FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 11



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
# FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 16 July, 2013

**1.** The House met at 11.47 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 Thursday, 11 July, 2013.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.*

**3.** **Announcement:**

(*i*) ***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

(*a*) Staff and Pupils of Bristol Academy, Karu, Abuja;

(*b*) Members of Gender and Constitution Reform Network (GECORN), Ikeja, Lagos State.

(*ii*) ***Bereavement*:**
Mr Speaker read a communications from Hon. Wada Usman Garki (*Garki/Babura Federal Constituency*) announcing the demise of his wife, Hajiya Maryam Wada Usman.

*A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.*

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

(*i*) Hon. Enokorogha Francis (*Burutu Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) on behalf of Felicia Isioma Obi Esq, praying the House to redress the denial of the award of Masters of Science Degree in Social Works to her by the University of Benin after a successful completion of the programme;

(*b*) for T. C. Williams Esq. on behalf of Zulitech Multi-services Nigeria, praying the House to prevail on EcoBank Plc to refund the sum of one million (₦1m) only fraudulently withdrawn from the company's account by the Bank's account officer without authorization by the company;

(*ii*) Hon. Evelyn Oboro (*Okpe/Sapele Unwie Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) on behalf of Deacon F. A. Itoro, seeking the intervention of the House in the wrongful termination of his appointment by the Power Holdings Company of Nigeria (PHCN), with a view to reinstating him;

(*b*) on behalf of Philip Ororho, praying the House to redress the termination of his appointment by the Federal Medical Centre, Asaba, Delta State;

(*c*) for J. O. Enosegbe on behalf of Tornado International Associates Limited, praying the House to intercede in the marginalization of his company by the Agip Oil Nigeria Limited and grant other reliefs sought.

*Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.*

5. **Privilege:**
Citing Order VI, Rules 19 and 22, Hon. Samson Osagie (*Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*) invited the attention of the House to a letter dated Monday, 20 May, 2013 purportedly written by the Hon. Minister for Justice to the Simon Taylor of Global Witness, U.K. in connection with Malabu Oil and Gas Company Limited. He noted that the Hon. Minister was quoted in the letter stating that, following an investigation that the House of Representatives was satisfied that there were no constitutional breaches and illegalities in the transaction involving oil plot OPL 245. He further noted that the *Ad-hoc* Committee on OPL 245 deal submitted its report only on Tuesday, 9 July, 2013 and the House is yet to consider it. He described the act as pre-empting the decision of the House and thus constituting the breach of his privilege and that of the House.

*Ordered: That the Committee on Justice should invite the Hon. Minister for Justice with a view to investigating the matter and report back to the House in one week.*

6. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**
Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Daniel Oritse Gbubemi Reyenieju (*Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the incident of Tuesday, 2 July, 2013 in the Benin river axis of Warri North Area of Delta State whereby an unprovoked attack by Egbema Revolutionary Council, left about 12 people dead and several houses destroyed. He noted that the incessant attacks have made many residents of the area to live in fear. 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 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.*

**Indiscriminate Attacks, Killings and Destruction of Houses in Warri North Local Government Area of Delta State:**

The House:

*Notes* that on Tuesday, 2 July, 2013 that several Itsekiri villages; Gbokoda, Udo, Ajamita, Obagboro, Eghoro, and Ayerode-zion on the Benin Rivers axis, Warri North were razed down;

*Also notes* that these unprovoked attacks were carried out by criminal elements who called themselves the EGBEMA REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL;

*Disturbed* that twelve (12) persons were feared killed and over twenty houses burnt down indiscriminately thereby rendering the inhabitants homeless while others are still missing and unaccounted for;

*Further disturbed* that this invasion now made innocent citizens resident in these communities live in apprehension of fear and helplessness;

*Worried* that unless immediate steps are taken to urgently forestall the incessant attacks, we may in future experience more of such tragic inferno;

*Concerned* that this crisis need a lasting solution to avoid any issue that will endanger the relative peace and co-existence in the Niger Delta Region.

*Resolves to*:

(*i*) Condemn this act of lawlessness in Warri North Local Government Area by the Egbema Revolutionary Council;

(*ii*) urge the Law enforcement agencies to thoroughly investigate, effect arrest and prosecute accordingly the perpetrators of this dastardly act;

(*iii*) further urge the National Emergency Agency NEMA to send relief materials to the victims without delay;

(*iv*) also urge the Ministry of Niger Delta and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to immediately take records of this wicked destruction and urgent plan to give shelter to the affected persons by rebuilding the burnt houses (*Hon. Daniel Oritse Gbubemi Reyenieju — Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*).

*Debate*:

*Question put and agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that on Tuesday, 2 July, 2013 that several Itsekiri villages; Gbokoda, Udo, Ajamita, Obagboro, Eghoro, and Ayerode-zion on the Benin Rivers axis, Warri North were razed down;

*Also noted* that these unprovoked attacks were carried out by criminal elements who called themselves the EGBEMA REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL;

*Disturbed* that twelve (12) persons were feared killed and over twenty houses burnt down indiscriminately thereby rendering the inhabitants homeless while others are still missing and unaccounted for;

*Further disturbed* that this invasion now made innocent citizens resident in these communities live in apprehension of fear and helplessness;

*Worried* that unless immediate steps are taken to urgently forestall the incessant attacks, we may in future experience more of such tragic inferno;

*Concerned* that this crisis need a lasting solution to avoid any issue that will endanger the relative peace and co-existence in the Niger Delta Region.

*Resolved to*:

(*i*) Condemn this act of lawlessness in Warri North Local Government Area by the Egbema Revolutionary Council;

(*ii*) urge the Law enforcement agencies to thoroughly investigate, effect arrest and prosecute accordingly the perpetrators of this dastardly act;

(*iii*) further urge the National Emergency Agency NEMA to send relief materials to the victims without delay;

(*iv*) also urge the Ministry of Niger Delta and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to immediately take records of this wicked destruction and urgent plan to give shelter to the affected persons by rebuilding the burnt houses (**HR. 29/2013**).

7. **Consideration of Report:**
***Special Ad-hoc Committee on the Review of the Constitution*:**
*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That this House do consider the Report on a Consolidated Bill for an Act to Further Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Amended) and for Other Matters Connected Therewith and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Emeka Ihedioha — Aboh Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency*).

*Question put and agreed to.*

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

*Question that the House do suspend Order VII, Rule* 25 (2) *to enable the Speaker chair the Committee of the Whole, put and agreed to.*

**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)**

(*Mr Speaker in the Chair*)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO FURTHER ALTER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, 1999 (AS AMENDED) AND FOR OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

*Debate*:

*Consideration adjourned to enable all Members receive and study the Report.*

*Chairman to report progress.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Special *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Review of the Constitution on a Consolidated Bill for an Act to Further Alter the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Amended) and for Other Matters Connected Therewith and adjourned consideration till the next Legislative Day to enable all Members receive and study the Report.

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

8. **Adjournment:**
*That the House do now adjourn till Wednesday*, 17 *July*, 2013 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

*The House adjourned accordingly at* 2.00 *p.m.*

**Aminu Waziri Tambuwal**
*Speaker*