FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 56

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 4 February, 2014

1. The House met at 12.00 p.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, 30 January, 2014.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement:**
(*a*) ***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following:

(*i*) Staff and Students of Skyward International Academy Mararaba, Karu, Nasarawa State;

(*ii*) Staff and Students of Funtage International School, Asokoro, Abuja.

(*b*) ***Suspension of Plenary*:**
Mr Speaker announced that the Leadership of the House had agreed with their counterpart in the Senate to suspend plenary for Wednesday 5, and Thursday 6, February, 2014 to enable members of the All Progressives Congress (APC) attend the party's registration exercise.

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

(*i*) Hon. Stella Dorgu (*Sagbama/Ekeremor Federal Constituency*) from Mr Azazi Ebiyekedumu, praying the House to redress his unlawful dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police;

(*ii*) Hon. Daniel Reyenieju (*Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Ugbo Meta — the six host communities to the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Warri Seaport, Warri South Local Government Area, praying the House to intervene in the anti-people procedures adopted by Integrated Logistic Service Limited (INTELS) operating with NPA in their communities, with a view to protecting the interest of their members.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance:**
(*i*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Daniel Reyenieju (*Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to a fire incident which gutted the Ogbejoh main market in Warri on Saturday, 11 January, 2014. He emphasized the importance of the market to the residents of the area and the need for urgent intervention to assuage their predicament. He therefore urged the

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House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) so that the matter could be debated 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.*

Urgent Need to Assist the Victims of a Fire Disaster at Ogbejoh Main Market, Warri South Local Government of Delta State:

The House:

Notes with great concern that at about 3:20 am on 11th of January, 2014, Ogbejoh main market in Warri South local Government was gutted by fire;

Further notes that the fire resulted into massive loss of about three hundred (300) shops filled with goods and other valuable properties including physical cash;

Also notes that the estimated) value of the damage caused by this unfortunate fire incident runs into millions of Naira;

Worried that the fire incident has caused untold hardship to shop owners in the market with thousand persons been adversely affected by the fire disaster;

Concerned that if immediate effort is not taken to ameliorate the suffering of the victims by providing alternative shopping centre, they will be further faced with pains.

Further concerned that the situation may degenerate into causing further pressure on the economy and increase the rate of unemployment in the State, and the country at large;

Resolves to:

Call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently commence palliative measures by sending relief materials to cushion the effect of the fire incident on the victims (*Hon. Daniel Reyenieju — Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness for further legislative action pursuant to Standing Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) (**HR. 09/2014**).

(*ii*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Aminu Suleiman (*Fagge Federal Constituency*) called the attention of the House to the brutal murder of Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani — a prominent Islamic scholar, his wife and their 12 year - old child on Sunday, 2 February, 2014 in Zaria, Kaduna State. He condemned the dastardly act and urged the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to enable it be debated 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.*

Unfortunate Assassination of Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani by Unknown Criminal Gang:

The House:

Notes with regret the unwarranted assassination of Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani, a known Islam scholar based in Zaria, Kaduna State, his wife and 12 years old son by unknown gunmen in the early hours of Sunday, 2 February, 2014;

Aware that Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani lived a decent life spreading love, peace and spiritual development of Nigerians;

Further aware that Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani had always acted and spoken on the issues objectively hence neither himself nor the members of his family deserved this dastardly act;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the House to observe special prayers for the repose of the souls of the departed;

(*ii*) commiserate with the family, people and government of Kaduna State over the sad occurrence;

(*iii*) urge the relevant security agencies to unravel the circumstances surrounding the unfortunate incident, fish out the perpetrators and ensure that justice is done (*Hon. Aminu Suleiman — Fagge Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with regret the unwarranted assassination of Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani, a known Islam scholar based in Zaria, Kaduna State, his wife and 12 years old son by unknown gunmen in the early hours of Sunday, 2 February, 2014;

Aware that Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani lived a decent life spreading love, peace and spiritual development of Nigerians;

Further aware that Sheikh Muhammed Auwal Al-bani had always acted and spoken on the issues objectively hence neither himself nor the members of his family deserved this dastardly act;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the House to observe special prayers for the repose of the souls of the departed;

(*ii*) commiserate with the family, people and government of Kaduna State over the sad occurrence;

(*iii*) urge the relevant security agencies to unravel the circumstances surrounding the unfortunate incident, fish out the perpetrators and ensure that justice is done (**HR. 10/2014**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased and a prayer was offered for the repose of their souls.

6. Presentation of Reports:

(*i*) ***Committees on Defence, Army, Navy and Air Force*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committees on Defence, Army, Navy and Air Force on the Screening of Nominees for Appointment as Service Chiefs for the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria" (*Hon. Bashir Adamu — Kazaure/Roni/Gwiwa/Yankashi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report of the Petition by Mr Muniru B. Kadiri-Alaga:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Munir B. Kadiri-Alaga against the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) Lagos on Alleged Wrongful Dismissal from Service" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report of the Petition by VALS Investment Limited:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by VALS Investment Limited, represented by Mr Valentine C. Okorie against Mr Heng Lluyang of Zhejian Amp-King Honest Import and Export Company Limited on alleged fraudulent business transaction" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iv*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report of the Petition by 1,444 Disengaged Janitorial/Service Contract Workers of ExxonMobil:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by 1,444 Disengaged Janitorial/Service Contract Workers of ExxonMobil against ExxonMobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited on Alleged Non-Payment of Cumulative Terminal Benefits/Entitlements and Gross Violations of Human/Labour Rights" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*v*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report of the Petition by Mr Ugwuzor Sampson:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Ugwuzor Sampson against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on Alleged Unjust Dismissal from Service" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

7. **A Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦4,642,960,000,000 (Four Trillion, Six Hundred and Forty-Two Billion, Nine Hundred and Sixty Million Naira) only, of which ₦399,687,801,891 (Three Hundred and Ninety-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Eighty-Seven Million, Eight Hundred and One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Ninety-One Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦712,000,000,000 (Seven Hundred and Twelve Billion Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦2,430,665,361,597 (Two Trillion, Four Hundred and Thirty Billion, Six Hundred and Sixty-Five Million, Three Hundred and Sixty-One Thousand, Five Hundred and Ninety-Seven Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the balance of ₦1,100,606,836,512 (One Trillion, One Hundred Billion, Six Hundred and Six Million, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Six Thousand, Five Hundred and Twelve Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2014 — *Second Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦4,642,960,000,000 (Four Trillion, Six Hundred and Forty-Two Billion, Nine Hundred and Sixty Million Naira) only, of which ₦399,687,801,891 (Three Hundred and Ninety-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Eighty-Seven Million, Eight Hundred and One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Ninety-One Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦712,000,000,000 (Seven Hundred and Twelve Billion Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦2,430,665,361,597 (Two Trillion, Four Hundred and Thirty Billion, Six Hundred and Sixty-Five Million, Three Hundred and Sixty-One Thousand, Five Hundred and Ninety-Seven Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the balance of ₦1,100,606,836,512 (One Trillion, One Hundred Billion, Six Hundred and Six Million, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Six Thousand, Five Hundred and Twelve Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2014 be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Hon Emmanuel Jime (*Makurdi/Guma Federal Constituency*) observed that the Appropriations Bill, 2014 submitted by the Executive branch was not accompanied by details of schedule estimates of the revenue and expenditure for the next three financial years of certain Government corporations and agencies as provided in

the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007. He noted that rather than submit the details of the estimates from the relevant bodies, the Executive branch forwarded summaries of the estimates. He therefore called on the House to reject the budget document as laid by the executive branch for noncompliance with the provisions of the Act.

Mr Speaker invited the Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, for clarifications.

The Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Hon. John Owan Enoh informed the House that the Executive branch was not in breach of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 as the 2014 budget estimates was submitted with the estimates from the relevant corporations and agenciesas prescribed by the Act. He noted that the Executive branch had always in the past submitted summary of the estimates from the relevant agencies and it is the responsibility of the various Standing Committees of the House to study the documents of the agencies under their supervision and raise necessary questions, with a view to making recommendations to the House.

Mr Speaker ordered that the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Committees on Rules and Business, Justice, and Judiciary to examine the issue raised by Hon. Emmanuel Jime in the light of clarifications by Hon John Enoh and advise the Speaker within 24 hours.

8. Consideration of Report:
***Committees on Defence, Army, Navy and Air Force*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committees on Defence, Army, Navy and Air Force on the Screening of Nominees for Appointment as Service Chiefs for the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria" (*Hon. Bashir Adamu — Kazaure/Roni/Gwiwa/Yankashi 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*)

***Recommendations*:**
That the House do approve the confirmation of the nomination of the under-listed officers as follows:

(*i*) "That the House do approve the confirmation of the nomination of Air Marshal Alex S. Badeh as Chief of Defence Staff" (*Hon. Bashir Adamu — Kazaure/Roni/Gwiwa/Yankashi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

(*ii*) "That the House do approve the confirmation of the nomination of Maj. Gen. Kenneth T. J. Minimah as Chief of Army Staff" (*Hon. Bashir Adamu — Kazaure/Roni/Gwiwa/Yankashi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

(*iii*) "That the House do approve the confirmation of the nomination of Rear Admiral Usman O. Jibrin as Chief of Naval Staff" (*Hon. Bashir Adamu — Kazaure/Roni/Gwiwa/Yankashi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

(*iv*) "That the House do approve the confirmation of the nomination of Air Vice Marshal Adesola N.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of