



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 29 January, 2013

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1. The House met at 11.27 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, 23 January, 2013.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.
 3. **Announcement:**
 - (i) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker announced with regret the death of a former Member, Hon. Aniedi Ikpong King (*Etinan Federal Constituency, 2007 - 2011*), who passed on Wednesday, 23 January, 2013.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.
 - (ii) **Constitution Review:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from the Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on Constitution Review, that the Public Presentation of the collated results of the Federal Constituencies Peoples' Public Session, on the Review of the Constitution, held on November 10, 2012, would hold on Thursday, 31 January, 2013 in Conference Room 231 at 10.00 a.m.
 - (iii) **Constituency Outreach:**
Mr Speaker also read a communication from the Chairman of the Committee on Constituency Outreach, reminding Members who were yet to submit their forms for the MDGs Projects to do so, not later than today, 29 January, 2013, in the Committee Secretariat (Room HB. 48, Basement, White House) as the deadline given by the Agency handling the Projects had elapsed.
 4. **Petitions:**
The following petitions were presented and laid by:
 - (i) Hon. Umar Abubakar Sade (*Darazo/Ganjuwa Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Shehu Fate Umar, praying the House to redress the wrongful termination of his appointment by the Nigerian Mining Corporation in 1991;
 - (ii) Hon. Raphael Igbokwe (*Ahiazu/Mbaise/Ezinihitte Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Callistus Nwaogbe, seeking the intervention of the House in his wrongful dismissal from the Nigeria Police, with a view to reinstating him;

- (iii) Hon. Abdulrahman Terab (*Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency*) for Bashir Bako, on behalf of Green Forest Construction Company, urging the House to prevail on the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to reconsider the termination of the contract awarded to his company;
- (iv) Hon Fort Ifeanyi Dike (*Ihiala Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Adiwe Augustine, praying the House to prevail on the Inspector-General of Police to reinstate him to the service of the Nigeria Police, and grant other reliefs sought;
- (v) Hon. Ibrahim Olaifa (*Oluyole Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Solomon Ojo, praying the House to intervene in his unlawful dismissal by the Nigeria Police, with a view to ensuring that justice is done.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Matters of Urgent Public Importance:

- (i) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen (*Ijumu/Kabba-Bunu Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the recent sale of Oil Mining Lease (OML) 30 to Heritage Oil and its security and economic implications for Nigeria. He prayed the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable the House debate the matter immediately.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith, put and agreed to.

Sale of Oil Mining Lease 30 to Heritage Oil:

The House:

Aware that OML 30 is one of the country's largest gas fields with its strategic importance to the nation's infrastructural programme;

Notes that sometime in November, 2012, OML 30 located in the western Niger Delta area was sold to Heritage Oil; a company managed by a British National;

Observes that the sale of OML 30 did not factor in the right of Nigerians to know how their common wealth is managed;

Concerned that OML 30 was sold to Heritage Oil, a company, whose Chief Executive's antecedent is allegedly unsavory;

Disturbed that past activities of the British-Boss owner of Heritage Oil led to prolonged militia operations and political instability in Angola and Equatorial Guinea;

Worried that Nigeria's involvement with a company owned by an individual whose shadowy business ethics is recognized all over the world, will raise doubts about the country's quest for growth and development;

Further worried that when Heritage Oil commence operations, given the alleged mercenary credential of its Chief Executive, this may re-ignite security threats in the Niger Delta;

Alarmed that this will have adverse effect on Nigeria's revenue, economy, infrastructural and technological development.

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to carry-out a comprehensive investigation on the sale of OML 30 and report back to the House within three (3) weeks (*Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen — Ijumu/Kabba-Bunu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Aware that OML 30 is one of the country's largest gas fields with its strategic importance to the nation's infrastructural programme;

Noted that sometime in November, 2012, OML 30 located in the western Niger Delta area was sold to Heritage Oil; a company managed by a British National;

Observed that the sale of OML 30 did not factor in the right of Nigerians to know how their common wealth is managed;

Concerned that OML 30 was sold to Heritage Oil, a company, whose Chief Executive's antecedent is allegedly unsavory;

Disturbed that past activities of the British-Boss owner of Heritage Oil led to prolonged militia operations and political instability in Angola and Equatorial Guinea;

Worried that Nigeria's involvement with a company owned by an individual whose shadowy business ethics is recognized all over the world, will raise doubts about the country's quest for growth and development;

Further worried that when Heritage Oil commence operations, given the alleged mercenary credential of its Chief Executive, this may re-ignite security threats in the Niger Delta;

Alarmed that this will have adverse effect on Nigeria's revenue, economy, infrastructural and technological development.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to carry-out a comprehensive investigation on the sale of OML 30 and report back to the House within three (3) weeks (**HR. 19/2013**).

- (ii) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Eniolorunda Omosule (*Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the recent heavy rain storms in Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State. He noted that the storms devastated the residents and wreaked great havoc on the environment. He therefore prayed the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable the House debate the matter immediately.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith, put and agreed to.

Heavy storms in Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State:

The House:

Notes with serious concern the recent heavy downpour and strong winds within Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State and the destruction left in its trails;

Further notes that the destruction that followed was unprecedented in the history of the ancient town and its environs;

Aware that several people have been rendered homeless as a result of the storm;

Disturbed that failure or delay to intervene and ameliorate the condition of the suffering victims will further dampen their hope and aspiration;

Cognizant of the fact that matters of this magnitude is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

Resolves to:

Call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide relief materials to the affected families (*Hon. Eniolorunda Omosule — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with serious concern the recent heavy downpour and strong winds within Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State and the destruction left in its trails;

Further noted that the destruction that followed was unprecedented in the history of the ancient town and its environs;

Aware that several people have been rendered homeless as a result of the storm;

Disturbed that failure or delay to intervene and ameliorate the condition of the suffering victims will further dampen their hope and aspiration;

Cognizant of the fact that matters of this magnitude is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

Resolved to:

Call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide relief materials to the affected families (**HR. 20/2013**).

- (iii) Similarly citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Umar Bature (*Sokoto North/Sokoto South Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the recent allegation by a former Minister of Education that the sum of \$45 billion in the nation's foreign Reserve account and another \$22 billion in the excess crude account were grossly mismanaged by the governments since 2007. He further noted that the reaction of the Executive Branch on this issue appeared to be diversionary, and thus urged the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Mater to Stand-over till the next Legislative Day.

- (iv) Further Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun (*Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the need to check the activities of agents of the Federal Capital Territory Authority (FCTA) on the enforcement of Motor Parking Regulations in Abuja. He viewed the situation as worrisome and called on the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance, put and agreed to.

Mater to Stand-over till the next Legislative Day.

6. Presentation of Reports:

(i) *Committee on Health:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Enugu and to Provide for Courses leading to the award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy, Other Related Courses and for Other related Matters (HB. 251)" (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Health:

Motion made and Question proposed, " That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Health Insurance Scheme Act, No. 35 of 1999 and Re-Enact the National Health Insurance Commission Bill (HB. 204)" (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

**7. Re-Consideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly:
National Assembly Service Commission Act, 2004 (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2013:
*Motion made and Question proposed:***

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence were made or negatived, or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence were made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills upon being re-gazetted or clean copy circulated be re-considered in the Committee of the whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Further notes that a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-Enact the National Assembly Service Commission Act, 2004 was passed by the 6th National Assembly but was not assented to by Mr President;

Aware that the Bill has been re-gazetted as HB. 425 and read the first time on 16 January, 2013;

Cognizant of the need for urgent passage of the Bill to strengthen the National Assembly Service and by extension deepen democracy in Nigeria.

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for re-consideration (*Hon. Abert T. Sam-Tsokwa — Dunga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency and 17 Others*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill committed to the Committee of the Whole pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94.

8. Exclusion of the Ex-Militants in Akwa Ibom State from the Amnesty Programme of the Federal Government:

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

9. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and question proposed, "That a Bill for Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Abolish the State Independent Electoral Commissions to Ensure Free and Fair Conduct of all Elections to Local Government Councils in the Federation and for Matters Related Thereto (HB. 387) and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as Amended) to Abolish State Independent Electoral Commission and to Provide for Matters Related Thereto (HB. 426) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Albert T. Sam-Tsokwa — Dunga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bills consolidated.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. F7 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Thereto (HB. 404) and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission Act to Enable Women lay Claim to Their State of Origin or Marriage and Provide for Matters Related Thereto (HB. 424) — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. F7 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Thereto (HB. 404) and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Character Commission Act to Enable Women lay Claim to Their State of Origin or Marriage and Provide for Matters Related Thereto (HB. 424) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Bassey Ewa Eko — Ogoja/Yala Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Debate adjourned.

Ordered: That the Sponsor of the Bill should liaise with the Chairmen, Committees on Rules and Business, Judiciary, and Justice to determine the constitutionality or otherwise of the provisions of the Bill and report back to the House the next Legislative Day.

11. A Bill for an Act to make Exclusive Breastfeeding Compulsory to Employees in the Public and Private Sectors for the Improvement of the Health of New Born Babies in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 313) — *Second Reading:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to make Exclusive Breastfeeding Compulsory to Employees in the Public and Private Sectors for the Improvement of the Health of New Born Babies in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 313) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Jumoke Okoya-Thomas — Lagos Island I Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be read a Second time, put and negatived.

12. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Lottery Act 2005 to further Empower the National Lottery Regulatory Commission of Nigeria to carry-out its Regulatory Functions, to bring the Lottery Business in Nigeria in line with best Practices and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 161) — *Second Reading:*

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

13. **Adjournment:**

That the House do now adjourn till Wednesday, 30 January, 2013 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Leo Ogor — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.14 p.m.

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker