



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 15 February, 2018

1. The House met at 11.13 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, 14 February, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**

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

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

(i) Staff and Students of *Anglican Grammar School*, Sabon Gida, Jaba Local Government Area, Kaduna State; and

(ii) Members of Students' Union Government (SUG), *Sa'adatu Rimi College of Education*, Kumbotso, Kano State.

(b) **Bereavement:**

Mr Speaker announced the death of 21 students, 2 teachers and a driver of Government Secondary School, Misau, Bauchi State in an auto crash while traveling to Kano for an excursion on Tuesday, 13 February, 2018.

The House observed a minute silence in honour of the departed souls.

4. **Petitions**

(i) A petition from Labaran Akum, on the alleged non-implementation of the Report of Investigation of the Public Complaints Commission by the Management of Federal Ministry of Health and Federal Medical Centre, Jalingo, Taraba State, was presented and laid by Hon. Kwewum Rimamnde Shawulu (*Donga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

(ii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung (*Jaba/Zangon Kataf Federal Constituency*):

(a) Isaac and Isaac & Co., on behalf of the family of Late Luka Andrew over his alleged death in detention by the Nigerian Immigration Service; and

- (b) Nayari Aduwak Emmanuel, on the termination of his appointment by the Nigerian Prisons Service.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Need to Address the Flagrant Abuse of the Authority and Resolution of the House by the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC):***

Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu (*Shiroro/Rafi/Munya 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 Address the Flagrant Abuse of the Authority and Resolution of the House by the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC):

The House:

Notes that on Wednesday, 9 November, 2016, the House passed a Resolution mandating the Committee on Lake Chad Basin Commission to conduct a thorough investigation into allegations of mismanagement, lawlessness and misappropriation in the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC);

Also notes that the Committee on LCBC, in pursuance of this mandate, invited the Executive Secretary and other relevant officers of the Commission to answer questions raised but the Committee's invitation was shunned by both the Executive Secretary of the LCBC and the other relevant officers;

Aware that the Executive Secretary has a penchant for flagrant disregard of the Nigerian Parliament on the basis of a claim to immunity relying on a memo purportedly issued from the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Tuesday, 20 December, 2016;

Also aware that the Lake Chad Basin Commission is of strategic interest to Nigeria as a result of which Nigeria stands out as a major contributor to the funds of LCBC;

Further aware that funds contributed by Nigeria to LCBC constitute tax generated from the common wealth of the citizens of Nigeria and the House owes a duty to its citizens to ensure that such funds are put to good use in pursuance of section 88 (1) (b) (ii) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to suspend the payment of Nigeria's contribution to LCBC immediately until all issues of allegation of corruption and misappropriation against the Executive Secretary are investigated and resolved satisfactorily;
- (ii) urge the Ministry of Water Resources to issue a letter directing the Executive Secretary of LCBC (Engr Sanusi) to hand over to the newly appointed Executive Secretary since his tenure had already expired;

- (iii) interface with the Council of Ministers of LCBC on the matter to ensure that the performance of the constitutional duties of the Committee is unfettered; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on LCBC to act in his capacity as the current President of the Regional Parliamentary Committee of the LCB Member- countries to engage with his counterparts from Member-Parliaments with the aim of ensuring that a forensic audit of all financial transactions by the LCBC within the last four years is conducted (*Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Wednesday, 9 November, 2016, the House passed a Resolution mandating the Committee on Lake Chad Basin Commission to conduct a thorough investigation into allegations of mismanagement, lawlessness and misappropriation in the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC);

Also noted that the Committee on LCBC, in pursuance of this mandate, invited the Executive Secretary and other relevant officers of the Commission to answer questions raised but the Committee's invitation was shunned by both the Executive Secretary of the LCBC and the other relevant officers;

Aware that the Executive Secretary has a penchant for flagrant disregard of the Nigerian Parliament on the basis of a claim to immunity relying on a memo purportedly issued from the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Tuesday, 20 December, 2016;

Also aware that the Lake Chad Basin Commission is of strategic interest to Nigeria as a result of which Nigeria stands out as a major contributor to the funds of LCBC;

Further aware that funds contributed by Nigeria to LCBC constitute tax generated from the common wealth of the citizens of Nigeria and the House owes a duty to its citizens to ensure that such funds are put to good use in pursuance of section 88 (1) (b) (ii) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to suspend the payment of Nigeria's contribution to LCBC immediately until all issues of allegation of corruption and misappropriation against the Executive Secretary are investigated and resolved satisfactorily;
- (ii) urge the Ministry of Water Resources to issue a letter directing the Executive Secretary of LCBC (Engr Sanusi) to hand over to the newly appointed Executive Secretary since his tenure had already expired;
- (iii) interface with the Council of Ministers of LCBC on the matter to ensure that the performance of the constitutional duties of the Committee is unfettered; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on LCBC to act in his capacity as the current President of the Regional Parliamentary Committee of the LCB Member- countries to engage with his counterparts from Member-Parliaments with the aim of ensuring that a forensic audit of all financial transactions by the LCBC within the last four years is conducted (**HR. 51/2018**).

(ii) ***Need to Investigate the Violation of Public Trust at the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):***

Hon. Wayo Benjamin Iorember (*Kwande/Ushongo 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 Investigate the Violation of Public Trust at the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):

The House:

Notes that the core mandate of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is to coordinate the management of disasters across the country, and to assist victims of such disasters;

Also notes that in spite of this core mandate, several cases of disasters across the country have not been given necessary attention. For example the hunger issue in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in the Northeast; the farmers/herdsmen conflicts; fire disaster victims, and many other such cases across the country that have been neglected;

Further notes that the agency has received more than ₦10 billion from the 20% National Ecological Fund in the last one year; ₦5 billion for hunger intervention in the Northeast, about ₦2 billion for flood intervention across the country;

Worried that these funds were illegally siphoned by officials of the Agency through dubious award of contracts without delivering relief items to the victims where the Director General of the agency awarded contracts to companies he has personal interests in, and has violated his approval limits by awarding contracts to a single firm without due process. For example, one company called Olam Nigeria Limited got a contract of ₦2.4 billion, which was against the agency's approval limit as stated in Section 16 (1) of the NEMA Act. It should be made clear that the section pegs the approval limit at just ₦30 million;

Also worried that the agency could not account for its assets and as the only Federal Government Agency with an Air Ambulance; it is sad to note that the ambulance is being used for commercial purpose without remitting the proceeds to government coffers;

Aware that the agency's staff went on strike last year over the Director-General's incapacity to manage the affairs of the organisation, thereby making the staff to threaten to embark on another strike if there is no intervention to resolve lingering labour related issues in the Agency;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to investigate and report back within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Wayo Benjamin Iorember — Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the core mandate of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is to coordinate the management of disasters across the country, and to assist victims of such disasters;

Also noted that inspite of this core mandate, several cases of disasters across the country have not been given necessary attention. For example the hunger issue in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in the Northeast; the farmers/herdsmen conflicts; fire disaster victims, and many other such cases across the country that have been neglected;

Further noted that the agency has received more than ₦10 billion from the 20% National Ecological Fund in the last one year; ₦5 billion for hunger intervention in the Northeast, about ₦2 billion for flood intervention across the country;

Worried that these funds were illegally siphoned by officials of the Agency through dubious award of contracts without delivering relief items to the victims where the Director General of the agency awarded contracts to companies he has personal interests in, and has violated his approval limits by awarding contracts to a single firm without due process. For example, one company called Olam Nigeria Limited got a contract of ₦2.4 billion, which was against the agency's approval limit as stated in Section 16 (1) of the NEMA Act. It should be made clear that the section pegs the approval limit at just ₦30 million;

Also worried that the agency could not account for its assets and as the only Federal Government Agency with an Air Ambulance; it is sad to note that the ambulance is being used for commercial purpose without remitting the proceeds to government coffers;

Aware that the agency's staff went on strike last year over the Director-General's incapacity to manage the affairs of the organisation, thereby making the staff to threaten to embark on another strike if there is no intervention to resolve lingering labour related issues in the Agency;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to investigate and report back within six (6) weeks (HR. 52/2018).

6. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission on the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the Total Sum of ₦338,582,000,000.00 (Three Hundred and Thirty-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Eighty Two Million Naira) only, of which the Sum of ₦17,797,000,000.00 (Seventeen Billion, Seven Hundred and Ninety-Seven Million Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs, the Sum of ₦12,459,000,000 (Twelve Billion, Four Hundred and Fifty-Nine Million Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs, the sum of ₦4,402,000,000 (Four Billion, Four Hundred and Two Million Naira) only, is for Internal Capital Expenditure and the sum of ₦303,924,000,000 (Three Hundred and Three Billion, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Four Million Naira) only, is for Development Projects for the Service of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), for the Financial Year Commencing from 1 January and Ending on 31 December, 2017" (Hon. Nicholas Mutu — Bomadi/Patani Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (ii) **Ad-hoc Committee to Interface with the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources on the Review of the Price of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS):**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Final Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Interface with the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources on the Review of the Price of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) (HR. 218/2016)" (Hon. Raphael Nnanna Igbokwe — Ahiazu Mbaise/Ihitte Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Orthopaedic Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. O10, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004; and for Related Matters (HB 1157) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Orthopaedic Hospitals Management Board Act, Cap. O10, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004; and for Related Matters (HB 1157) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Evidence Act, 2011 to Accommodate Modern Developments Relating to Admissibility of Confessional Statement; to Render Illegally Obtained Evidence Inadmissible; Give Discretion to the Court with Regard to Certification of Electronically Generated Documents; Provide for Admissibility of Public Documents without Makers of such Documents being called as Witnesses; and Section 17 of the Act to Stipulate a Time Limit on the Presumption of Validity of Judicially Noticed Customs and to Impose a Duty on the Courts to Ensure that Customs that have been Judicially Noticed and not thereafter been Subjected to Proof by Evidence for an Inordinately Long Period of Time are Reviewed by the Courts to Ascertain that they are still Representative of the Customs as they are Currently Practiced in the Communities with Respect to which the Customs Relate; and for Related Matters (HB. 1149, HB. 1188 and HB. 1193) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Evidence Act, 2011 to Accommodate Modern Developments Relating to Admissibility of Confessional Statement; to Render Illegally Obtained Evidence Inadmissible; Give Discretion to the Court with Regard to Certification of Electronically Generated Documents; Provide for Admissibility of Public Documents without Makers of such Documents being called as Witnesses; and Section 17 of the Act to Stipulate a Time Limit on the Presumption of Validity of Judicially Noticed Customs and to Impose a Duty on the Courts to Ensure that Customs that have been Judicially Noticed and not thereafter been Subjected to Proof by Evidence for an Inordinately Long Period of Time are Reviewed by the Courts to Ascertain that they are still Representative of the Customs as they are Currently Practiced in the Communities with Respect to which the Customs Relate; and for Related Matters (HB. 1149, HB. 1188 and HB. 1193) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Garba Datti Muhammad — Sabon Gari Federal Constituency and 2 others).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Justice.

9. **Need to Widen the Scope of Investigation by the Committee on Constituency Outreach on the Execution of Constituency/Zonal Intervention Projects by the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) from 2015 - 2017 to include other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that it's Resolution No. HR193/2017 mandated the Committee on Constituency Outreach to investigate the alleged poor/non-execution of constituency projects domiciled in the NPHCDA from 2015 - 2017;

Further notes that the Committee is set to commence its assignment;

Cognizant of the fact that there are other Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) culpable of same sharp practices;

Aware that the mandate given to the Committee to investigate the alleged poor/non execution of constituency projects domiciled in the NPHCDA excludes these other MDAs;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee to widen the scope of its investigation to include MDAs identified in the sharp practice and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chukwuka Wilfred Onyema — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

10. **Request for Extension of Referral Time to enable the “Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the over \$17 Billion Dollars Stolen from Undeclared Crude Oil and Liquefied Natural Gas Exports to Global Destinations” Conclude its Assignment (HR. 75/2016)**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that on Thursday, 22 September, 2016, the House constituted an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the over \$17 Billion Dollars stolen from undeclared crude oil and liquefied natural gas exports to global destinations;

Aware of the expansive nature of the assignments, which includes investigation of over twenty (20) International Oil Companies (IOCs), government agencies including NNPC, CBN, FIRS, among others;

Desirous of the need to do a thorough job on the assignment with a view to getting all the material facts surrounding the matter;

Also aware that the *Ad-hoc* Committee has diligently and faithfully conducted its investigations and is now at the point of analysing data and information generated;

Cognizant of the sensitivity and technicality of the task, which involves inputs from professionals in the industry and considering the expected time to complete this aspect of the assignment;

Mindful of the extant provision of Order Seventeen, Rule 3 (1) (g) of the Standing Orders of the House;

Resolves to:

Grant the *Ad-hoc* Committee additional two (2) weeks to enable it complete its work and submit Report for further legislative action (*Hon. Namdas Abdulrazak Sa'ad — Mayo Belwa/Ganye/Jada/Toungo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

11. Call on the Federal Government to Provide Infrastructure at Karu/Mararaba Area of Nasarawa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Karu/Mararaba, a densely populated area in Nasarawa State which borders Abuja, the nation's Capital is home to many people working in the Capital City and also hosts offices and businesses associated with the capital city;

Also notes that Karu/Mararaba can be described as the most neglected of all the areas that border the capital city as the absence of infrastructure such as roads, schools, hospitals and power is monumental;

Aware that despite the efforts of the Government of Nasarawa State, the inadequacy of infrastructure in the area is majorly caused by the huge number of people residing in the area, majority of who work or transact business in the capital city;

Also aware that the poor road network and absence of railway system makes commuting difficult, just as the irregular provision of electricity makes living and transaction of business in the area a nightmare, given that lack of power impacts on the ability of people to spend as studies have shown that countries that have electrification rates of less than 80 percent consistently suffer from reduced Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to provide infrastructure and facilities such as roads, healthcare centres, drainage, electricity etc. in the area to ameliorate the suffering of the residents;
- (ii) urge the Inspector General of Police to provide more police stations and personnel in the area; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Special Duties, and Police Affairs to ensure implementation (*Hon. Abubakar Sarki Dahiru — Lafia/Obi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 53/2018).

Motion referred to the Committees on Special Duties, and Police Affairs, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

12. Need to Investigate the Power Recovery Programme in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the distress and inefficiency that has bedeviled the power sector in Nigeria despite the privatization of the power sector in September 2013;

Concerned that in spite of the huge costs committed to implementing power sector projects throughout the federation, the sector has failed to deliver value as power supply has become erratic while many parts of the nation are without electricity supply;

Cognizant that without government intervention, the cumulative shortfall of about One Trillion Naira will put the sector at risk of insolvency, leading to loss of investors' confidence;

Conscious that the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing in conjunction with the World Bank and other institutions has created a Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) with a view to attaining financial viability for the sector and to rehabilitate the Nigeria electricity supply industry;

Also concerned that although the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) proposes solutions to address financial concerns, the PSRSP does not propose a solution for fixing the critical business, infrastructural and technical flaws resulting in the power sector performance failure and market shortfall being experienced;

Further concerned that the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) does not hold private companies accountable for their proportionate share of accountability;

Aware that the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) requires the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc (NBET) to raise debt for funding the programme being the manager and administrator of the electricity pool in the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI);

Worried that the implementation of the PSRP targeted at merely paying liabilities will create a platform for squandering scarce financial resources without effectively eliminating the root causes of power sector problems in Nigeria.

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the Power Sector Recovery Programme with a view to resolving the incongruities in the Draft Power Sector Recovery Programme and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Abubakar Yunusa Ahmed — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the distress and inefficiency that has bedeviled the power sector in Nigeria despite the privatization of the power sector in September 2013;

Concerned that in spite of the huge costs committed to implementing power sector projects throughout the federation, the sector has failed to deliver value as power supply has become erratic while many parts of the nation are without electricity supply;

Cognizant that without government intervention, the cumulative shortfall of about One Trillion Naira will put the sector at risk of insolvency, leading to loss of investors' confidence;

Conscious that the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing in conjunction with the World Bank and other institutions has created a Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) with a view to attaining financial viability for the sector and to rehabilitate the Nigeria electricity supply industry;

Also concerned that although the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) proposes solutions to address financial concerns, the PSRSP does not propose a solution for fixing the critical business, infrastructural and technical flaws resulting in the power sector performance failure and market shortfall being experienced;

Further concerned that the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) does not hold private companies accountable for their proportionate share of accountability;

Aware that the Power Sector Recovery Programme (PSRP) requires the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc (NBET) to raise debt for funding the programme being the manager and administrator of the electricity pool in the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI);

Worried that the implementation of the PSRP targeted at merely paying liabilities will create a platform for squandering scarce financial resources without effectively eliminating the root causes of power sector problems in Nigeria.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the Power Sector Recovery Programme with a view to resolving the incongruities in the Draft Power Sector Recovery Programme and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 54/2018).

13. **Need to Investigate the Management, Disbursement and the Recent Withdrawal of Scholarship Grant to Selected Lecturers in Nigerian Tertiary Institutions by the Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND)**

Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

14. **Need to Prioritize the Procurement of Cars Manufactured or Assembled in Nigeria by Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the automobile market is a multi-billion Naira venture in Nigeria, given its large population and huge reliance on road transport;

Aware that government at all levels being the highest spender in Nigeria is a major buyer of automobiles in Nigeria;

Worried that over 95% of the automobiles procured by government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are neither manufactured nor assembled in Nigeria;

Recalls that a couple of years ago, automobile manufacturing companies like Volkswagen, Mercedes Benz and Peugeot had functional assembling plants in Nigeria;

Informed that the automobile manufacturing companies outside Nigeria neither pay direct taxes in Nigeria nor their activities beneficial to the economy of Nigeria;

Cognizant that the benefits of having automobile manufacturing companies operate manufacturing or assembling plants within Nigeria include; technology transfer, employment for Nigerians, revenue generation through taxes, reduction in balance of trade deficit, increased Gross Domestic Products (GDP), safety specification, etc.;

Concerned that Nigeria has been relegated to the role of a ready market for automobiles manufactured in more developed economies;

Convinced that the only way Nigeria can break off the shackles of being a perpetual market for other economies, is by pursuing a deliberate policy on automobiles which will restrict patronage of automobiles by Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to automobile brands from companies which have their manufacturing or assembling plants within Nigeria.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to develop a policy and provide a timeline to make it compulsory for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to restrict procurement of cars to those manufactured or assembled in Nigeria; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Industry to ensure compliance (*Hon. Omoregie Ogbeide-Ihama — Oredo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“Mandate the Committee on Industry to investigate why the Automobile Industry in Nigeria collapsed completely” (*Hon. Muhammad Sani Abdu — Alkaleri/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to

The House:

Noted that the automobile market is a multi-billion Naira venture in Nigeria, given its large population and huge reliance on road transport;

Aware that government at all levels being the highest spender in Nigeria is a major buyer of automobiles in Nigeria;

Worried that over 95% of the automobiles procured by government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are neither manufactured nor assembled in Nigeria;

Recalled that a couple of years ago, automobile manufacturing companies like Volkswagen, Mercedes Benz and Peugeot had functional assembling plants in Nigeria;

Informed that the automobile manufacturing companies outside Nigeria neither pay direct taxes in Nigeria nor their activities beneficial to the economy of Nigeria;

Cognizant that the benefits of having automobile manufacturing companies operate manufacturing or assembling plants within Nigeria include; technology transfer, employment for Nigerians, revenue generation through taxes, reduction in balance of trade deficit, increased Gross Domestic Products (GDP), safety specification, etc.;

Concerned that Nigeria has been relegated to the role of a ready market for automobiles manufactured in more developed economies;

Convinced that the only way Nigeria can break off the shackles of being a perpetual market for other economies, is by pursuing a deliberate policy on automobiles which will restrict patronage of automobiles by Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to automobile brands from companies which have their manufacturing or assembling plants within Nigeria.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to develop a policy and provide a timeline to make it compulsory for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to restrict procurement of cars to those manufactured or assembled in Nigeria;

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Industry to investigate why the Automobile Industry in Nigeria collapsed completely; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Industry to ensure compliance (HR. 55/2018).

15. Need to Stem the Tide of Heart Failure related Deaths in Nigeria due to Hypertension
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes with grave concern the rising rate of sudden deaths as a result of cause(s) attributed to Hypertension and related diseases in the Country, and the high proportion of the Nigerian populace afflicted by this disease;

Also notes that one of the primary purpose of Government is to ensure the Security, Health and well-being of its Citizens as provided in section 17 (3) (c) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended);

Informed by the latest medical survey on heart failure and hypertension in Nigeria which revealed that hypertension accounts for 44% of sudden deaths or in lesser cases paralysis of the victims;

Worried that lack of awareness on the silent killer diseases when not diagnosed and or untreated is the major cause of heart attack, stroke and related effects on Nigerians and the attributed increasing death rate;

Aware that the problem which is said to occur in 30-45% of adult population over the age 40 in Nigeria is becoming so worrisome that if the trend is not checked on time it may become endemic. Considering the age bracket of persons at risk which constitutes the active population, this is a potential threat to national development, since the greatest resource of any nation is its human resource;

Also worried that according to the survey, global mortality due to hypertension is highest in Africa where Nigeria is having a sizeable number thereof and that this condition is more prevalent in men who most often are the bread winners of their families. Patients died due to inability to buy their drugs and in other cases lack of awareness.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies to include hypertension and related diseases in the existing programmes like HIV at the primary health care level by making the checking and recording of vital signs of all patients compulsory to curtail these increasing deaths in Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Health and the National Orientation Agency to, as a matter of National public importance, carry out a sensitization campaign on awareness of this silent killer disease;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, Health Institutions, and Information and National Orientation, Ethics and Values to ensure compliance and report back within eight (8) weeks (*Hon. Joseph Eghoghon Edionwele — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the word “hypertension”, *insert* the words “diabetes” (*Hon. Muhammad Umar Jega — Aliero/Gwandu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with grave concern the rising rate of sudden deaths as a result of cause(s) attributed to Hypertension and related diseases in the Country, and the high proportion of the Nigerian populace afflicted by this disease;

Also noted that one of the primary purpose of Government is to ensure the Security, Health and well-being of its Citizens as provided in section 17 (3) (c) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended);

Informed by the latest medical survey on heart failure and hypertension in Nigeria which revealed that, hypertension accounts for 44% of sudden deaths or in lesser cases paralysis of the victims;

Worried that lack of awareness on the silent killer diseases when not diagnosed and or untreated is the major cause of heart attack, stroke and related effects on Nigerians and the attributed increasing death rate;

Aware that the problem which is said to occur in 30-45% of adult population over the age 40 in Nigeria is becoming so worrisome that if the trend is not checked on time it may become endemic. Considering the age bracket of persons at risk which constitutes the active population, this is a potential threat to national development, since the greatest resource of any nation is its human resource;

Also worried that according to the survey, global mortality due to hypertension is highest in Africa where Nigeria is having a sizeable number thereof and that this condition is more prevalent in men who most often are the bread winners of their families. Patients died due to inability to buy their drugs and in other cases lack of awareness.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies to include hypertension, diabetes, and other related diseases in the existing programmes like HIV at the primary health care level by making the checking and recording of vital signs of all patients compulsory to curtail these increasing deaths in Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Health and the National Orientation Agency to, as a matter of national public importance, carry out a sensitization campaign on awareness of this silent killer disease;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, Health Institutions, and Information and National Orientation, Ethics and Values to ensure compliance and report back within eight (8) weeks (**HR. 56/2018**).

16. Need to Provide Medical and Life Insurance Policy to Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in the North East

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) was formed to assist the Nigerian Armed Forces in the fight against Boko Haram insurgents in the North East;

Also notes that members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) are not professionally trained but have contributed greatly in the fight against insurgency in the North East;

Concerned that the CJTF is not under any government payroll as members of the Armed Forces but rather are volunteers who equally put their lives at risk alongside men of the Nigerian Armed Forces to ensure that Boko Haram insurgents are ousted from the country;

Worried that men of the Civilian Joint Task Force who have lost their lives in the fight to end insurgency are not recognized by the Federal Government and their families are left without any compensation.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to direct the Chief of Defence Staff to take statistics of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in the North East with a view to providing them with medical and life insurance policy; and
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to compensate the families of men of the Civilian Joint Task Force who died in the battle against the insurgents and formally recognize them as true Heroes of Nigeria (*Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) was formed to assist the Nigerian Armed Forces in the fight against Boko Haram insurgents in the North East;

Also noted that members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) are not professionally trained but have contributed greatly in the fight against insurgency in the North East;

Concerned that the CJTF is not under any government payroll as members of the Armed Forces but rather are volunteers who equally put their lives at risk alongside men of the Nigerian Armed Forces to ensure that Boko Haram insurgents are ousted from the country;

Worried that men of the Civilian Joint Task Force who have lost their lives in the fight to end insurgency are not recognized by the Federal Government and their families are left without any compensation.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to direct the Chief of Defence Staff to take statistics of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in the North East with a view to providing them with medical and life insurance policy; and
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to compensate the families of men of Civilian Joint Task Force who died in the battle against the insurgents and formally recognize them as true Heroes of Nigeria (**HR. 57/2018**).

17. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 20 February, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Munguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.00 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 14 February, 2018, page 1,923 (**House in Plenary**), line 4, immediately after the Clauses, *insert* the figures 8, 9, 15, 19, 33, 38, 44, 46, 52, 65, 67, 76, 87, 112, 138, 139, 142, 151, 152 and 156.