FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 66

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 28 February, 2013

1. The House met at 11.36 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, 27 February, 2013.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Message:**
Mr Speaker read the following Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

February 20, 2013

Right Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, CFR
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Your Excellency,

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (PROHIBITION), ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION BILL, 2013

I hereby introduce for the kind consideration and enactment into law by the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, a Bill on Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition), Enforcement and Administration Bill, 2013.

While I hope that the Bill will receive the usual prompt attention of the Honourable Members of the House, please accept, Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)
GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN

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4. **Announcement:**
Visitors in the Gallery:
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

(*a*) Staff and Students of Mosdon Model Schools, Aso Maraba, Nasarawa State;

(*b*) Staff and Students of Rehabiah International School, Nyanya, Abuja.

5. **Petitions:**
The following petitions were presented and laid by:

(*i*) Hon. Solomon Adeola (*Alimosho Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Federal Housing Authority Estate, Abesan II, Ijaiye Ojokoro Lagos, praying the House to intervene in the illegal occupation and grant of use of right of way and garage and construction of toilets to the National Road Transport Workers by the Ministry of Works, and to ensure that justice is done;

(*ii*) Hon. Ogbonna Nwuke (*Etche/Omuma Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Umuechem Central Union, Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State, seeking the intervention of the House in the destruction of their community, homes and livestock by Shell Petroleum Development Corporation and its proxies, with a view to ensuring payment of compensation;

(*iii*) Hon. Shuaibu Galadima Umar (*Yamaltu/Debba Federal Constituency*) on behalf of former staff of Mainstream Bank, praying the House to rescue them from the oppression and tyranny of the Bank.

(*iv*) Hon. Leo Ogor (*Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Iduemie Ochuko, praying the House to investigate the wrongful termination of appointment and violation of his fundamental rights to fair hearing, with a view to ensuring justice;

(*v*) Hon. Ibrahim Ebbo (*Agaie/Lapai Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Abu Imam, praying the House to prevail on the management of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, to reconsider a case of examination malpractice leveled against him by the University.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

6. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance:**
(*a*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Robinson Edet Uwak (*Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruko Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to recent reports of illegal importation of small arms from Iran into the country, and stressed the threat posed by such importation, especially in view of the current security situation in the country. He therefore 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 negatived.

(*b*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Aminu Suleiman (*Fage Federal Constituency*) informed the House of the death of Dr Mudi Speaking, a foremost Nigerian nationalist who died on Wednesday, 27 February, 2013. He noted that the Late Dr Mudi Speaking was known for his role in the struggle for Nigeria's Independence, and was a voice for the voiceless against oppression in the country. He stressed that the late Nationalist's major concern was the unity of the nation, and therefore urged the House to consider his passage as a matter of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable it 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.*

The need to immortalize a foremost Nationalist, Dr Mudi Speaking:

The House:

Notes with a heavy heart the painful demise of a foremost nationalist who along with other nationalist fought for the independence of the country;

Further notes the contributions of **Dr Mudi Speaking** towards national unity particularly during and after the civil war;

Remembers and appreciates his efforts towards the emancipation of the downtrodden leading to the abolition of the local, obnoxious taxes referred to as "JANGALI" in Fulfulde.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Observe a minute of prayer session for the repose of his soul;

(*ii*) commiserate with his immediate family, people and Government of Kano State;

(*iii*) request for some form of Federal assistance to help the grieving family as the late "Mudi Speaking" "lived and died for the common man/woman leaving nothing behind for his family;

(*iv*) urge the Federal Government to immortalise him by re-naming the popular Katsina Road which is a Federal Road to **"Dr Mudi Speaking"** Road (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fage Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with heavy a heart the painful demise of a foremost nationalist who along with other nationalist fought for the independence of the country;

Further noted the contributions of **Dr Mudi Speaking** towards national unity particularly during and after the civil war;

Remembered and appreciated his efforts towards the emancipation of the downtrodden leading to the abolition of the local, obnoxious taxes referred to as "JANGALI" in Fulfulde.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Observe a minute of prayer session for the repose of his soul;

(*ii*) commiserate with his immediate family, people and Government of Kano State;

(*iii*) request for some form of Federal assistance to help the grieving family as the late "Mudi Speaking" "lived and died for the common man/woman leaving nothing behind for his family;

(*iv*) urge the Federal Government to immortalise him by re-naming the popular Katsina Road which is a Federal Road to **"Dr Mudi Speaking"** Road (**HR. 46/2013**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased and prayers offered for the repose of his soul.

(*c*) Further citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Toby Okechukwu (*Aninri/Agwu/Oji River Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the lingering erosion in Umuigwe Agbada Ala community in Oji River local Government Area of Enugu State. He stated that the menace has cut off the communities from the rest of the State, and has apparently defied all remedies. He therefore urged 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.*

Umuigwe Agbada Ala Erosion disaster in Oji River Local Government Area, Enugu State:

The House:

Notes that the Umuigwe Agbada Ala community in Oji River Local Government Area, Enugu State has been bedeviled by erosion which has existed for several decades;

Further notes that the community now hosts a major erosion path through which water from the rains of the previous years passed, causing serious harm to the community and its environs;

Aware that the effect of the erosion has made the road to this community and its environs impassable as they have been cut off from the wider Oji River Local Government Area;

Observes that previous attempts made to curtail the effects of this erosion, has neither abated nor reduced the devastation;

Worried that properties and belongings of several families in this community have been carried away in the past, many buildings are currently under serious threat of collapse and families are being rendered homeless and helpless;

Further worried that this occurrence now places the economic well being of over twenty (20) communities and beyond in serious jeopardy as they cannot transport their perishable agricultural produce to nearby markets;

Also worried that if urgent steps are not taken, this erosion disaster which now poses great threat to the people of the Area and Nigerians in general, could cause more harm or even wash away the entire Umuigwe Agbada Ala community at the onset of the next rainy season.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Environment through the Ecological Fund Office to take immediate remedial measures to address the situation before the commencement of the 2013 rainy season.

(*ii*) further mandate the Committee on Environment to ensure that the Federal Ministry of Environment takes appropriate measures toward a permanent solution to this existential threat to the people of Agbada Ala in Oji River Local Government Area (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Agwu/Oji River Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Umuigwe Agbada Ala community in Oji River Local Government Area, Enugu State has been bedeviled by erosion which has existed for several decades;

Further noted that the community now hosts a major erosion path through which water from the rains of the previous years passed, causing serious harm to the community and its environs;

Aware that the effect of the erosion has made the road to this community and its environs impassable as they have been cut off from the wider Oji River Local Government Area;

Observed that previous attempts made to curtail the effects of this erosion, has neither abated nor reduced the devastation;

Worried that properties and belongings of several families in this community have been carried away in the past, many buildings are currently under serious threat of collapse and families are being rendered homeless and helpless;

Further worried that this occurrence now places the economic well being of over twenty (20) communities and beyond in serious jeopardy as they cannot transport their perishable agricultural produce to nearby markets;

Also worried that if urgent steps are not taken, this erosion disaster which now poses great threat to the people of the Area and Nigerians in general, could cause more harm or even wash away the entire Umuigwe Agbada Ala community at the onset of the next rainy season.

Resolved to:

(i) Mandate the Committee on Environment through the Ecological Fund Office to take immediate remedial measures to address the situation before the commencement of the 2013 rainy season.

(ii) further mandate the Committee on Environment to ensure that the Federal Ministry of Environment takes appropriate measures toward a permanent solution to this existential threat to the people of Agbada Ala in Oji River Local Government Area (**HR. 47/2013**).

(d) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Mudashiru Kamil Akinlabi (*Afijo/Atiba East/Oyo West/Oyo East Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to MT Tuma, a vessel owned by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) which was taken to Brazil in 2007 for dry duck maintenance at the cost of about $70 million tax-payers' money. He noted that 6 years thereafter, the vessel suddenly reappeared in Nigeria and was recently put up for auction. He stressed that the circumstances surrounding the purported auction was uneconomical and suspicious and therefore urged 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.*

The need to investigate the colossal amount spent on the NNPC-PPMC MT Tuma Vessel:

The House:

Notes that MT TUMA a Vessel (Ship), owned by PPMC Ltd — a subsidiary of NNPC was purchased for the purpose of haulage of Petroleum products;

Further notes that MT TUMA left the shore of Nigeria in 2007, for a routine dry-docking exercise of 3months in Brazil without proper scooping of work to be done;

Observes that MT TUMA has done similar trips for only 3 months before that of 2007 and the same ship was abandoned in Brazil for almost 6 years with a resultant resurgence cost of over $5 million;

Aware that MT TUMA found her way into the shore of this country sometimes in May 2012 with the job not done or poorly done despite the fact that NNPC had spent about $60 million arising from demurrage, port charges, fines and other related charges in Brazil;

Conscious of the fact that several contracts were awarded for the maintenance of the said vessel, money paid out to the various companies without any work done;

Disturbed that MT TUMA now lying-idle on the high sea and not in good shape to perform any economical function even after having spent at least $60 million of tax payers' money;

Worried that NNPC management/PPMC is by now considering a total disposal of the ship which will lead to a total loss exceeding $70 million.

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the rationale behind the prolonged stay of the ship in Brazil; the role of the individual and company connected and other activities of NNPC in relation to it and report back to the House within 6 weeks (*Hon. Mudashiru Kamil Akinlabi — Afijo/Atiba East/Oyo West/Oyo East Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that MT TUMA a Vessel (Ship), owned by PPMC Ltd — a subsidiary of NNPC was purchased for the purpose of haulage of Petroleum products;

Further noted that MT TUMA left the shore of Nigeria in 2007, for a routine dry-docking exercise of 3months in Brazil without proper scooping of work to be done;

Observed that MT TUMA has done similar trips for only 3 months before that of 2007 and the same ship was abandoned in Brazil for almost 6 years with a resultant resurgence cost of over $5 million;

Aware that MT TUMA found her way into the shore of this country sometimes in May 2012 with the job not done or poorly done despite the fact that NNPC had spent about $60 million arising from demurrage, port charges, fines and other related charges in Brazil;

Conscious of the fact that several contracts were awarded for the maintenance of the said vessel, money paid out to the various companies without any work done;

Disturbed that MT TUMA now lying-idle on the high sea and not in good shape to perform any economical function even after having spent at least $60 million of tax payers' money;

Worried that NNPC management/PPMC is by now considering a total disposal of the ship which will lead to a total loss exceeding $70 million.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to investigate the rationale behind the prolonged stay of the ship in Brazil; the role of the individual and company connected and other activities of NNPC in relation to it and report back to the House within 6 weeks (**HR. 48/2013**).

(*e*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Sekonte Davis (*Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the environmental devastation in Ogoni land arising from crude oil exploration activities and the resultant spillage in the region. He noted that an environmental clean up had been ordered by relevant authorities and observed that the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) was still in the dark as to the procedures to be adopted by the relevant stakeholders. He therefore urged 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.*

Environmental Devastation in Ogoni land arising from Crude Oil Exploration Activities:

The House:

Notes that the environmental health of any nation cannot be over emphasized;

Further notes that the Report of the United Nations Environmental Programme as it affects the Oil Spill in Ogoni land prescribed a professional and thorough clean-up mechanism for the Ogoni environment;

Aware that the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) is the organ of Government empowered by law to enforce environmental safety regulations in Nigeria;

Worried that there are attempts by various groups to engage in the said clean-up of Ogoni land with out the full involvement of National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA).

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Environment to invite the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) and all other relevant agencies to brief it on the procedures to be adopted in the clean up exercise (*Hon. Sekonte Davis — Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the environmental health of any nation cannot be over emphasized;

Further noted that the Report of the United Nations Environmental Programme as it affects the Oil Spill in Ogoni land prescribed a professional and thorough clean-up mechanism for the Ogoni environment;

Aware that the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) is the organ of Government empowered by law to enforce environmental safety regulations in Nigeria;

Worried that there are attempts by various groups to engage in the said clean-up of Ogoni land with out the full involvement of National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA).

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Environment to invite the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) and all other relevant agencies to brief it on the procedures to be adopted in the clean up exercise (**HR. 49/2013**).

7. **Presentation of Bills:**
The following Bills were presented and read the *First Time*:

(*i*) Federal Capital Territory Social Health Insurance Scheme Bill, 2013 (HB. 439).

(*ii*) Independent National Assembly Budget and Research Office (Establishment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 454).

(*iii*) Customs Excise Tariff, etc. (Consolidation) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 460).

(*iv*) National Post Graduate College of Medical Laboratory Science Bill, 2013 (HB. 463).

(*v*) Coastal Areas Management Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2013 (HB. 420).

(*vi*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2013 (HB. 441).

8. **Presentation of Report:**
***Committees on Petroleum Resource (Upstream) and Navy*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) and Navy on the Unprecedented Upsurge of Illegal Oil Bunkering activities in Nigeria's Coastal Region" (*Hon. Muraina Saubana Ajibola — Ibarapa Central/Ibarapa North Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

9. **Urgent Intervention in the Reconstruction of the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway is a Trunk' A' Federal Road;

Aware that the road serves as a major economic and trade route between Lagos and Ogun State and the entire South-West;

Worried that this very important Federal Road is on the verge of collapse, thereby causing fatal accidents and daily loss of lives and property;

Further worried that the economic and social activities of the people and Communities along this road have continued to suffer due to the bad condition of the road;

Disturbed that armed robbers have continued to cause mayhem daily at the failed portions of the road thereby casing untold hardship to the citizenry;

Conscious that the protection of lives and property is central on the responsibilities of a responsive and people-oriented government.

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Ministry of Works to rehabilitate the road and build pedestrian bridges at strategic locations along the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway (*Hon. Solomon Adeola — Alimosho Federal Constituency and 9 Others*).

Question put and agreed to.

Resolution referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Standing Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) (**HR. 50/2013**).

10. **Urgent Need to Investigate the Status of Seized and Sold Assets by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) was established in 2004 and charged with the responsibility to enforce the provisions of laws and regulations relating to economic and financial crimes;

Further notes that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has within the terms of its mandate at many times confiscated through court orders, assets from accused and convicted persons, including but not limited to prominent Nigerians and corporate organizations;

Mindful that an Assets Forfeiture Unit was set up by the leadership of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in 2008 with the mandate to ensure that all assets forfeited to the Federal Government through the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) were identified and verified;

Aware that between 2003 and 2010, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) had confiscated over 200 mansions through 46 forfeiture Court Orders. These landed properties and business concerns which were estimated to be over Two Trillion Naira included billions of Naira in Bank Accounts, Shares in Blue Chip Companies, exotic vehicles, fuel stations, hotels, warehouses, shopping malls, schools and bakeries, e states, telecommunication companies, radio stations in and outside Nigeria;

Concerned that there have been cases of vandalism, abandonment, and waste of hitherto operating companies prior to forfeiture;

Disturbed that the status of these properties and the lack of clarity on their use while litigation is on, coupled with the reported breach of the seal of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and attempts at unlawful and forceful repossession by those whose properties had been confiscated;

Challenged by the reported rot and dilapidation of over four hundred (400) cars seized from ex-Governors and prominent Nigerians which order was obtained from the court to enable professional managers use same to generate revenue for the Federal Government of Nigeria;

Encouraged by the diligence of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in following due process in obtaining forfeiture order through the courts and the consequential responsibility to prudently and carefully manage these assets to avoid waste for the benefit of restitution for the Federal Republic and its people;

Cognizant of the apparent need for proper management of these assets.

Resolves to:

Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to carry-out an investigation to unravel the status of all seized and sold assets by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) since inception and report to the House within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Agwu/Oji-River Federal Constituency and* 15 *Others*).

Debate:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do dispense with notice on amendments pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 56" (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Prayer, and *insert* instead thereof as follows:
"Mandate the Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes to carry out an investigation to unravel the status of all assets seized and recovered by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) since inception and report back to the House within 4 weeks" (*Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Main Question as amended put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) was established in 2004 and charged with the responsibility to enforce the provisions of laws and regulations relating to economic and financial crimes;

Further noted that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has within the terms of its mandate at many times confiscated through court orders, assets from accused and convicted persons, including but not limited to prominent Nigerians and corporate organizations;

Mindful that an Assets Forfeiture Unit was set up by the leadership of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in 2008 with the mandate to ensure that all assets forfeited to the Federal Government through the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) were identified and verified;

Aware that between 2003 and 2010, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) had confiscated over 200 mansions through 46 forfeiture Court Orders. These landed properties and business concerns which were estimated to be over Two Trillion Naira included billions of Naira in Bank Accounts, Shares in Blue Chip Companies, exotic vehicles, fuel stations, hotels, warehouses, shopping malls, schools and bakeries, estates, telecommunication companies, radio stations in and outside Nigeria;

Concerned that there have been cases of vandalism, abandonment, and waste of hitherto operating companies prior to forfeiture;

Disturbed that the status of these properties and the lack of clarity on their use while litigation is on, coupled with the reported breach of the seal of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and attempts at unlawful and forceful repossession by those whose properties had been confiscated;

Challenged by the reported rot and dilapidation of over four hundred (400) cars seized from ex-Governors and prominent Nigerians which order was obtained from the court to enable professional managers use same to generate revenue for the Federal Government of Nigeria;

Encouraged by the diligence of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in following due process in obtaining forfeiture order through the courts and the consequential responsibility to prudently and carefully manage these assets to avoid waste for the benefit of restitution for the Federal Republic and its people;

Cognizant of the apparent need for proper management of these assets.

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes to carry out an investigation to unravel the status of all assets seized and recovered by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) since inception and report back to the House within 4 weeks (**HR. 51/2013**).

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the New Partnership for Africa's Development Commission (HB. 219) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the New Partnership for Africa's Development Commission (HB. 219) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Directorate of Technical Cooperation in Africa and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 218) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Directorate of Technical Cooperation in Africa and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 218) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal High Court Act, Cap F12, LFN 2004 to increase the number of Judges of the Federal High Court from Seventy (70) to One Hundred (100) and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 333) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal High Court Act, Cap F12, LFN 2004 to increase the number of Judges of the Federal High Court from Seventy (70) to One Hundred (100) and for Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 333) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Streamline the Membership of the Federal Judicial Service Commission and for Related Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 415) — *Second Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Streamline the Membership of the Federal Judicial Service Commission and for Related Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 415) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. El-Sudi Ibrahim Tukur — Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

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

15. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Act to ensure that the approval of the National Assembly is sought before any Loan is Obtained and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 431) — *Second Reading*:**

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

16. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act, Cap. C15 LFN, 2004 so as to make the leave of the Bureau necessary for a Public Officer to maintain or operate a Bank Account outside Nigeria and Other Related Matters (HB. 229) — *Second Reading*:**

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

17. **A Bill for an Act to Promote Voluntary Blood Donation, Providing for an Adequate Supply of Safe Blood, Regulating Blood Banks and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 159) — *Second Reading*:**

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

18. **Consideration of Reports:**

(*i*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Petitions by Michael Obaretin and 19 Others:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Michael Obaretin and 19 others against University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH) for Wrongful Termination of Appointment and approve the Recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider the Report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation*:**
"Upholds the termination of the appointment of the officers, as duly and legitimately made under the law in force at the time material" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and 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 the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Michael Obaretin and 19 others against University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH) for wrongful termination of appointment and approved the Committee's only Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole, put and agreed to.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Petitions by Azuka Oputa and Seven Others:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Azuka Oputa and Seven Other Former Staff of the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) for the immediate Implementation of the Reinstatement Directive issued by the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry (now Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment) and approve the Recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into Committee of the Whole to consider the Report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation*:**
"Urge the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) to immediately reinstate the petitioners as directed by the Ministry of Trade and Investment; and all financial accruals, promotions and other entitlements from August 2007 to date accorded them" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and 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 the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Azuka Oputa and Seven Other Former Staff of the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) for the immediate implementation of the reinstatement directive issued by the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry (now Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment) and approved the single Recommendation.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole, put and agreed to.

19. **Adjournment:**
That the House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 5 *March*, 2013 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Muktar Ahmed — Deputy Whip*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.12 *p.m.*

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker