expended for their need of satellite images will be conserved.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Information Technology to determine the cause of non-patronage of the Nigeria Communications Satellite Limited, proffer solutions to it and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 110/2017).

16. Need to Investigate the Operations of the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency was established to address the health issues in the rural communities in Nigeria;

Concerned that many rural communities lack Primary Healthcare Centres, posing a risk of death from diverse ailments and diseases due to unavailability of drugs or medical personnel;

Also concerned that existing healthcare centres are inadequately equipped and lack sufficient drugs and personnel required to effectively attend to patients;

Aware that in order to achieve the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is important for the government to tackle healthcare challenges, especially at the grassroots level;

Cognizant of the need to properly monitor allocations appropriated to the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency to ensure that Nigeria achieves the targeted Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of Vision 2030;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to establish Primary Healthcare Centres in all rural communities and adequately equip them to function effectively; and

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to investigate the operations of the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency to ascertain its level of compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Oyewole Diya Babafemi — Somolu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (i) (Hon. Chris Azubogu — Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency was established to address the health issues in the rural communities in Nigeria;

Concerned that many rural communities lack Primary Healthcare Centres, posing a risk of death from diverse ailments and diseases due to unavailability of drugs or medical personnel;

Also concerned that existing healthcare centres are inadequately equipped and lack sufficient drugs and personnel required to effectively attend to patients;

Aware that in order to achieve the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is important for the government to tackle healthcare challenges, especially at the grassroots level;

Cognizant of the need to properly monitor allocations appropriated to the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency to ensure that Nigeria achieves the targeted Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of Vision 2030;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to investigate the operations of the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency to ascertain its level of compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 111/2017**).

17. **Directive of the National Petroleum Investment Management Services to Operators in the Petroleum Industry to Contribute to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Intervention Fund for the North East Zone**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

18. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 18 October, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.02 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker