FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 97

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 4 June, 2013

1. The House met at 11.38 p.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 30 May, 2013.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcements:**

(*i*) ***Special Session*:**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that the House will hold a special session to mark the 2nd Year Anniversary of the House of Representatives, 7th National Assembly and its Legislative Agenda on Thursday, 6 June, 2013 in the Chamber at 10.00 a.m., which will be followed by a dinner party at Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Ladi Kwali Hall, same Thursday at 7.00 p.m. He enjoined Members to be punctual.

(*ii*) ***Workshop for Legislators*:**
Mr Deputy Speaker also announced that the National Institute for Legislative Studies, will organise a conference on the theme "Emerging Democracies in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities" for Members of the National Assembly from Monday, 17 - Tuesday, 18 June, 2013 at Congress Hall, Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja at 9.00 am daily.

(*iii*) ***Review of House Standing Orders*:**
Mr Deputy Speaker read a communication from the Chairman, Committee on Rules and Business informing Members of the ongoing review of the Standing Orders of the House, and requesting them to submit any desired amendments to the Committee Secretariat in Room 06, Zero Floor (White House) House of Representatives.

(*iv*) ***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of Members of the Students' Representative Council, University of Ibadan Students' Union, Oyo State.

(*v*) ***Bereavement*:**
Mr Deputy Speaker read a communication from Hon. Robinson Uwak (*Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruko Federal Constituency*) announcing the recent death of Hon. Joseph Sunday Bassey, a former Member of the House — Okobo Federal Constituency (1992 - 1993).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

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

(*i*) Hon. Charles Odedo (*Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Josiah C. E. Okpaleke, seeking the intervention of the House in respect of the refusal by the management of African Continental Bank Plc (Now Springbank) to approve the payment of his pension, with a view to ensuring his payment;

(*ii*) Hon. Asita Honourable O. (*Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni/Ahoada West Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Agha Eresia-Eke, praying the House to redress the non-payment of his retirement benefits by the National Orientation Agency (NOA), with a view to facilitating the payment;

(*iii*) Hon. Ibrahim Lawal Nuhu (*Lere Federal Constituency*) from Yunus Ustaz Usman (SAN) & Co. on behalf of Mr A. Ishaya (DRC) and 3 Others praying the House to intervene in the termination of their appointments by the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), with a view to reinstating them.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(*i*). Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari (*Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*) informed the House that Sokoto, Kebbi and Zamfara States have been experiencing complete power outage for the past 2 weeks and that socio-economic activities in these States had been completely paralysed. He stressed the urgent need to arrest the situation with a view to preventing the total collapse of the economic life of the States. He therefore called on 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 immediately.

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

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

Total Power Failure in Sokoto, Kebbi, and Zamfara States:

The House:

Notes with dismay that Kebbi, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, for the past two weeks have been experiencing varying degrees of electricity system collapse, leading to a total blackout in the affected States;

Worried that with no end in sight, many businesses in the affected States have closed down, except those who can afford to operate generating sets;

Concerned that the environmental pollution produced from the toxic fumes from generators, and the attendant acute shortage of water supply in these areas could result in several health implications in the affected States;

Disturbed that in spite of the huge resources spent on the ongoing power sector reforms, several parts of the country are still experiencing debilitating system failures and power outages that completely disrupt the socio-economic conditions in such States;

Believes that urgent steps need to be taken to restore power supply in the affected States, in order to mitigate the severe socio-economic hardships and the attendant health hazards being experienced by these communities.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the immediate and remote causes of power outages in these States;

(*ii*) Recommend solutions to avert future occurrence, and report back to the House within one week (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with dismay that Kebbi, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, for the past two weeks have been experiencing varying degrees of electricity system collapse, leading to a total blackout in the affected States;

Worried that with no end in sight, many businesses in the affected States have closed down except those who can afford to operate generating sets;

Concerned that the environmental pollution produced from the toxic fumes from generators, and the attendant acute shortage of water supply in these areas could result in several health implications in the affected States;

Disturbed that in spite of the huge resources spent in the ongoing power sector reforms, several parts of the country are still experiencing debilitating system failures and power outages that completely disrupt the socio-economic conditions in such States;

Believed that urgent steps need to be taken to restore power supply in the affected States, in order to mitigate the severe socio-economic hardships and the attendant health hazards being experienced by these communities.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the immediate and remote causes of power outages in these States;

(*ii*) Recommend solutions to avert future occurrence, and report back to the House within one week (**HR. 118/2013**).

(*ii*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha (*Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*) recalled that on Sunday, 3 June, 2012, the nation was thrown into mourning following the crash of an air liner belonging to Dana Air at Iju-Shaga, Lagos State. She emphasized the need for the House to join the families of the victims in prayers on the 1st year remembrance of the mishap. She prayed 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 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.*

Memorial: Calling on the House to join the Families of the Victims of the ill fated Dana Airline on the 3 June, 2012 in Prayer:

The House:

Notes that exactly one year ago, our nation was thrown into mourning as a result of the Dana Airline that crashed in Agege - Lagos;

Recalls that on Sunday, 3 June, 2012, 153 passengers and about 6 ground victims who ought to contribute their own quota to the socio-economic and political development of the country lost their lives;

Aware that the death of these Nigerians, some of whom were bread winners of their families have caused hardship and untold sufferings on their families;

Convinced that this House, as the Representatives of the people, has a duty to join the families of the victims of the crash and indeed other Nigerians to mark the 1st anniversary of the crash with intensive prayers.

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the House to join in praying for the families of the victims of the crash;

(*ii*) also urge the Aviation Authorities and all stakeholders to make our airspace safe and strengthen emergency response systems (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Insert a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Urge the Agencies, and Parastatals involved to speed up the process of compensation to the victims of the ill fated Dana Air crash of 3 June, 2012 and that the report of the investigation should be made known to the public" (*Hon. Friday Itudah — Esan North East/South East Federal Constituency*).

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

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that exactly one year ago, our nation was thrown into mourning as a result of the Dana Airline that crashed in Agege - Lagos;

Recalled that on Sunday, 3 June, 2012, 153 passengers and about 6 ground victims who ought to contribute their own quota to the socio-economic and political development of the country lost their lives;

Aware that the death of these Nigerians, some of whom were bread winners of their families have caused hardship and untold sufferings on their families;

Convinced that this House, as the Representatives of the people, has a duty to join the families of the victims of the crash and indeed other Nigerians to mark the 1st anniversary of the crash with intensive prayers.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the House to join in praying for the families of the victims of the crash;

(*ii*) also urge the Aviation Authorities and all stakeholders to make our airspace safe and strengthen emergency response systems;

(*iii*) further urge the Agencies, and Parastatals involved to speed up the process of compensation to the victims of the ill fated Dana Air crash of 3 June, 2012 and that the report of the investigation should be made known to the public (**HR. 119/2013**).

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

(*i*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 Bill, 2013 (HB. 509).

(*ii*) Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 531).

(*iii*) Chartered Institute of Auctioneers of Nigeria Bill, 2013 (HB. 513).

(*iv*) Hire Purchase Bill, 2013 (HB. 514).

(*v*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Expedited Criminal Trial (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 515).

(*vi*) Palm Oil, Cocoa and Groundnut Development Bill, 2013 (HB. 516).

(*vii*) Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 517).

(*viii*) Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Bill, 2013 (HB. 520).

(*ix*) Industrial Pollution Prevention Bill, 2013 (HB. 521).

(*x*) Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 522).

(*xi*) Guidance and Counseling Bill, 2013 (HB. 523).

(*xii*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Alteration) Bill, 2013 (HB. 524).

(*xiii*) Criminal Justice (Release from Custody) (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 527).

(*xiv*) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 528).

(*xv*) Company Income Tax Bill, 2013 (HB. 529).

7. **Presentation of Report:**
Committees on Power, Reform of Government Institutions, Finance and Privatization and Commercialization:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committees on Power, Reform of Government Institutions, Finance and Privatization and Commercialization on the Need to Revise the Zero Budget Allocation to the Distribution Companies (DISCOC) and Generation Companies GENCOS) of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) by the Executive in the 2013 Budget **(HR. 78/2013)**" (*Hon. Mohammed Ricco Abdullahi — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

8. **Provision of Enough Free Trolleys in all Airports:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the use of Trolleys by Passengers at Airports are at times indispensable;

Further notes that these Trolleys are at times not readily available;

Also notes that the few ones made available by the Airport Authority are often commercialized;

Worried that Passengers are made to pay excessively for the use of the Trolleys;

Aware that Passengers pay Airport charges each time they travels through the Airport;

Further aware that all over the world Trolleys are provided to Passengers at the Airports free of charge.

Resolves to:

Call on the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) to provide enough trolleys at the Airports and to make them available and free of charges (*Hon Nathaniel Agunbiade — Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and negatived.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Petroleum Production and Distribution (Anti-Sabotage) Act Cap. P. 12 LFN 2004 to remove the Impediment to the Performance of Duties of the Prosecuting Authorities and for Related Matters (HB. 399) — *Third Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Petroleum Production and Distribution (Anti-Sabotage) Act, Cap. P12 LFN 2004 to remove the Impediment to the Performance of Duties of the Prosecuting Authorities and for Related Matters (HB. 399) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Provide that 40% of Nigeria Annual Budget should be Earmarked for Capital Projects in the next 10 (Ten) years and for Other Matters Connected Thereto (HB. 409) — *Second Reading*:**

Order read; by leave of the House deferred.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of Section 143 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Remove Ambiguities in the Process of Removal of the President and the Vice-President from Office on Allegations of Gross Misconduct and to Provide for a more Transparent and Democratic Procedure for Impeachment and for Other Matters Connected Thereto (HB. 498) — *Second Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Provisions of Section 143 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Remove Ambiguities in the Process of Removal of the President and the Vice-President from Office on Allegations of Gross Misconduct and to Provide for a more Transparent and Democratic Procedure for Impeachment and for Other Matters Connected Thereto (HB. 498) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Yakubu Dogara Barry — Bogoro/Dass/Tafawa Balewa Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Ad-hoc Committee on Constitution Review.

12. **Adjournment:**
That the House do now adjourn till Wednesday, 5 June, 2013 at 11.00 a.m. (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.36 p.m.

Chukwuemeka Nkem Ihedioha
Deputy Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 26 June, 2012, page 18, item No. 6, *leave out* all the words in the Resolution and *insert* instead thereof as follows:

"*Resolution referred to the Committees on Agriculture and Water Resources, pursuant to Standing Order VIII, Rule* 51 (5) (***HR.* 121/2012**).