



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 7 March, 2018

1. The House met at 11.19 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, 6 March, 2018.
The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
3. **Announcements**
Visitors in the Gallery:
Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following visitors in the Gallery:
 - (i) Staff and Students of *Graceland School*, Bwari, Abuja;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of *Joseph Jorin International Schools*, Kubwa, Abuja;
 - (iii) Staff and Students of *Evangel First Global School*, Kubwa, Abuja;
 - (iv) Staff and Students of *Best International School*, New Karu, Nasarawa State; and
 - (v) Staff and Students of *Vinecare Nursery and Primary School*, Gaduwa Estate, Abuja.
4. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Imiringi Otuasega & Elebele Youths Union, on the non-compliance with the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (NOGICD) Act, 2010 by the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), and the Nigerian Local Content Development and Monitoring Board, was presented and laid by Hon. Sodaguwa A. Festus-Omoni (*Lagos Island II Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Anayo Edwin (*Ezza North/Ishielu Federal Constituency*):
 - (a) Boniface IK Ugwu, on the termination of his appointment by the Nigeria Security Printing and Minting Company (NSPMC);

- (b) Center for Economic and Human Rights Advancement (CEHRA), on behalf of Agbolade O. R, on a further appeal for the review of his dismissal from the service by the Nigerian Customs Service;
- (c) Lawpower Chambers, on behalf of Akuku-Toru Cluster Development Board (Akuku-Toru CDB) of Rivers State, on the alleged threat to the peace and progress of their communities by the management of AITEO & P Nigeria Limited and one other;
- (d) United Farmers' Association Kadarko, Keana Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, on the appeal for relocation of their farms in Kadarko, Giza, Obi, Keana, Awe and Doma to another location for peace to rain in the State;
- (e) Adeshina Funmi-Rotimi W. T. Association, on behalf of Nwafor Kingsley and one other, on the alleged alteration of their results by the promoters of "BET9JA" on 2nd December, 2017;
- (f) Onuobodo & Lawkeepers, on behalf of the 128 'Essential Workers' of the defunct Wilbros Nigeria by Scott Gregory - Bright Water Energy Nigeria Limited on the alleged marginalisation and vandalism of their Assets;
- (g) Union Homes Depositors, on the alleged fraudulent Mortgage Housing Scheme by the Management of Union Homes Savings and Loans;
- (h) Solace Chambers, on behalf of Warrant Officer, Dodo Joshua of the Nigerian Army, on the alleged injustice meted to him by GOC Major General Ahanotu;
- (i) Graylaw Solicitors; on behalf of Chief Victor Uwajeh, on the alleged breach of sections 397, 312, 364 and 366 of the Penal Code by Senator Emmanuel Nnamdi Uba;
- (j) Williams Sola Afolabi, on the alleged financial fraud committed by Umar Mohammed Hadejia and 2 others at the Central Pay Office, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, Abuja from 2005 to 2011;
- (k) Karina Tuiyan & Co (Barristers, Solicitors and Notary Public), on behalf of Ibisobebo D. Wokoma and 4 other Kalabari communities of Rivers State, on the alleged diversion of the communities' surveillance contract by the AITEO Group of Companies Part-Harcourt, Rivers State;
- (l) Nnamani D. Ogbonna (Barristers & Solicitor) on behalf of Nkiru Chukwueluba, on the death of 2 persons and 4 other injured persons as a result of fallen Telecommunication Mast of which MTN is the service provider, at Onitsha, Anambra State;
- (n) Grace Nelson, on the supply of faulty medical equipments to Health Centres in Abua-Odua Local Government Area of Rivers State by Tyonex Nigeria Limited and the National Primary Health Care Development Agency;
- (o) Nwachukwu Celestine, on behalf of 650 locked out workers of Nigerdock Company, on the non-implementation by Justice Amina Augie Commission of Enquiry Report and refusal to pay their salaries and remuneration by the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE);
- (p) Akpan Emmanuel, on the refusal by the Acting Director- General of National Pension Commission to pay his retirement benefits;

- (q) Hope Omorogie & Co. (Legal Practitioners & Consultants), on behalf of Ikeani Stella Ifeyinwa, on the alleged deductions from her salaries by First City Monument Bank (FCMB) Plc;
- (r) Gavers C. Ihematulam, on behalf of Master Bakers and Caterers Association of Niger State, on the alleged multiple charges imposed on their clients by the Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) and the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration Control (NAFDAC);
- (s) Eric K. Omare (Legal Practitioners & Consultants), on behalf of Ikpokpo and 4 other communities of Gbaramatu Kingdom in Warri South West Local Government Area, Delta State, on the refusal by the Nigerian Gas Processing and Transportation Company Limited to stop the persistent gas explosion in their communities and refusal to pay compensation;
- (t) Militus M. Dobinang, on behalf of ICT4CHANGE, on the refusal by Ministry of Communication and Huawei Technology Limited, to comply with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Prof. Yemi Osibanjo), on December 10, 2015;
- (u) Tony Okoroji, on behalf of the Copyright Society of Nigeria, on alleged abuse of judicial process by the Federal High Court, Lagos.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

The Tragic and Devastating Thunderstorms that Destroyed Schools, Churches and Other Infrastructures in Uhunowerre Community of Igbo-Eze South Local Government Area of Enugu State:

Hon. Patrick Asadu (*Nsukka/Igboeze South 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.

The Tragic and Devastating Thunderstorms That Destroyed Schools, Churches and Other Infrastructure in Uhunowerre Community of Igbo-Eze South Lga of Enugu State:

The House:

Notes the recurring incidents of both natural and man made disasters bedeviling the World, including our dear country Nigeria, with the attendant sufferings of the victims and in many instances, resulting in avoidable loss of lives and properties;

Disturbed by reports of the devastation wrought by the thunderstorms that hit the rural and agrarian community of Uhunowerre in Igbo- Eze South Local Government of Enugu State on the evening and into the early night of Friday, 23 February, 2018;

Also disturbed by the reports of the extensive havoc wrecked on parts of this very rural community by the thunderstorms that destroyed as many as (5) five of the buildings that make up Community Secondary School, Uhunowerre where two students were crushed to death and many others seriously injured, destroyed 4 buildings of the Mario Institute of Hospitality; a Catholic Vocational Institution whose main hall was completely destroyed, a hapless bricklayer working hard to earn a living crushed to death while many others sustained various degrees of injuries in addition to the destruction of parts of All Saints Anglican Church, Uhunowerre, the Community Primary School 1, Uhunowerre, most of the electricity and water supply and storage installations in this part of the community, etc.

Distressed that the dead, the injured, the displaced students and the institutions have not received the required level of support required in this state of helplessness expected from the relevant interventionist agencies of the Federal government despite repeated appeals;

Also distressed that most of the victims of the affected schools and churches have been rendered homeless, internally displaced and hopelessly exposed to increased risks of further catastrophe from avoidable hazards, since all basic needs of man have been damaged in these areas of the community;

Concerned that while the Igbo Eze South Local Government, the Enugu State Emergency Management Agency SEMA, the Enugu State Governor and indeed all members of the National Assembly representing the area were on ground in the community within 24-hours of this disaster to offer assistance, the Federal Government managed National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA and the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, NCRMI are yet to visit the site or show any significant interest in these tragic events despite all efforts to mobilize support from these key emergency response agencies to the tragedies and internal displacements in Uhunowerre;

Convinced that the level of destruction and havoc of both public and private infrastructure, internal displacement of staff and students without any designated Camp, serious bodily injuries with many lying critically ill in different hospitals and loss of lives can only be adequately addressed by the combined efforts of all levels of Government and Public Spirited individuals;

Also convinced that the state of preparedness of the NEMA, NCRMI and other related agencies to promptly intervene adequately needs to be strengthened, especially as the House is aware of the increasing demands on these agencies nationwide, and closely monitored to ensure their optimum performances in future such incidents;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute's silence in memory of these hapless Nigerians who died in pursuit of knowledge and in efforts to eke out a living;
- (ii) commend the prompt response of both the Igbo-Eze South Local and the Enugu State Government, for intervening within 24 hours of this tragic incident, together with the members of the National Assembly from the area;
- (iii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRMI) and other relevant MDAs to urgently mobilize needed manpower and resources to intervene and ameliorate the suffering of victims of the Uhunowerre Thunderstorms; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency Preparedness, IDPs, Refugees and North East Initiatives, and Legislative Compliance to ensure that these Agencies intervene to assist victims of the Uhunowerre thunderstorm adequately (*Hon. Patrick Asadu — Nsukka/Igboeze South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House;

Noted the recurring incidents of both natural and man made disasters bedeviling the World, including our dear country Nigeria, with the attendant sufferings of the victims and in many instances, resulting in avoidable loss of lives and properties;

Disturbed by reports of the devastation wrought by the thunderstorms that hit the rural and agrarian community of Uhunowerre in Igbo- Eze South Local Government of Enugu State on the evening and into the early night of Friday, 23 February, 2018;

Also disturbed by the reports of the extensive havoc wrecked on parts of this very rural community by the thunderstorms that destroyed as many as (5) five of the buildings that make up Community Secondary School, Uhunowerre where two students were crushed to death and many others seriously injured, destroyed 4 buildings of the Mario Institute of Hospitality; a Catholic Vocational Institution whose main hall was completely destroyed, a hapless bricklayer working hard to earn a living crushed to death while many others sustained various degrees of injuries in addition to the destruction of parts of All Saints Anglican Church, Uhunowerre, the Community Primary School 1, Uhunowerre, most of the electricity and water supply and storage installations in this part of the community, etc.;

Distressed that the dead, the injured, the displaced students and the institutions have not received the required level of support required in this state of helplessness expected from the relevant interventionist agencies of the Federal government despite repeated appeals;

Also distressed that most of the victims of the affected schools and churches have been rendered homeless, internally displaced and hopelessly exposed to increased risks of further catastrophe from avoidable hazards, since all basic needs of man have been damaged in these areas of the community;

Concerned that while the Igbo Eze South Local Government, the Enugu State Emergency Management Agency SEMA, the Enugu State Governor and indeed all members of the National Assembly representing the area were on ground in the community within 24- hours of this disaster to offer assistance, the Federal Government managed National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA and the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, NCRMI are yet to visit the site or show any significant interest in these tragic events despite all efforts to mobilize support from these key emergency response agencies to the tragedies and internal displacements in Uhunowerre;

Convinced that the level of destruction and havoc of both public and private infrastructure, internal displacement of staff and students without any designated Camp, serious bodily injuries with many lying critically ill in different hospitals and loss of lives can only be adequately addressed by the combined efforts of all levels of Government and Public Spirited individuals;

Also convinced that the state of preparedness of the NEMA, NCRMI and other related agencies to promptly intervene adequately needs to be strengthened, especially as the House is aware of the increasing demands on these agencies nationwide, and closely monitored to ensure their optimum performances in future such incidents;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute's silence in memory of these hapless Nigerians who died in pursuit of knowledge and in efforts to eke out a living;
- (ii) commend the prompt response of both the Igbo-Eze South Local and the Enugu State Government, for intervening within 24 hours of this tragic incident, together with the members of the National Assembly from the area;

- (iii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRMI) and other relevant MDAs to urgently mobilize needed manpower and resources to intervene and ameliorate the suffering of victims of the Ugunwoye Thunderstorms; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency Preparedness, IDPs, Refugees and North East Initiatives, and Legislative Compliance to ensure that these Agencies intervene to assist victims of the Ugunwoye thunderstorm adequately (**HR. 85/2018**).

The House observed a minute in silence in honour of the deceased.

6. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Maritime Security Infrastructure Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1358).
- (2) Energy Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1359).
- (3) Institute of Core Development Management and Administration of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1360).
- (4) Federal Polytechnic, Ikoyi, Osun State (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1361).
- (5) Federal University of Agriculture, Araromi-Owu (Establishment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1362).

7. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

Petition by Empowerment for Unemployed Youth Initiative and Nine Other Civil Society Organizations:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do Receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Empowerment for Unemployed Youth Initiative and Nine Other Civil Society Organizations against the Federal Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Defence on the Ceding of Nigeria Coastal Waterways to HLLSI Security Firms and the Technology and Commercialization of the Nigerian Navy to Shorfac Consortium Limited" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) *Committee on Public Petitions:*

Petition by Igwe (Arc) Augustine Azuka Ngoddy Mepkoc:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do Receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Igwe (Arc.) Augustine Azuka Ngoddy Mepkoc against the Nigeria Police Force Command, Awka over the land allocation by Atani Community for Police Station, Atani" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Petition by Ahmed A. Abbas and Twenty-Five Others:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do Receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ahmed A. Abbas and Twenty-Five Others against Staff School, Federal Polytechnic, Mubi, Adamawa State on their unlawful dismissal" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) **Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on the Urgent Need to Address the Subversion of Due Process and Outright Corruption by the Management of Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC) (HR. 264/2015)" (Hon. Akinlaja Iranola Joseph — Ondo East/Ondo East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(v) **Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on the Need for a Clear-Cut Policy Framework on Deregulation of Kerosene to Avert the current challenges faced by the poor masses in the purchase of kerosene (HR. 66/2017)" (Hon. Akinlaja Iranola Joseph — Ondo East/Ondo East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(vi) **Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on the need to arrest the resurgence of kerosene explosions with attendant fatalities (HR. 94/2017)" (Hon. Akinlaja Iranola Joseph — Ondo East/Ondo East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(vii) **Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream):**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) on the need to investigate the disappearance of eleven billion Naira worth of Petroleum Products belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) (HR. 175/2017)" (Hon. Akinlaja Iranola Joseph — Ondo East/Ondo East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Natural Medicine Development Agency with a view to conducting Research in areas of Ethno-Medical and Veterinary Survey so as to develop a Comprehensive Inventory of Medicinal, Aromatic and Pesticide Plants in Animals and Animal Parts, Minerals and other Bio-diversities used in Natural Medicine in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1219) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Regulate Value Added Services in the Telecommunications Industry; and for Related Matters (HB. 1209) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Regulate Value Added Services in the Telecommunications Industry; and for Related Matters (HB. 1209) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Ujam Chukwuemeka — Nkanu East/Nkanu West 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 Telecommunications.

10. **Rescission on the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to establish the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit as the Central Body in Nigeria Responsible for Receiving, Requesting, Analysing and Disseminating Financial Intelligence Reports and Other Information to Law Enforcement, Security and Intelligence Agencies and Other Relevant Authorities and for Related Matters, pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House:**

The House:

Notes that the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit as the Central Body in Nigeria Responsible for Receiving, Requesting, Analysing and Disseminating Financial Intelligence Reports and Other Information to Law Enforcement, Security and Intelligence Agencies and Other Relevant Authorities and for Related Matters was considered and adopted on Tuesday, 6 March, 2018:

Aware that the Committee recommended the deletion of some Clauses of the Report contrary to the provisions of Order Twelve, Rule 11 (c) of the Standing Orders of the House;

Believes that a rescission Order is necessary in order to fully reflect the recommendations of the Conference Committee;

Resolves to:

- (i) *rescind the adoption of the Report of the Conference Committee of Tuesday, 6 March 2018 on the Bill; and*
- (ii) *commit the Report to the Committee of the Whole for reconsideration (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

11. Rescission on the Discharge of Referrals to the Committees on Defence, Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and Special Duties Pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1(6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on 13 and 21 February, 2018 respectively, the Committees on Defence, Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and Special Duties were discharged from the Referral of the undermentioned Bills pursuant to Order Seventeen, Rule 3 (1) (g) of the Standing Orders of the House:

- (i) Defence Industry Corporation of Nigeria Bill, 2016 (HB. 399);
- (ii) Security Services Welfare Infrastructural Development Commission Bill, 2015; (HB. 83);
- (iii) Federal Capital Territory College of Agriculture (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2015; (HB. 309);
- (iv) FCT University of Science and Technology, Abaji (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 145); and
- (v) Public Private Partnership Regulatory Commission Bill, 2016 (HB. 358);

Informed that the Committees have conducted Public Hearings on the Bills, and have written their reports, which are awaiting presentation in line with legislative practice and procedures but had not presented them before they were discharged from the referrals;

Also informed that the Reports of the Committees with the aggregated opinions of the players and stakeholders in the sectors are now ready for presentation;

Resolves to:

- (i) rescind the Resolutions of 13 and 21 February, 2018 respectively which discharged the Committees on Defence, Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and Special Duties of the referral on the Bills;
- (ii) refer the Bills back to the Committees on Defence, Federal Capital Territory (FCT), and Special Duties respectively for further legislative action (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

12. Need to Restore the Oron-Calabar Ferry Services

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes with concern the abandonment of the ferry services plying the Oron-Calabar route in Akwa Ibom State;

Also notes that the ferry route which was a nexus of inter-state commercial and tourist activities has been paralyzed for more than sixteen years with attendant losses in revenues running into millions of Naira;

Aware that the delay and hardship being encountered in travelling from Oron to Calabar by road would have been made less cumbersome if the ferry services were still operational;

Cognizant that with the dwindling fortunes in the oil and gas sector, the revamping of the ferry services will assist immensely in improving the sources of revenues for the country;

Also aware that the traffic caused by heavy vehicular movements along the Calabar-Itu highway would be reduced drastically if the ferry services are restored, thereby saving the Road from further colossal damage;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to investigate the remote causes of abandonment of the ferry services and make recommendations within four (4) weeks on measures to be taken to restore the Oron-Calabar ferry services (*Hon. Nse Bassey Ekpenyong — Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruko Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with concern the abandonment of the ferry services plying the Oron-Calabar route in Akwa Ibom State;

Also noted that the ferry route which was a nexus of inter-state commercial and tourist activities has been paralyzed for more than sixteen years with attendant losses in revenues running into millions of Naira;

Aware that the delay and hardship being encountered in travelling from Oron to Calabar by road would have been made less cumbersome if the ferry services were still operational;

Cognizant that with the dwindling fortunes in the oil and gas sector, the revamping of the ferry services will assist immensely in improving the sources of revenues for the country;

Also aware that the traffic caused by heavy vehicular movements along the Calabar-Itu highway would be reduced drastically if the ferry services are restored, thereby saving the Road from further colossal damage;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to investigate the remote causes of abandonment of the ferry services and make recommendations within four (4) weeks on measures to be taken to restore the Oron-Calabar ferry services (**HR. 86/2018**).

13. Need to Investigate the Recent Mishaps involving Dana Airline

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Dana Air Limited is a fully privately owned carrier which commenced flight operations on 10-November, 2008 and has been a troubled airline with unpredictable history of accidents and mishaps;

Recalls that on 3 June, 2012, after passengers had boarded the aircraft at the Lagos airport, it was allegedly delayed from take-off as aeronautic engineers discovered some faults and changed the hydraulic fluid under the left side under carriage tyre mechanism;

Also recalls that in the same year, Dana Air Flight 0992 crashed into a two-storey building in Iju-Ishaga, a densely populated area of Lagos state, only four nautical miles from the Murtala Muhammed Airport, killing all 153 passengers on board, and some residents of the building;

Also notes that the aircraft, McDonnell Douglas MD 83 was manufactured in 1983 and has had history of mechanical problems with its former owners, US based Alaska Airlines before it was sold to Dana Airline in 2009;

Aware that on 19 February, 2018, Dana Aircraft numbered 9J0363, flying from Abuja to Port Harcourt crash landed at the Port Harcourt International Airport but no casualty was recorded as all passengers on board were evacuated, an incident which occurred due to heavy downpour accompanied with a strong wind and storm in Port Harcourt;

Informed that a few weeks earlier, the same Dana Aircraft had its door opened while landing at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja;

Concerned that the lives and property of passengers may not be safe as a result of the series of mishaps associated with Dana Airline;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Aviation to investigate the circumstances that led to the crash landing and the opening of the aircraft door while it was landing and report back within one (1) week for further legislative action (*Hon. Prestige Ossy — Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (ii) as follows:
“urge the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority to review the age limit of all aircrafts operating in Nigeria and call on the Federal Ministry of Aviation to submit monthly report to the House of Representatives on safety of Nigerian Airlines” (*Hon. Adamu Kamale — Michika/Madagali Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iii) as follows:
“mandate the Committee on Aviation to perform a comprehensive capacity and risk assessments of DANA Airline and determine whether its continued operation as a licensed airline in Nigeria does not constitute critical and potential dangers to Nigerians and report back for further legislative actions” (*Hon. Ben Nwankwo — Orumba North/Orumba South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
“urge the Ministry of Aviation to conduct an integrity test of all the equipments of the airlines operating in Nigeria” (*Hon. Dozie Nwankwo — Anaocha/Njikoka/Dunukofia Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iv) *Leave out* all the Prayers and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:
“Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee, to investigate all the Regulatory Agencies in the Aviation sector, particularly — (i) NIMET, (ii) NCAA, (iii) NAMA, and (iv) FAAN, to determine compliance with Aviation Regulations and Best Practices and to; also determine the state of Airlines worthiness of Aircrafts in Nigeria and report back within 6 weeks” (*Hon. Sergius Ogun — Esan Northeast/Esan Southeast Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Dana Air Limited is a fully privately owned carrier which commenced flight operations on 10 November, 2008 and has been a troubled airline with unpredictable history of accidents and mishaps;

Recalled that on 3 June, 2012, after passengers had boarded the aircraft at the Lagos airport, it was allegedly delayed from take-off as aeronautic engineers discovered some faults and changed the hydraulic fluid under the left side under carriage tyre mechanism;

Also recalled that in the same year, Dana Air Flight 0992 crashed into a two-storey building in Iju-Ishaga, a densely populated area of Lagos state, only four nautical miles from the Murtala Muhammed Airport, killing all 153 passengers on board, and some residents of the building;

Also noted that the aircraft, McDonnell Douglas MD 83 was manufactured in 1983 and has had history of mechanical problems with its former owners, US based Alaska Airlines before it was sold to Dana Airline in 2009;

Aware that on 19 February, 2018, Dana Aircraft numbered 9J0363, flying from Abuja to Port Harcourt crash landed at the Port Harcourt International Airport but no casualty was recorded as all passengers on board were evacuated, an incident which occurred due to heavy downpour accompanied with a strong wind and storm in Port Harcourt;

Informed that a few weeks earlier, the same Dana Aircraft had its door opened while landing at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja;

Concerned that the lives and property of passengers may not be safe as a result of the series of mishaps associated with Dana Airline;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee, to investigate all the Regulatory Agencies in the Aviation sector, particularly — (i) NIMET, (ii) NCAA, (iii) NAMA, and (iv) FAAN, to determine compliance with Aviation Regulations and Best Practices and to; also determine the state of Airlines worthiness of Aircrafts in Nigeria and report back within 6 weeks. (HR. 87/2018).

14. Need to Address the Infrastructure and Other Challenges along the Abuja-Kaduna Rail Line
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on 27 July, 2016 the Federal Government commissioned the Abuja-Kaduna railway line to boost rail transportation and commercial activities between the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and Kaduna State and by extension the North West Geopolitical Zone of the Country;

Also notes that the train undertakes four (4) trips daily from Abuja to Kaduna except on Sundays when it leaves Abuja by 12.30 p.m. to Kaduna and then departs from Kaduna at 4.00 p.m. and arrives Abuja at 6.20 p.m.;

Aware that the train has a 360 passenger capacity and is fully air-conditioned with First and Second class coaches that have male and female rest rooms;

Also aware that the First Class Passengers pay ₦1,500 while the Second Class passengers pay ₦1,050 only, however the Air conditioning system in the Second class compartment does not function due to the adulterated diesel allegedly supplied by Contractors who are alleged to be cronies of the Management of the Nigeria Railway Corporation;

Further aware that the train has 9 stop over stations between Idu in FCT and Rigasa in Kaduna State but only three stations in Idu and Kubwa have security lights and the failure of the Corporation to maintain security lights in the other 6 Stations is capable of endangering the lives of the passengers who will be disembarking at those stations at night;

Informed that each of the sub-stations has only four (4) policemen on duty and who do not carry fire arms at the moment, while the staff are alleged to be in the habit of ticket racketeering at the stations;

Concerned that mobile telecommunication service is extremely poor along the rail route from Abuja-Kaduna, thus passengers can hardly make telephone calls or access internet facilities, thus in the event of breakdown on the way, urgent calls for help may only come through the use of the Trains communication facility;

Also concerned that the train is being maintained by a Chinese Engineering Firm that has allegedly deployed only two engineers for the purpose and there is no effort to train Nigerian engineers to learn to maintain the train and the two Chinese engineers are living at huge costs to the Federal Government without any plan for transfer of technology;

Also informed that the Corporation generates at least ₦1,000,000 per day on ticket sales only and operates throughout the week, yet its lower cadre staff are grossly under paid and have extremely poor welfare packages;

Further concerned that from Idu in Abuja to Rigasa in Kaduna, a distance of 187 km, the Train takes 2 hours, 20 minutes to cover while in other African countries that are less endowed like Ethiopia and Morocco, their Trains cover 320 KM per hour which is far more efficient and faster than what obtains in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Inspector General of Police to deploy armed and adequate number of policemen to provide security at each of the 9 Stations between Abuja and Kaduna State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to interface with the Nigeria Railway Corporation with a view to addressing the challenges and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim — Fufore/Song Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 88/2018).

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

15. Need to Equip and make the Federal Fire Service more Efficient

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. Need for the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to Commence Work on the Proposed Skills Acquisition Centre in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency of Lagos State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **Need to Upgrade the Teaching Hospitals and the National Hospital, Abuja to International Standard:**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that available statistics show that Nigerians spend over \$1billion (₦360 billion) yearly on medical treatment abroad, with the most popular destinations being India, UK, Germany, United States, Israel and some other Countries in the Middle East;

Also notes that despite Nigeria being a major signatory to the Abuja Declaration of Heads of Governments which resolved to adopt a minimum of 15% as national health budgets for all members in Africa, the Country has never exceeded 6% since that laudable step was taken in 2001;

Aware that in 2017, less than 5% (₦303 billion) of the budget was allocated for health care despite serious negative health indices, including the dishonor of being a major exporter of the oral polio virus to other nations;

Also aware that the 1% consolidated funds which the National Health Act, 2014 stipulated should be for health, especially for universal health coverage with health insurance and primary healthcare, has never been implemented since the Act was enacted in 2014;

Further aware that several studies have shown that if the twenty Teaching Hospitals spread across the six geopolitical zones of the Country are refurbished and made to function optimally, Nigerians will not need to travel abroad for medical treatment and it will also prevent brain drain in the health sector;

Concerned that the National Hospital Abuja, that was built to offer world class health services is perhaps the most obvious demonstration of this problem, as it has become a shadow of its former self, beset by glaring case of insufficient equipment, including a non-functioning MRI and linear accelerator machines;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to:
 - (a) upgrade at least one Teaching Hospital in each of the geo-political zone and the National Hospital Abuja, to international standard to curb the incessant rate of medical tourism abroad
 - (b) set in motion necessary machineries that would ensure an upward review of the Budgetary allocation for the health sector to meet the minimum 15% recommended by African Heads of States in Abuja, known as the Abuja Declaration 2001, and enhances the full implementation of the budget in the health sector so as to elevate the quality of medical services available in the local health institutions (*Hon. Segun Alexander Adekola — Ekiti Southwest/Ikere/Ise/Orun Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (ii) as follows:

“urge the Federal Ministry of Health, to develop a timed and comprehensive program to upgrade the tertiary healthcare system, taking into account all Teaching Hospitals, Federal Medical Centres and General Hospitals across the six geographical zones, and enforce the 1% consolidated funds as contained in the National Health Act, 2014” (*Hon. Olufunke Adedoyin — Ekiti/Isin/Irepodun/Oke-Ero Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that available statistics show that Nigerians spend over \$1billion (₦360 billion) yearly on medical treatment abroad, with the most popular destinations being India, UK, Germany, United States, Israel and some other Countries in the Middle East;

Also noted that despite Nigeria being a major signatory to the Abuja Declaration of Heads of Governments which resolved to adopt a minimum of 15% as national health budgets for all members in Africa, the Country has never exceeded 6% since that laudable step was taken in 2001;

Aware that in 2017, less than 5% (₦303 billion) of the budget was allocated for health care despite serious negative health indices, including the dishonor of being a major exporter of the oral polio virus to other nations;

Also aware that the 1% consolidated funds which the National Health Act, 2014 stipulated should be for health, especially for universal health coverage with health insurance and primary healthcare, has never been implemented since the Act was enacted in 2014;

Further aware that several studies have shown that if the twenty Teaching Hospitals spread across the six geopolitical zones of the Country are refurbished and made to function optimally, Nigerians will not need to travel abroad for medical treatment and it will also prevent brain drain in the health sector;

Concerned that the National Hospital Abuja, that was built to offer world class health services is perhaps the most obvious demonstration of this problem, as it has become a shadow of its former self, beset by glaring case of insufficient equipment, including a non-functioning MRI and linear accelerator machines;

Resolved to:

(i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to:

- (a) upgrade at least one Teaching Hospital in each of the geo-political zone and the National Hospital Abuja, to international standard to curb the incessant rate of medical tourism abroad,
- (b) set in motion necessary machineries that would ensure an upward review of the Budgetary allocation for the health sector to meet the minimum 15% recommended by African Heads of States in Abuja, known as the Abuja Declaration 2001, and enhances the full implementation of the budget in the health sector so as to elevate the quality of medical services available in the local health institutions; and

(ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Health, to develop a timed and comprehensive program to upgrade the tertiary healthcare system, taking into account all Teaching Hospitals, Federal Medical Centres and General Hospitals across the six geographical zones, and enforce the 1% consolidated funds as contained in the National Health Act, 2014 (**HR. 89/2018**).

18. Consideration of Reports

- (i) *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 (HB. 225 and HB. 348) (Committee of the Whole):*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

- (ii) ***A Bill for an Act to Amend the Lagos Port Operations (Special Provisions) Act, Cap. L3, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Fines Upwards and for Related Matters (IIB. 269) (Committee of the Whole):***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

- (iii) ***A Bill for an Act to Amend the Architects (Registration, etc.) Act, Cap. A19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to enhance the Penalties and to Make Appeals from the Disciplinary Committee Lie to the High Court; and for Related Matters (IIB. 254) (Committee of the Whole):***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

- (iv) ***Nigeria-Saudi Arabia Parliamentary Friendship and Hajj Affairs:***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Nigeria-Saudi Arabia Parliamentary Friendship and Hajj Affairs on the Highlights of the 2017 Hajj and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

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):

"Commend the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) for the successful 2017 Hajj exercise and pray that the 2018 Hajj exercise will be better" (Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That NAHCON should find ways of reducing Hajj fares" (Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That even though the National Medical Team policy adopted by the Commission has improved significantly, the arrangement should be elaborated further to make the medical facility accessible with ease and close to pilgrims accommodation" (Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"That States should be encouraged to move the accommodation of their pilgrims very close to Haram in Makkah (not beyond bridges of Kubri Mansur and Kubri Massafala) and such states could come together within the vicinity of Haram for easy management" (Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (v):

"That the Commission made commendable effort to curtail the activities of drug peddling during the 2017 Hajj and should sustain the feat by more enlightenment of pilgrims" (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In line 1, immediately after the word "drug", *leave out* all other words and *insert* as follows:
"peddlers and other prohibited items during the 2017 Hajj and should sustain the feat by more enlightenment of pilgrims" (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that Recommendation (v) as amended, stand part of the Report — Agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):

"That NAHCON should ensure early airlift of pilgrims back home" (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):

"That even though the National Medical Team policy adopted by the Commission has improved significantly, the arrangement should be elaborated further to make the medical facility accessible with ease and close to pilgrims accommodation" (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Salame — Illela/Gwadabawa 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 Report of the Nigeria-Saudi Arabia Parliamentary Friendship and Hajj Affairs on the Highlights of the 2017 Hajj and approved Recommendations (i) - (iv), approved Recommendation (v) as amended, approved Recommendations (vi) and (vii) of the Report.

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

19. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 8 March, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.07 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker