FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 99

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 19 February, 2014

1. Prayers
2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
3. Oaths
4. Message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
5. Message from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
6. Other Announcements (*if any*)
7. Petitions (*if any*)
8. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance
9. Personal Explanation

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. National Biosafety Management Agency Bill, 2014 (HB. 579) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

2. Nigerian Development and Counterpart Fund Bill, 2014 (HB. 640) (*Hon. M. S. U. Kalgo*) — *First Reading*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. **Urgent Need to Monitor the Intervention Fund set Aside for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN):**
Hon. Patrick A. Ikhariale:

The House:

Notes that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) at its 7th Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Finance Conference held recently in Abuja announced that it had set aside the sum of Two Hundred and Twenty Billion Naira (₦220 Billion) as Fund from which Micro-Finance Banks could borrow at 9 percent interest rate and in turn lend to Micro, Small and Medium Scale Entrepreneurs (MSME);

Aware that the Fund is aimed at addressing the funds challenges being experienced by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME);

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Also aware that the Fund, according to Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), would be made available to Participating Financial Institutions (PFI), thereby improving their capacity to meet the credit needs of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME);

Further aware that the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) stated that the Fund specifically made provision for micro-credit which has been identified as a way to combat the prevalent poverty rate in the country and empower Nigerians to embark on ventures that would enable them become self employed;

Observes that despite the laudable nature of the Fund, there are obvious hurdles envisaged in its implementation;

Equally aware that the Fund has made specific provisions for small farmers and women entrepreneurs towards facilitating efficient produce marketing in order to reduce post harvest losses; in the same vein, 60% of the Fund has been reserved for women to ensure that they have easy access to credits;

Disturbed that the 9% lending rate ceiling fixed by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) seems rather high, considering the group of people the Fund is meant for, who are mainly artisans, small farmers engaged in subsistence farming and small scale business owners;

Worried that despite the fact that Microfinance Banks (MFB) are currently charging between 30 and 40 percent as interest, the CBN has granted them powers to fix the rate of interest when they lend to industrialists; a situation that if not properly monitored, may be abused by their fixing interest at the rate they are currently charging;

Further worried that if not properly monitored, the high interest rates would defeat the aim of the scheme;

Appreciates the need for the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to find a way to put a limit on the amount chargeable as interest which would be mutually beneficial to both the Microfinance Banks (MFBs) and the borrowers;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to closely and carefully monitor the implementation of the scheme in order to prevent corrupt practices by bank owners or their privies who may appropriate the funds;

(*ii*) further urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to ensure that in the disbursement of the funds, efforts should be made to ensure that those whom it is meant for, including the sixty percent reserved for women, could easily access it at a minimal interest rate;

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency to ensure compliance.

BILLS

2. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Public Management of Nigeria to Provide for the Control of its Membership and Promote the Practice of Public Management in Nigeria; and for Other Purposes Connected Therewith (HB. 422) — *Second Reading*.

3. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Act and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 416) — *Second Reading*.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

4. Committee on Commerce:
Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Commerce on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 519) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 12/12/2013).

5. **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report of the Petition by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs):
Hon. Uzo Azubuike:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Edo State on the murder of Comrade Olaitan Oyerinde and the alleged complicity of the Police in the shoddy investigation and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 5/6/2013):

(*i*) urge the Inspector General of Police to harmonize all perceived areas of conflict in the investigations by the Police and the State Security Services based on quality of evidence and transmit the case file to the Attorney General of Edo State for immediate prosecution of all the suspects;

(*ii*) further urge the Inspector General of Police to critically investigate the complicity of the Divisional Police Officer and Officers of Esigie Police Station, Benin City in the documentation of the recovered locally made single barrel gun in the face of manifest inconsistencies in both the extract from the Crime Diary and Exhibit Register;

(*iii*) urge the Police to further investigate the involvement of Rev. David Ugolor in this episode beyond the confession of a suspect, subject to diligent pursuit of his suit against his arrest and detention;

(*iv*) urge all the Security Agencies to cooperate and collaborate in the areas of their efficiencies while ensuring respect for the statutory responsibilities of the respective Agencies;

(*v*) condemn the publication on the pages of Newspapers of Classified Communications between the Attorney General of the Federation and that of Edo State and vice versa and advise Government Agencies against such conducts;

(*vi*) urge the Inspector General of Police to ensure that in the future, Governors, as Chief Security Officers of their States, are given regular briefing in matters of serious crimes and eventual breakthroughs;

(*vii*) commend the efforts of the Nigeria Police and the State Security Services in the investigation of this matter and urge, in the future, for better cooperation among Security Agencies in Nigeria.

6. **Committee on Public Petitions**
***Report of the Petition by Mr Patrick Okoli*:**
Hon. Uzo Azubuike
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Patrick Okoli against the Nigeria Police on alleged wrongful termination of appointment and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 11/12/2013):

(*i*) condemn the Police Service Commission (PSC) for its continued disobedience of court judgment in Suit No. BA/48/H/93 dated 9 February, 1994;

(*ii*) urge the Nigeria Police to reinstate Mr Patrick Okoli and place him on such a rank that he would reasonably have been, but for the unlawful termination of his appointment;

(*iii*) mandate the Nigeria Police to obey all subsisting court orders in this matter;

(*iv*) further urge the Nigeria Police to ensure that the ₦10,000,000 (Ten Million Naira) being special and general damages awarded against the Respondent (Police) for unlawful, illegal, unconstitutional denial to the Applicant of his rights and privileges as a senior officer of Nigeria Police Force, from 1993 to date is executed as well as payment of all arrears of salaries and entitlements due to him.

7. Committee on Public Petitions
Report of the Petition by E. O. Mbadugha:
Hon. Uzo Azubuike
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by E. O Mbadugha against the Nigeria Police on alleged wrongful indefinite suspension from work and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 11/12/2013):

(*i*) that the Nigeria Police should lift the indefinite suspension placed on the petitioner since 1997 and pay him all the salaries, entitlements and accruals from the date of suspension to date; and

(*ii*) the Nigeria Police should place the petitioner at par with his colleagues or on such a rank that he would reasonably have been, but for the suspension.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Rules and Business	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 Assembly Complex
2.	Steel (*with Hon. Minister of Mines and Steel Development*)	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 444 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
3.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Crude Oil Theft	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 324 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
4.	Anti-Corruption, National Ethics and Values	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 244 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
5.	Pensions	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 3.10 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
6.	Gas Resources	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 327 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
7.	Legislative Compliance (*with NIMASA*)	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 2.05 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
8.	Federal Character (*with National Mathematical Centre, National Education Planning Institute, Ondo and Niger Delta Power Holding Company of Nigeria*)	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	1.30 p.m.	Committee Room 247 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
9.	Public Petitions (*Investigative Hearing*)	Wednesday, 19 February, 2014	1.00 p.m.	Committee Room 429 New Building (House) Assembly Complex