FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 94

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 23 May, 2013

1. The House met at 11.28 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, 22 May, 2013.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

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

(*a*) Students of the Department of Library and Information Science, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria;

(*b*) Staff and Students of Goshen Academy, Masaka, Nasarawa State;

(*c*) Staff and Students of Government Secondary School, Karshi Abuja.

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

(*i*) Hon. Karim S. Sunday (*Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency*) from Concord Associates, on behalf of Krisco Investment Limited, praying the House to prevail on the Hon. Minister of Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to comply with the court Order in **Suit No. FHC/ABJ/CS/282/2001** and to allow the firm entry into the plot without further let or hindrance;

(*ii*) Hon. Linus Okorie (*Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) from Takuro Amidu and six others on behalf of 3086 Legislative Aides to the Members of the 6th National Assembly, praying the House to intervene in the refusal to pay their outstanding severance benefits by the National Assembly Management, with a view to ensuring payment;

(*b*) on behalf of Mrs Lovina N. Ozoemene, praying the House to investigate the denial of her right of possession of the House at No. 15 Ibrahim Taiwo Road, GRA, Jos, by one Alhaji Idris Adamu, with a view to ensuring justice.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance:**

(*i*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Salisu Ado Daura (*Daura/Mai'Adua/Sandamu Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the simultaneous attacks on the Sabon Gari Police Station, Daura Central Police Station, and four major commercial banks in Daura town, Katsina State by a gang of armed men and women on Thursday, 16 May, 2013 . He stated that during the operation which lasted for about six hours, the gang killed five security officers and looted properties in the area. He further stated that the attackers, who were suspected to be foreigners, operated unchallenged for several hours. He stressed the need for proactive security by the security agencies in the nation to avoid similar incidence in the future. 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 it debate the matter forthwith.

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.*

Brutal and Dangerous Armed Attack on Daura Town:

The House:

Notes that the prevalence of dangerous activities of armed bandits and terrorist groups on security agents and other innocent civilians is growing at an alarming rate leading to loss of lives and destruction of properties;

Also notes that the peace and tranquillity of the ancient town of Daura in Katsina State was shattered on Thursday, May 16, 2013 when unknown gunmen and women (heavily armed) attacked the town. In the process they bombed all the commercial banks and all the Police Stations. They destroyed and looted the banks in an operation that lasted about six (6) hours (10.00 p.m. to 4.00 a.m.). The good and most peaceful people of Daura town were thrown into a state of panic and most people slept in bushes outside their homes thinking that there was a war;

Further notes that from the account of residents of the city, the attackers numbering between 50 to 60 simultaneously attacked, and seriously vandalised Sabon Gari Police Station and Central Police Station, Daura, leaving both stations in a pile of rubble and leading to the death of some security officers;

Worried that the activities of the gang who are largely believed to be foreign mercenaries went unchallenged until the Nigerian Army came all the way from Katsina city about one hour journey to Daura town.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn the attack and direct the relevant security agencies to ensure payment of adequate and prompt compensation to the families of the deceased security personnel;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector-General of Police to make immediate arrangements to restore office accommodation for his men and to establish a counter terrorism unit in Daura Emirate to enable the Police discharge its duties in the area effectively;

(*iii*) further urge the Inspector-General of Police to intensify efforts to apprehend the culprits and bring them to book;

(*iv*) also urge the Military authorities to stop forthwith, the attempt/plans to unlawfully enter the homes of already traumatised innocent people in the area in the guise of looking for the culprits who fled after committing the atrocities;

(*v*) mandate the Committees on Defence, Police Affairs, and Public Safety and National Security to visit Daura town, commiserate with the Government and people of Katsina State and establish precisely what happened and report back to the House within four weeks (*Hon. Salisu Ado Daura — Daura/Mai'Adua/Sandamu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the prevalence of dangerous activities of armed bandits and terrorist groups on security agents and other innocent civilians is growing at an alarming rate leading to loss of lives and destruction of properties;

Also noted that the peace and tranquillity of the ancient town of Daura in Katsina State was shattered on Thursday, May 16, 2013 when unknown gunmen and women (heavily armed) attacked the town. In the process they bombed all the commercial banks and all the Police Stations. They destroyed and looted the banks in an operation that lasted about six (6) hours (10.00 p.m. to 4.00 a.m.). The good and most peaceful people of Daura town were thrown into a state of panic and most people slept in bushes outside their homes thinking that there was a war;

Further noted that from the account of residents of the city, the attackers numbering between 50 to 60 simultaneously attacked, and seriously vandalised Sabon Gari Police Station and Central Police Station, Daura, leaving both stations in a pile of rubble and leading to the death of some security officers;

Worried that the activities of the gang who are largely believed to be foreign mercenaries went unchallenged until the Nigerian Army came all the way from Katsina city about one hour journey to Daura town.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Condemn the attack and direct the relevant security agencies to ensure payment of adequate and prompt compensation to the families of the deceased security personnel;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector-General of Police to make immediate arrangements to restore office accommodation for his men and to establish a counter terrorism unit in Daura Emirate to enable the Police to discharge its duties in the area effectively;

(*iii*) further urge the Inspector-General of Police to intensify efforts to apprehend the culprits and bring them to book;

(*iv*) also urge the Military authorities to stop forthwith, the attempt/plans to unlawfully enter the homes of already traumatised innocent people in the area in the guise of looking for the culprits who fled after committing the atrocities;

(*v*) mandate the Committees on Defence, Police Affairs, and Public Safety and National Security to visit Daura town, commiserate with the Government and people of Katsina State and establish precisely what happened and report back to the House within four weeks (**HR. 112/2013**).

(*ii*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Linus Okorie (*Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*) also called the attention of the House to the arrest of two members of Arik Air cabin crew on Tuesday, 21 May, 2013 at the Heathrow Airport, London, allegedly in connection with drug trafficking. He noted that recurring allegations of drug trafficking against members of cabin crew of airlines and other incidence of security breaches in the nation's airports were detrimental to the nation's image. 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.

6. Personal Explanation:

Rising on Standing Order VIII, Rule 47, Hon. Uzo Azubike (*Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*) conveyed his appreciation to the Hon. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and all Members of the House who attended the occasion of the conferment of the title of "Ijiriji Aba Ngwa" on him by the Aba Ngwa Traditional Rulers Council, Ngwa land, Abia State. He also congratulated the Hon. Speaker and the Deputy Speaker for the conferment of Traditional titles on them by the people of Aba Ngwa community.

7. Presentation of Bills:

The following Bills were presented and read the *First Time*:

(*i*) Nigeria Police Academy (Establishment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 506).

(*ii*) FCT Abuja Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Bill, 2013 (HB. 496).

(*iii*) Federal Road Safety Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 497).

(*iv*) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 445).

(*v*) Private Guard Companies Act (First Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 502).

(*vi*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2013 (HB. 504).

8. Presentation of Reports:

(*i*) *Committees on Justice and Aviation*:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committees on Justice and Aviation on the Urgent Need to Investigate the Justification and Circumstances surrounding the Controversial Grounding of Rivers State Government Bombardier B700 Global Express" (*Hon. Ali Ahmad — Ilorin East/Ilorin South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) *Committee on Custom and Excise*:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Customs and Excise on the Performance of Webb Fontaine (Boot) Contract from January 1, 2006 till date" (*Hon. Chinda Kingsley — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

9. Presentation and Adoption of the Conference Committee Report on the State of Emergency (Certain States of the Federation) Proclamation 2013:
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the State of Emergency (Certain States of the Federation) Proclamation, 2013 was passed by the House on Tuesday, 21 May, 2013 and transmitted to the Senate for concurrence;

The Senate passed the same Proclamation on Tuesday, 21 May, 2013 with some differences;

The two Chambers met in Conference on Wednesday, 22 May, 2013 and adopted a harmonised version of the Proclamation;

A clean copy of the Conference Report is ready for presentation and adoption;

And in view of the importance of this Proclamation to the Public Order, Peace and Security of Nigeria.

Resolves to:

Receive and adopt the Conference Report on State of Emergency (Certain States of the Federation) Proclamation 2013 (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

10. Urgent Need to Investigate the Dubious and Nefarious Activities in Most Medical Laboratories in Nigeria:
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the wealth of any nation has a correlation with the health of the individuals that make up that nation;

Further notes that the medical laboratory constitutes a vital segment of the medical care of the country as the results of tests from medical laboratories to a very great extent; determine the totality of the nation's Health Sector. Section 17 (3) (*d*) of the 1999 constitution provides "*that the state shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons*";

Aware that it is the statutory responsibility of the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria to regulate, inspect and accredit Medical Laboratory practice in Nigeria;

Further aware that the laboratory investigation is the guide for medical personnel to determine the nature of an illness and prescribe the best possible therapy for it, and where such a guide is faulty, the risk of misdiagnosis is high and the wrong treatment may be given to a patient;

Disturbed that a great number of laboratory test results obtained in Nigerian medical laboratories are alarmingly unreliable as reported in the National Daily Trust of the 10th day of May, 2013 which indicated that there are several fake and substandard laboratories all over the country;

Further disturbed that the activities of quacks over the years have resulted in the untimely death of unsuspecting and highly vulnerable innocent Nigerians, and adversely affected the country's Medical Health Sector as well as the reputation of Nigeria as a whole.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Health to investigate the nefarious activities of dubious medical laboratory centres across the country;

(*ii*) urge the Minister of Health to immediately ensure that there is a recertification and assessment of medical laboratories across the country with a view to closing down and prosecuting the operators of all illegal and substandard laboratories (*Hon. Patrick Ikhariale — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in Prayer (*i*) and *insert* instead thereof as follows:
"Mandate the Committee on Health to liaise with the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria to ensure the immediate closure of all illegal or unaccredited laboratories and check quackery in the profession of Medical Laboratory Science in the country" (*Hon. Peter O. Edeh — Ezza North/Ishielu 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 wealth of any nation has a correlation with the health of the individuals that make up that nation;

Further noted that the medical laboratory constitutes a vital segment of the medical care of the country as the results of tests from medical laboratories to a very great extent; determine the totality of the nation's Health Sector. Section 17 (3) (*d*) of the 1999 constitution provides "*that the state shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are adequate medical and health facilities for all persons*";

Aware that it is the statutory responsibility of the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria to regulate, inspect and accredit Medical Laboratory practice in Nigeria;

Further aware that the laboratory investigation is the guide for medical personnel to determine the nature of an illness and prescribe the best possible therapy for it, and where such a guide is faulty, the risk of misdiagnosis is high and the wrong treatment may be given to a patient;

Disturbed that a great number of laboratory test results obtained in Nigerian medical laboratories are alarmingly unreliable as reported in the National Daily Trust of the 10th day of May, 2013 which indicated that there are several fake and substandard laboratories all over the country;

Further disturbed that the activities of quacks over the years have resulted in the untimely death of unsuspecting and highly vulnerable innocent Nigerians, and adversely affected the country's Medical Health Sector as well as the reputation of Nigeria as a whole.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Health to liaise with the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria to ensure the immediate closure of all illegal or unaccredited laboratories and check quackery in the profession of Medical Laboratory Science in the country;

(*ii*) urge the Minister of Health to immediately ensure that there is a recertification and assessment of medical laboratories across the country with a view to closing down and prosecuting the operators of all illegal and substandard laboratories (**HR. 113/2013**).

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Convict and Criminal Records Registry and for Other Matters Connected (HB. 57) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a National Convict and Criminal Records Registry and for Other Matters Connected (HB. 57) 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 Repeal the National Economic Intelligence Committee (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. N31 LFN, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 386) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Economic Intelligence Committee (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. N31 LFN, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 386) 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 Prohibit Kidnapping, Hostage taking and Unlawful Confinement or Detention of a Person in FCT Abuja and to Provide for Other Matters Relating Thereto (HB. 76) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Prohibit Kidnapping, Hostage taking and Unlawful Confinement or Detention of a Person in FCT Abuja and to Provide for Other Matters Relating Thereto (HB. 76) 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 Amend the Hydro-Electric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2010 (HB. 284) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Hydro-Electric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2010 (HB. 284) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

15. **Adjournment:**
That the House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 28 May, 2013 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.28 p.m.

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker