HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 19 December, 2013

1. The House met at 11.46 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, 18 December, 2013.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Bitrus Kaze (*Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*) announcing the death of Hon. Gabriel Yakubu Bwan Fom, a former member of the House (2003 - 2007) on Wednesday, 18 December, 2013 after a brief illness.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nkem Ihedioha (Aboh Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency) prayed for the repose of the soul of the deceased.

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

(*i*) Hon. James A. Faleke (*Ikeja Federal Constituency*) from George Taylor, Ashiru and Co., on behalf of Mr M. A. Ogadi, praying the House to intervene in his dismissal by the Nigerian Customs Service, Lagos, with a view to reinstating him;

(*ii*) Hon. Peter Edeh (*Ezza North/Ishielu Federal Constituency*) from Anthony Oka and Associates, on behalf of the family of late Barr. Joseph Nnaemeka Ogenyi who died as a result of the recklessness of one of the drivers in the service of Federal High Court, praying the House to investigate the matter, with a view to paying compensation to the family of the deceased;

(*iii*) Hon. Adamu Gural (*Shira/Giade Federal Constituency*) from Isah Ya'u, praying the House to investigate his dismissal from service by the Nigerian Army, with a view to reinstating him;

(*iv*) Hon. Muniru Abiodun Hakeem (*Oshodi-Isolo II Federal Constituency*) from Olawalu Salu and Associates, on behalf of Mr Wasiu Aromashodu and family, and the entire Ejigbo community in Lagos State, praying the House to investigate the underground petroleum seepage from oil pipelines belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), with a view to proffering solutions to the occurrence;

(*v*) Hon. Saviour Friday Udoh (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*) from:

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(*a*) Ikot Inyang Village Executive Council, Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, praying the House to investigate anomalies in the process of siting the Independent Power Projects Injection Sub-station/Switch yard in their area, with a view to securing the interest of the community;

(*b*) Efegov and Associates on behalf of Ted Akudike, praying the House to investigate the arbitrary and astronomical increase in fees for registration of private security companies in Nigeria by the Nigerian Securities and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), with a view to saving the security companies from collapse;

(*c*) Kenneth Ntong Chambers on behalf of Lance Corporal Emefik Michael, praying the House to redress the threat to his life, his illegal detention and victimization by Col. N. A. Abdulkareem and the Chief of Army Staff;

(*vi*) Hon. Suleiman Aminu (*Fagge Federal Constituency*) from Mukhtar Ahmed Wali, praying the House to redress the termination of his appointment by the JSI Research and Training Institute.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Matters of Urgent Public Importance:

(*i*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Kyari Gujbawu (*Maiduguri Metropolitan Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the need to restore commercial flight operations to Maiduguri International Airport which was suspended as a result of general insecurity in Borno State. He decried the incessant attacks on commuters along the North East highways by Boko Haram insurgents and stressed the need to increase security patrol to forestall attacks during the festive season. He therefore urged the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) so that the matter can be debated 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.*

Reversal of Suspension of Commercial Flights to Maiduguri International Airport as Well as Urgent Need to Increase Security Patrol on North-East Roads to Forestall Rising Attacks by Insurgents on Commuters/Travelers and its Adverse Threat to Lives and the Economy Particularly During the Yelutide Season:

The House:

Notes that recent attacks on some military formations and civilian properties in Maiduguri, the Borno state capital have brought about suspension of commercial flights into the city;

Aware that the attacks in Maiduguri did not affect the airport infrastructure and its operations;

Concerned that there is already a surge in dastardly attacks by insurgents on lives of commuters plying inter-state roads in the North east axis of Borno - Yobe - Gombe - Adamawa;

Further concerned that the already adversely devastated economy of the North is further worsened by the closure of the International Airport;

Worried that the Maiduguri International Airport serves as gateway to Nigerian market by major segment of the African markets through the Trans - Saharan trade;

Further worried that the suspension of commercial flights to Maiduguri International Airport will further expose travelers to increased dangers to their lives;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Nigerian Air Force and the Ministry of Aviation to immediately restore commercial airlines flying this route with the view to restore commercial flights into Maiduguri International Airport to normalcy;

(*ii*) further urge the JTF and other security outfits responsible for the restoration of peace in the North-East part of the country to promptly increase road patrols to sufficient levels so as to save the priceless souls of Nigerians plying these roads particularly during these season of yuletide and its attendant surge in road travels and of course in their subsequent journeys (*Hon. Kyari Gujbawu — Maiduguri Metropolitan Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committees on Aviation, Public Safety and National Security, and Power. Pursuant to Standing Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) *for further legislative input* (**HR. 97/2013**).

(*ii*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Solomon Adeola Olamilekan (*Alimosho Federal Constituency*) called the attention of the House to the indiscriminate release of service-wide vote to Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) from 2004 to 2012. He noted that the traditional purpose of service-wide votes is to take care of emergencies and contingencies and not to execute other projects as currently being practiced. He stressed the need to check the trend and thus urged the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) so that the matter can be debated 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.*

Indiscriminate Releases from the Service Wide Vote to MDAs Between 2004 to 2012:

The House:

Notes that the Service Wide Vote supposed to be a provision in the annual budget meant to take care of emergencies and contingencies that arise in the course of a given financial year;

Aware that on the contrary, in the course of examining the Auditor-General's report on the accounts of MDAs for 2006 and 2007, the Committee discovered indiscriminate use of the Service Wide Votes in the funding of projects and programmes that were not contingent and such MDAs could not provide satisfactory accounts on what the funds were expended. The committee then resolved to widen the scope of its inquiry to cover the period 2004-2012;

Concerned that such releases were mainly used to finance recurrent expenses not targeted at critical and strategic sectors of the economy and the releases were random and did not follow any clear pattern;

Further concerned that the Service Wide Votes had become an alternative budget which government prefers to patronize than the annual budget, leading to poor implementation of the annual budget as approved by the National Assembly;

Disturbed that most of the expenditures to which the Service Wide Vote releases were deployed are routine in nature and did not qualify for emergency funding. For instance between 2004 and 2012, a total sum of ₦1,284,853,731.20 was spent on overseas medical trips; also a total of ₦2,346,761,075.80 was spent on publicity and publication of various government programmes; between 2004 and 2005 the sum of ₦250 million was spent on the upkeep of the former Liberian President, Charles Taylor; another sum of ₦14,006,494,847.57 was also released from the Service Wide Vote for the payment of judgment debts against the Federal Government;

Further disturbed that the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation, Budget Office and the Ministry of Finance released to their various offices a total sum of ₦2,267,002,101 to a few Auditors as audit fees and in 2011 alone, the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation paid out the sum of ₦809,358,504 as audit fees to some external auditors carrying out audit of the Federal Government financial activities instead of the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation;

Observes the expenditure of ₦162 million from the 2011 Service Wide Votes releases tagged "Closing Accounts" incurred jointly by the Office of the Accountant-General and the Budget Office of the Federation;

Further observes an expenditure of ₦1,059,177,589.31 ($6,619,859.93 at the rate of $1 = ₦160) in 2010 and 2011 said to be payment of outstanding tax on Nigeria House in New York;

Worried that successive governments have over the years, abused the utilization of the Service Wide Vote in very indiscriminate manner as such expenditures have consistently in alarming proportions exceeded the National Assembly's approved provisions in each year's budget ranging between 114.92% and 2,745.6% over and above the budgeted provisions under the vote in each year;

Further worried that successive governments have from 2004 to 2012, spent a whopping and mind bugling sum of 4.17 trillion Naira as against 1.8 trillion Naira approved by the National Assembly as Service Wide Votes component of the budgets of those years, translating to 2.27 trillion Naira extra budgetary spending or 220% above the Service Wide Votes as approved in the budget for the period;

Conscious that such extra-budgetary expenditures constitute a breach of Section 81 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and an illegality;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn the illegal and indiscriminate releases in the name of Service Wide Votes to MDAs, discontinue further release of such funds and urge the President to scrap the Service Wide Votes and confine public spending to annual appropriations in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution;

(*ii*) urge the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget Office of the Federation and the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation to stop usurping the Constitutional functions of the Office of the Auditor-General of the Federation through illegal engagement of external auditors to audit critical revenue sectors of the economy;

(*iii*) mandate the Public Accounts Committee to further investigate the illegal and indiscriminate releases and expenditures in the name of Service Wide Vote to MDAs with a view to ascertaining proper use of all funds released to the MDAs from the Vote, from 2004-2012, in order to forestall future misapplication of funds from the Service Wide Vote and report to the House within two months (*Hon. Solomon Adeola Olamilekan — Alimosho Federal Constituency*).

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out Prayers (*i*) and (*ii*) (*Hon. Solomon Adeola Olamilekan — Alimosho 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 Service Wide Vote supposed to be a provision in the annual budget meant to take care of emergencies and contingencies that arise in the course of a given financial year;

Aware that on the contrary, in the course of examining the Auditor-General's report on the accounts of MDAs for 2006 and 2007, the Committee discovered indiscriminate use of the Service Wide Votes in the funding of projects and programmes that were not contingent and such MDAs could not provide satisfactory accounts on what the funds were expended. The committee then resolved to widen the scope of its inquiry to cover the period 2004-2012;

Concerned that such releases were mainly used to finance recurrent expenses not targeted at critical and strategic sectors of the economy and the releases were random and did not follow any clear pattern;

Further concerned that the Service Wide Votes had become an alternative budget which government prefers to patronize than the annual budget, leading to poor implementation of the annual budget as approved by the National Assembly;

Disturbed that most of the expenditures to which the Service Wide Vote releases were deployed are routine in nature and did not qualify for emergency funding. For instance between 2004 and 2012, a total sum of ₦1,284,853,731.20 was spent on overseas medical trips; also a total of ₦2,346,761,075.80 was spent on publicity and publication of various government programmes; between 2004 and 2005 the sum of ₦250 million was spent on the upkeep of the former Liberian President, Charles Taylor; another sum of ₦14,006,494,847.57 was also released from the Service Wide Vote for the payment of judgment debts against the Federal Government;

Further disturbed that the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation, Budget Office and the Ministry of Finance released to their various offices a total sum of ₦2,267,002,101 to a few Auditors as audit fees and in 2011 alone, the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation paid out the sum of ₦809,358,504 as audit fees to some external auditors carrying out audit of the Federal Government financial activities instead of the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation;

Observed the expenditure of ₦162 million from the 2011 Service Wide Votes releases tagged "Closing Accounts" incurred jointly by the Office of the Accountant-General and the Budget Office of the Federation;

Further observes an expenditure of ₦l,059,177,589.31 ($6,619,859.93 at the rate of $1 = ₦160) in 2010 and 2011 said to be payment of outstanding tax on Nigeria House in New York;

Worried that successive governments have over the years, abused the utilization of the Service Wide Vote in very indiscriminate manner as such expenditures have consistently in alarming proportions exceeded the National Assembly's approved provisions in each year's budget ranging between 114.92% and 2,745.6% over and above the budgeted provisions under the vote in each year;

Further worried that successive governments have from 2004 to 2012, spent a whopping and mind bugling sum of 4.17 trillion Naira as against 1.8 trillion Naira approved by the National Assembly as Service Wide Votes component of the budgets of those years, translating to 2.27 trillion Naira extra budgetary spending or 220% above the Service Wide Votes as approved in the budget for the period;

Conscious that such extra-budgetary expenditures constitute a breach of Section 81 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and an illegality;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Public Accounts Committee to further investigate the illegal and indiscriminate releases and expenditures in the name of Service Wide Vote to MDAs with a view to ascertaining proper use of all funds released to the MDAs from the Vote, from 2004-2012, in order to forestall future misapplication of funds from the Service Wide Vote and report to the House within two months (**HR. 98/2013**).

6. Presentation of Bills:

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

(*i*) West African Examination Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 588).

(*ii*) National Roads Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 654).

(*iii*) Federal Road Authority (Establishment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 655).

(*iv*) Robbery and Firearms (Special Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 656).

(*v*) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2013 (HB. 657).

(*vi*) National Universities Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 658).

(*vii*) National Lottery Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 659).

(*viii*) Public Holidays Act (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (HB. 660).

7. **Presentation of Report:**
Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Aids, Loans, and Debts Management, and Justice:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Aids, Loans and Debts Management, and Justice on the Proposed $1.56 Billion Loan by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) (**HR. 02/2013**)" (*Hon. Muriana Ajibola — Ibarapa Central/Ibarapa North Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

8. **2014 Budget Estimates:**
The Hon. Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, and other Government Officials were admitted into the Chamber for the purpose of laying the 2014 *Budget Estimates pursuant to a Resolution of the House to that effect on Wednesday,* 18 *December,* 2013.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do invite the Hon. Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala to lay the 2014 Budget Estimates" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

The Hon. Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy laid the 2014 *Budget Estimates accordingly.*

9. **Abuse of Environmental Management Systems in Nigeria's Development Processes:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes with concern that in the nation's quest for infrastructural development and industrialization, environmental impunity has become the order of the day and if these gross and unsustainable practices are overlooked, then the living may be consumed by the byproduct of the quest for good life;

Concerned that massive developmental projects that leave serious environmental impacts are continually being carried out without Environmental Impact Assessment and even where they are done, they are either inconclusive or the recommendations are ignored, while environmental audits are not carried out as at when due;

Worried that major expansion programmes of various Industries, Agricultural Projects, Oil/Gas Pipelines as well as tank farms are carried out without mainstreaming environmental impact mitigation or providing for Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as required by International Standard Organization (ISO);

Further worried that owing to this neglect of the environment, the Agency of Lagos State charged with the responsibility of monitoring Environmental Standard Compliance on Masts and Towers is insisting on pulling down about 4,000 Masts by January 2014, according to a publication on page 49 of Daily Trust Newspaper of December 16, 2013;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Environment to investigate the role of the Ministry of Environment in this gross negligence and the complicity of the public and private sectors in this unsustainable practices, and report back to the House within 6 weeks (*Hon. Akpan Micah Umoh — Ikot Abasi/Mkpat Enin/Eastern Obolo Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with concern that in the nation's quest for infrastructural development and industrialization, environmental impunity has become the order of the day and if these gross and unsustainable practices are overlooked, then the living may be consumed by the byproduct of the quest for good life;

Concerned that massive developmental projects that leave serious environmental impacts are continually being carried out without Environmental Impact Assessment and even where they are done, they are either inconclusive or the recommendations are ignored, while environmental audits are not carried out as at when due;

Worried that major expansion programmes of various Industries, Agricultural Projects, Oil/Gas Pipelines as well as tank farms are carried out without mainstreaming environmental impact mitigation or providing for Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as required by International Standard Organization (ISO);

Further worried that owing to this neglect of the environment, the Agency of Lagos State charged with the responsibility of monitoring Environmental Standard Compliance on Masts and Towers is insisting on pulling down about 4,000 Masts by January 2014, according to a publication on page 49 of Daily Trust Newspaper of December 16, 2013;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Environment to investigate the role of the Ministry of Environment in this gross negligence and the complicity of the public and private sectors in this unsustainable practices, and report back to the House within 6 weeks (**HR. 99/2013**).

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission Act, Cap. N117, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 in order to reserve certain kinds of Retail Businesses for Nigerians and stipulate conditions for Foreigners' participa1tion so as to enhance Wealth Creation and Employment Generation for Nigerians; and for Other Related Matters (HB.597) — *Second Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission Act, Cap. N117, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 in order to reserve certain kinds of Retail Businesses for Nigerians and stipulate conditions for Foreigners' participa1tion so as to enhance Wealth Creation and Employment Generation for Nigerians; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 597) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mohammed Ogoshi Onawo — Awe/Doma/Keana Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Bill by leave of the House, withdrawn.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Miscellaneous Offences Act, Cap. M17 LFN, 2004 to make Comprehensive Provisions for Miscellaneous Offences, Abolish life Sentence for Miscellaneous Offences; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 330) and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Miscellaneous Offences Act, Cap. M17 LFN, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 532) — *Second Reading*:**

Order read; by leave of the House, deferred.

12. **Consideration of Reports:**
(*i*) ***Committee on Aviation*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Aviation on the Purchase of Two Armoured Vehicles by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) (**HR. 51/2013**) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi 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.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

Recommendation (i):
"That the two (2) BMW Armoured vehicles procured in the process were neither provided for in the Appropriation Act, 2013, nor was due process followed in their procurement. The Ministry of Aviation and the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) should terminate, with immediate effect all transactions and loan agreement entered into with First Bank of Nigeria Plc and all contracts awarded thereto" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):
"That all monies so far spent on the entire transactions should be recovered and paid back into the Federation account" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:
(*i*) In lines 1 and 2, *leave out* the words "Federation account" and *insert* the words "Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation" instead thereof (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) In the line 1 as amended, immediately after the word "recovered", *insert* the words "by the Federal Ministry of Finance" (*Hon. Abubakar Momoh — Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*).

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

Recommendation (iii):
"That the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria should review the continued engagement of the Hon. Minister of Aviation, Princess Stella Oduah for having contravened the Appropriation Act, 2013 and the Approved Revised Thresholds by exceeding the Ministry of Aviation's approval limit of ₦100m by the purchase of 54 vehicles valued at ₦643m" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Recommendation and *insert* instead thereof as follows:
"Urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to review the continued engagement of the Hon. Minister of Aviation, Princess Stella Oduah for having contravened the Appropriation Act, 2013 and the Approved Revised Thresholds by exceeding the Ministry of Aviation's approval limit of ₦100m by the purchase of 54 vehicles valued at ₦643m" (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency*).

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

Recommendation (iv):
"That the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and other relevant Anti-corruption agencies should:

(*a*) further investigate the discrepancies in the Chassis Number (DW68032) of the vehicles on the one reported to have been delivered and the one inspected by the committee, and

(*b*) further investigate and if found wanting, prosecute all persons/Institutions involved in the transaction" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (v):
"That the former Acting Director General, Mr Nkemakolam Joyce and the Director of Finance, Mr S. Ozigi of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) should be sanctioned in accordance with the Civil Service rules for deliberately breaching the Appropriation Act, 2013 and other Extant Laws of the Federation" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
In line 2, *leave out* the word "sanctioned" and *insert* instead thereof the word "reprimanded" (*Hon. Albert T. Sam-Tsokwa — Dunga/Ussa/Takum Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Question on Recommendation (*v*) *put and agreed to.*

***Recommendation* (*vi*):**
"That COSCHARIS Nigeria Limited should be investigated on the issue of waiver, source and exact cost of the two (2) BMW vehicles supplied to Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA)" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Recommendation (*Hon. Aboho Benjamin — Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Question on Recommendation (*vi*) *put and agreed to.*

***Recommendation* (*vii*):**
"That COSCHARIS Nigeria Limited should be made to pay the value of the waiver into the treasury account" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi 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 Aviation on the Purchase of Two Armoured Vehicles by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) (**HR. 51/2013**) and approved the Recommendation (*i*), approved Recommendations (*ii*) and (*iii*) as amended, and approved Recommendations (*iv*) - (*vii*).

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

(*ii*) ***Committees on Steel, Privatization and Commercialization, and Justice*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committees on Steel, Privatization and Commercialization and Justice on the Re-concession of the National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO), Itakpe and the sale of Delta Steel Company (DSC), Aladja to Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL) (**HR. 31/2013**) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta 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.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation* (*i*):**
"That the Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF) is urged to further collate and submit to the Committees the breakdown of total claims arising from National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO) and Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited (ASCL) transactions against the Federal Government of Nigeria" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):
"That due to the important nature of steel to the development of a nation, the Federal Government of Nigeria should reconsider its policy to privatize the National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO) and Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited (ASCL) by handing them over to the original builders/erectors that understand the technology of the plants" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):
"That the Federal Government should approve the grants of 1billion USD for the immediate rehabilitation, completion, commissioning and operation of Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited and National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO) since it is cheaper for Nigeria to pay damages being claimed by Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL), on a worst case scenario than concede to the Re-concession of National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO) which is worth over $100 billion and Delta Steel Company (DSC), and Warri Port which are worth over ₦70 billion to Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL)" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):
"That local content principle should be seriously considered in any new agreement" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (v):
"That the President be urged to consider paying a working visit to Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited (ASCL), National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO) and Delta Steel Company (DSC) for an on the spot assessment of the Plants" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (vi):
"That the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON) should proceed to recover the debt of over ₦30 billion from Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL) relating to the Delta Steel Company (DSC) in accordance with its enabling Law" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (vii):
"That the Federal Government should direct the Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) to offset the ₦5.2 billion outstanding terminal benefits of Delta Steel Company (DSC) staff through the Budget process" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (viii):
"That the concession, if necessary, of the Railway Lines from Itakpe - Delta Steel Company (DSC) to Warri Port and Warri Old Port Terminal should be done according to the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, i.e. Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) and Infrastructural Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) Acts" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Recommendation (ix):
"That since Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL) lacks financial, technical and managerial competence, it should not be allowed to further take over any steel plant in Nigeria" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*x*):**
"That the Federal Government of Nigeria should pursue the case in London Arbitration Tribunal to its logical conclusion, more so, that the Federal Government is making a counter claim in the same Tribunal" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*xi*):**
"That it is wiser to pay minimum damages, if found liable, than throwing away the nation's huge resources invested in National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO), Itakpe and DSC (Aladja), just for fear of paying token damages" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Recommendation (*Hon. Francis Enokorogha — Burutu Federal Constituency*).

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

***Recommendation* (*xii*):**
"That the Committees could not find any evidence that Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL) has become competent technically, financially and managerially as opposed to when the said concession was terminated" (*Hon. Asema Mohammed — Ajaokuta Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Recommendation (*Hon. Francis Enokorogha — Burutu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, 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 Committees on Steel, Privatization and Commercialization and Justice on the Re-concession of the National Iron-Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO), Itakpe and the sale of Delta Steel Company (DSC), Aladja to Global Infrastructure Nigeria Limited (GINL) (**HR. 31/2013**) and approved Recommendations (*i*) - (*x*), and rejected Recommendations (*xi*) and (*xii*).

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

(*iii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by ABZ Integrated Limited:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do Resume the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by ABZ Integrated Limited against the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) on Non-payment of Consultancy Fees and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South 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.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

Debate:

Consideration deferred to enable the Committees on Rules and Business, Public Petitions, Justice, and Finance to re-examine some contending issues in the Report and report back to the House in January 2014.

Chairman to report progress:

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole, deferred consideration of the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by ABZ Integrated Limited against the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) on Non-payment of Consultancy Fees to enable the Committees on Rules and Business, Public Petitions, Justice, and Finance to re-examine some contending issues in the Report and report back to the House in January 2014.

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

(*iv*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by Ex-Cpl Maria Ikhimi:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ex-Cpl Maria Ikhimi against the Nigerian Army on her Dismissal from the Service of Nigerian Army 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 the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report, put and agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation*:**
"Urge the Chief of Army Staff to review the case of the Ex-Cpl Maria Ikhimi" (*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 Ex-Cpl Maria Ikhimi against the Nigerian Army on her Dismissal from the Service of Nigerian Army and approved the only Recommendation of the Report.

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

13. **Adjournment:**
That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 14 *January*, 2014 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Deputy House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.25 *p.m.*

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker