



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Tuesday, 27 February, 2018

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1. Prayers
 2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
 3. Oaths
 4. Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
 5. Message from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
 6. Other Announcements (*if any*)
 7. Petitions (*if any*)
 8. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance
 9. Personal Explanation
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BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Commodity Brokers of Nigeria (CICBN); and for Related Matters, 2018 (HB. 417) – *Third Reading*.
2. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Chartered Biochemists and Molecular Biologists charged with the responsibilities to, among other things, determine Standard of Knowledge and Skills to be attained by Persons Seeking to become Registered Biochemists and Molecular Biologists, Register such Persons, Regulate and Control their Practice and Review those Standards from time to time as circumstances may permit; and for Related Matters, 2018 (HB. 1142) – *Third Reading*.
3. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Film Corporation Act, Cap. N109, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Nigerian Film Commission Bill, 2018 to Regulate and Develop the Film Industry in Nigeria; and for Related Matters, 2018 (HB. 584) – *Third Reading*.
4. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Criminal Code Act, Cap. C38, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to criminalize any interference in the Duty and Authority of the Senate or the House of Representatives; and for Related Matters (HB. 1274) (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai*) – *Second Reading*.

5. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Raw Materials Research and Development Council Act, Cap. R3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Reduction in the Membership of the Council, to Provide for the Payment of all Monies Received by the Council into the Federation Account in Accordance with Section 162 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and to Repeal the Raw Materials Research and Development Council Act, Cap. R3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Raw Materials Research and Development Council Bill; and for Related Matters (HBs. 650, 948, 1220 and 1283) (*Leader, Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso, Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung and Hon. Uchechuku G. Nnam-Obi*) – Second Reading.
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MOTIONS

6. **Need to Investigate the Failure to Pay Monies Allocated for Local Contractors in the 2017 Budget:**

Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government has been indebted to the tune of N9.1 Trillion to Local Contractors in the last 3 years as reflected in the Reports of the Central Bank of Nigeria and the Debt Management Office;

Also notes that the inability of the Federal Government to finance the 2017 budget deficit and meet its other obligations made the Ministry of Finance to source for funds from commercial Banks and the Capital Market through “sukuk” e.t.c while the said fund has not been used to pay indigenous contractors;

Further notes that with the country exiting from economic recession which had adversely affected the standard of living of Nigerians, the Federal Government can reflate the economy by paying Local Contractors, thereby creating employment and boosting the purchasing power of Nigerians;

Aware that the sum of N20, 000,000,000.00 (Twenty Billion Naira) was earmarked in the 2017 budget to settle debts owed to local contractors and other liabilities;

Cognizant that some of those contractors may have collected loans from various commercial Banks or other Financial Houses which would be yielding interest on daily basis or may have lost the collateral used to obtain such loans;

Also aware that most of those contractors have dependents, responsibilities and various financial commitments, especially at these trying times when the economy is experiencing difficulties and unemployment is rife;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Finance to look into the indebtedness and source for fund to offset the debt and or in the alternative come up with payment plan;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management to:
 - (a) determine the efforts of the Debt Management Office in relation to Federal Government inability to pay Local Contractors;

- (b) investigate the actual indebtedness of Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Federal Government of Nigeria to Local Contractors in the last three years;

7. **Need to Curb the Activities of Visa Racketeers within the Chinese Embassy in Nigeria: Hon. Prestige Ossy:**

The House:

Recalls that the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the People's Republic of China established formal diplomatic relations on February 10, 1971 and have thereafter, signed a number of bilateral agreements on trade, economic, technical, scientific and technological cooperation, as well as an agreement on investment protection, and since then, bilateral relations between both countries have witnessed a smooth and steady development;

Cognizance of the huge volume of trade between Nigeria and Chinese which attained 10 billion USD mark from January to August 2017 and investment from China which also attained \$2.7 billion USD mark, as recently disclosed by the Consul General of the People's Republic of China to Nigeria, Mr. Chao Xiaoliang;

Informed that this steady and smooth bilateral relationship between both countries is seriously being jeopardized by a certain cabal within the Chinese Embassy in Nigeria as most Nigerian businessmen seeking to travel to China for various business engagements go through harrowing experiences before they can obtain visas to travel to China, as the Embassy, unlike other Embassies, have a different procedure for Visa application for Nigerians;

Also informed that since 2017, for a Nigerian businessman to obtain a Visa from the Chinese Embassy, he has to go through the agents of the cabal operating outside the embassy that collect between \$500 to \$1000 to obtain a spurious "government approved" letter of invitation from a non-descript Chinese organization with no known address;

Further informed that upon approval of the Visa by the Embassy, the extortionist agents of the cabal will make the applicant to part with as much as Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N500,000.00) as Visa fee, which is higher than the approved official fee;

Equally informed worried that the said cabal is very powerful and have so much control over Visa processing that failure to follow their procedure will result to non-issuance of visa no matter how genuine ones' application is or how highly placed one may be;

Concerned that despite the establishment of various Visa application centers in Lagos and Abuja by the Chinese Government, over 5,000 businessmen who have no access to the cabal have had their business transactions truncated and frustrated by the activities of the cabal;

Also concerned that despite official denials by the Chinese Embassy of the existence of the cabal, the faceless racketeering cabal which is targeted at Nigerians is actually being condoned and seemingly abetted by officials of the Chinese Embassy;

Aware that China has adequately benefitted from the balance of trade between both countries, where import from China between 2013 and 2015 was 7.8 times more than Nigeria's export to China and the country is one of the few trading partners that Nigeria still operates a trade deficit given that 22 percent of Nigeria's imports between 2012 and 2015 were from China, while only 1.5 percent of exports went to China;

Believes that the continued existence of the cabal with the concomitant hardship and frustrations being caused by their activities for Nigerians with genuine business engagements in China, not only pose a threat to the smooth bilateral relations between both countries but will also worsen the balance of trade deficit for Nigeria if not checked;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Commerce to investigating the matter in order to curb the activities of Visa racketeers within the Embassy and report back within two (2) weeks for further legislative action.

8. Urgent Need to Provide Relief Materials to Nigerian Refugees from Abadam and Mobbar Local Government Areas of Borno State in Niger Republic:

Hon. Mallam Bukar Gana:

The House:

Notes the need to reflect upon, and more importantly take urgent action on the deplorable conditions of Nigerians from Abadam and Mobbar LGAs of Borno State who have been forced to migrate become refugees in neighboring Niger Republic due to the activities of Boko Haram insurgents;

Aware that it is destabilizing for one to be forced out of one's home community and become totally dependent on others for help and when that help does not come, the level of misery is increased;

Also notes that at present there are over one hundred thousand (100,000) refugees residing in Niger Republic majority of whom are from Abadam, Guzamala, Mobbar and Kukawa areas of Borno State;

Further notes that some time ago, the Prime Minister of Niger Republic visited some of those camps in Garin Dogo, Tumor, siem, Ga'amari and Diffa province during which he made a categorical statement that Niger Republic can no longer cope with the numbers of Nigerians crossing to the country as the humanitarian crisis is beyond their means;

Also aware that the Borno State Government had been making efforts in providing some assistance which have not been enough to cushion the effects of the refugee crisis;

Concerned about the precarious situation of women and children in those camps who are vulnerable to anti-social vices and all manners of sickness and the growing numbers of Nigerian refugees in Niger Republic, if not addressed urgently may result in an outbreak of epidemic and serious humanitarian crisis that may further escalate the already troubling security situation;

Also concerned that lately, the refugees have been facing food, medicals and water challenges due to the suspension of assistance by International Organizations that were hitherto providing such materials;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Borno State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the Presidential Committee on Northeast Initiative (PCNI) to provide relief materials to the refugees;
- (ii) Mandate the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees (IDPs) and Initiatives on North East Zone and, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance.

9. **Need for the River Basin Development Authorities to Focus on their Statutory Mandate to reduce Nigeria's Dependency on Rain-Fed Agriculture:**
Hon. Emmanuel Ukoete.

The House:

Notes that Nigeria has eleven River Basin Development Authorities (RBDA's) which were established in 1976 to harness the country's water resources and optimize Nigeria's agricultural resources for food self-sufficiency;

Also notes that the River Basin Development Authorities are also expected to bridge the gap between the rural and urban centres by taking development to the grass roots and discourage rural – urban migration;

Aware that the River Basin Development Authorities include the Sokoto – Rima Basin, the Hadejia – Jema'are Basin; the Lake Chad Basin, the Upper Benue Basin, the Lower Benue Basin, the Cross River Basin, the Anambra – Imo Basin, the Niger Basin, the Niger Delta Basin, the Benin-Owena Basin and the Osun-Ogun Basin;

Also aware that the River Basin Authorities have over the years, embarked on construction of many Dams which include; Nkari, Qua Falls, Obudu, Bakolori, Ede-Erinle, Zobe, Zauro, Tiga, Oyan, Kiri, Kafin Zaki, Ikere, Goronyo, Challawa, Dadin Kuwa, Asijere and so many others;

Concerned that the eleven River Basin Development Authorities and their numerous Dams have largely failed to lift Nigeria from rain-fed agriculture since the one seasonal farming period cannot satisfy the country's food needs despite its vast arable land;

Also concerned that other mandates of the River Development Basins (RBDA's) that are aimed at stimulating the setting up of large plantations and industrial complexes capable of bringing the private and public sectors into joint business partnerships have been largely unattainable;

Further concerned that the failure of the River Development Basins in carrying out their functions has led the country into spending billions of naira yearly in the importation of tons of fish and other agricultural produce that should readily have been available in Nigeria;

Cognizance of the Federal Government's current drive to diversify the economy through agriculture;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to come up with strategies to resuscitate the River Basin Development Authorities to enable them achieve their statutory mandate of diversifying the economy through agriculture;
- (ii) Mandate the Committee on Water Resources to visit and assess the eleven River Basin Development Authorities, their Dams and Reservoir projects across the country with a view to ascertaining their levels of operations and ensure increased allocations to them in the 2018 budget estimates.

10. **Need to Stop the Continued Casualization of Young Nigerians Participating in the Chevron Nigeria Limited Vocational Training Program:**
Hon. Mayowa Samuel Akinfolarin:

The House:

Notes that the Vocational Training Program (VTP) of Chevron Nigeria Limited is designed to train young Nigerians who are mostly from the Niger Delta and other geo-political zones of the country and later be converted to permanent staff after 18 - 24 months of training;

Also notes that the VTP participants are selected based on merit after being successful in the assessment and interview stages and are trained as Process Operators/Maintenance Technicians for Chevron's Deep-Water (Agbami), Offshore and Onshore facilities;

Aware that the Program has been going on since 2004 and Chevron has converted four sets of VTP Trainees having been converted in January 2014 and the duration of the conversions of those casual staff (VTP Trainees) to permanent staffs ranges between one and half years to two and half years;

Also aware that Batches 5 and 6 of the VTP Trainees who have been working for Chevron Nigeria Limited in the last four to five years without being converted to permanent staff, a situation that Chevron is taking undue advantage of by keeping the participants working under unpalatable conditions;

Concerned that Chevron Nigeria Ltd refused to regularise the status of the VTPs, which has left 101 VTP 5 trainees and the 50 VTP 6 trainees in limbo as they are neither permanent staff nor contract staff, since they do not receive benefits either as permanent staff or contract employees;

Further aware that the action of Chevron Nigeria Ltd contravenes Section 17 (a) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 which guarantees "equal pay for equal work and Section 7 (1) of the Labour Act, 2004 which provides that not later than three months after the beginning of a worker's period of employment with an employer, the employer shall give the worker a written statement specifying the terms and conditions of the employment;

Concerned that Chevron Nigeria Ltd has continued to perpetuate the casualization of young Nigerian workers by increasing the period of the "training contract" in 2015 from the initial 18 – 24 months to six months' period;

Informed of attempts by host Community Leaders to intervene over the years on the corporate slavery of VTP staff but the Chevron Management has refused to co-operate.

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge Chevron Nigeria Limited to regularise the VTP Trainees undergoing training program to permanent staff without further delay;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity and Justice to investigate the matter and also determine whether Chevron Nigeria Limited flouted the Labour Laws through those process and report to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Private Guard Companies Act, Cap.P30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Vest Licensing of Private Guard Companies Expressly in the Hands of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and Review Penalties Upwards; and for Related Matters (HBs. 225 and 348) – *Committee of the Whole: 28/9/2017.*

12. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Rayfield Associates on behalf of Global Spectrum Energy Services Limited:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Rayfield Associates on behalf of Global Spectrum Energy Services Limited against the Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) on the Denial of Contract for Towage Services at the Calabar Port and approve the recommendations therein’ (*Laid: 20/2/2018*);

- (i) Urge the Nigerian Port Authority (NPA) to restore the contract entered into with Global Spectrum Energy Service Limited in respect of contract for Towage Service at Calabar Port, as the Contract in its entirety was valid and evidence of past performers of Global Spectrum Energy Services Limited;
- (ii) Nigerian Port Authority should take immediate steps to provide enable environment to facilitate the commencement of operations at the designated Port-Calabar;
- (iii) *That* Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi or indeed any Transport Minister should not interfere or meddle with valid contracts, contrary to sound legal advice.

13. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Bello Ahmed and two others:

“That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Bello Ahmed and two others against the Nigeria Prisons Service on Appeal for Intervention and Urgent Redress and approve the recommendation therein” (*Laid: 20/2/2018*);

That the petition be discountenance for lack merit.

14. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Vettal Mega Service Limited:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Vettal Mega Service Limited against Opi/Oriental Energy/Shell over an unfair treatment and oppressive conduct meted to them and approve the recommendation therein’ (*Laid: 20/2/2018*);

Urge OPI International Nigeria Limited to pay Vettal Mega Service Limited the sum of \$11, 967, 102 (US Dollars).

15. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Mr. Ebi Tubotu:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr. Ebi Tubotu against the Nigeria Police Force and Airtel Nigeria Limited on Alleged Unwarranted Arrest, Torture, Humiliation and Unlawful Detention and Violation of his Fundamental Human Rights and approve the recommendations therein’ (*Laid: 20/2/2018*);

- (i) *Urge* the Nigeria Police Force to ensure that Officers who took part in this misrepresentation are brought to book to serve as deterrent to others;
- (ii) *that* the Nigeria Police Force be cautioned to always do thorough investigation before apprehending anybody;
- (iii) *that* the Nigeria Police Force should tender an apology in two National Dailies to restore the image of the well-known comedian and his family;
- (iv) *that* since the Committee lack the competence to award damages, the sum of N500, 000, 000 (Five Hundred Million Naira) being damages stated in the Petition cannot be awarded.

16. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Ordinary President (Dr.) Ahmed Isah:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ordinary President (Dr.) Ahmed Isah on behalf of Samuel David and Eight others against the Chairman, Suleja Local Government Council of Niger State on the forceful Demolition of Houses belonging to Original Inhabitants of the Old Army Barracks Suleja, Niger State and approve the recommendation therein’ (Laid: 20/2/2018);

- (i) *Urge* the Chairman, Suleja Local Government Council of Niger State to relocate all the inhabitants (both the Retirees and non-retirees of Nigerian Army);
- (ii) *Urge* the Suleja Government to redress the Violations on Samuel David and Eight others of their Fundamental Human Rights.

17. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Osita Nwankwo:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Osita Nwankwo against the Chief of Army Staff on his wrongful retirement from service and approve the recommendations therein’ (Laid: 20/2/2018);

- (i) *urge* the Nigerian Army to reinstate Osita Nwankwo;
- (ii) *to be* properly placed alongside his counterparts in the Nigerian Army;
- (iii) *that* all his entitlements including salaries or emolument be paid to him.

18. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Petition by Olumuyiwa Ogunlami and Co.:

‘That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Olumuyiwa Ogunlami and Co. on behalf of Delfino Anthonia Mekanda and three other family Members against the Federal Government and the Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos on the Refusal of the Federal Government to pay compensation on their Land acquired for the Establishment of the University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos State, also joined in the petition are the Attorney-General of the Federation, the Surveyor-General of the Federation and the Federal Ministry of Education and approve the recommendations therein’ (Laid: 20/2/2018);

- (i) Urge the University to vacate and desist from encroaching on the Area of Land not acquired vide Government Notice Number 2424 dated 12 December, 1962, published in Federal Gazette Number 105 Volume 49 of 29 December 1962;
- (ii) that the Attorney-General of the Federation and the Federal Ministry of Education should engage a competent Estate Surveyor to compute the value of compensation payable to the Delfino Anthonia Mekanda and three other family Members.

19. **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Petition by D. D. Okoroma and Sons:

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

“That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by D. D. Okoroma and Sons against Total E & P Nigeria Limited over non-compliance with compensating Odiemenyi Community in Ahoada East Local Government Area of Rivers State for oil spill which occurred on 15 June, 2006 from its pipeline and approve the recommendation therein” (*Laid: 27/7/2017*):

Urge the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), Total E&P Nigeria Ltd and D. D. Okoroma and Sons to meet and agree on the compensation to be paid to the petitioner's Community and report back within one month.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rules and Business	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
2.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee on the Utilization of 350 Billion Naira National Resources Funds as a Financial Window for Development of the Solid Minerals Sector and the Need to ascertain Federal Government Investments and Proceed from Solid Minerals and Steel Development.	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 244 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
3.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee on Incessant Killings and Other Security Concerns	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 436 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
4.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee on Non-compliance of the Maritime Academy of Nigeria Act	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 144 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
5.	Public Petitions (<i>Investigative Hearing</i>)	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 429 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
6.	Health Institutions and Service	Tuesday, 27 February, 2018	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 468 New Building (House) Assembly Complex

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| 7. | Public Accounts | Tuesday, 27 February, 2018 | 3.00 p.m. | Committee Room 446
New Building (House)
Assembly Complex |
| 8. | Federal Character (<i>with Upper
Benue River Basin Authority Yola
Adamawa State and Supreme
Court of Nigeria</i>) | Tuesday, 27 February, 2018 | 3.00 p.m. | Committee Room 247
New Building (House)
Assembly Complex |