FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 100

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 20 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 REPORTS

1. **House Delegation to the 32nd Session of ACP Parliamentary Assembly and 25th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly:**
Hon. Mukhtar M. Ahmed:
"That this House do receive the Report of the House delegation to the 32nd Session of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Parliamentary Assembly and the 25th Session of the African, Caribbean and Pacific-European Union (ACP)-(EU) Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Brussels, Belgium between 12th -19th June, 2013".

2. **Committee on Judiciary:**
Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari:
"That this House do receive the Report of the Committee on Judiciary on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Criminal Justice (Release from Custody) (Special Provisions) Act, Cap. C40, LFN 2004 to include the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court in the list of Persons Authorised to Exercise the Powers to Order the Release of Persons detained in Prisons in the Circumstances Specified in the Act (HB. 527)" (*Referred*: 9/7/2013).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTION

1. Allegations of Corruption in the Process of Accrediting Programmes in Nigerian Universities and its Attendant effects:
Hon. Abayomi Ayeola Abdul Kabir

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

The House:

Notes incessant allegations of imbalance and fraudulent practices against the National Universities Commission in the process of accreditation of courses in Nigerian Universities;

Also notes that despite the educational sector obtaining the highest budgetary allocation in the 2013 Appropriation Act, Nigerians have not felt the impact of such allocation given that the quality of education has been deteriorating;

Aware that the strike action recently embarked upon by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) was premised on the poor state of infrastructural facilities in the nation's Universities;

Concerned that the Committee set up by the Federal Government, in which the House was represented, that carried out the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) assessment of Nigerian Public Universities identified numerous deficiencies in the University system;

Also concerned that the rot identified in the NEEDS Report above appeared to have belied the full accreditation status granted by the National Universities Commission (NUC) to some of the programmes in the Universities that were assessed; a situation which casts doubt on the credibility of the accreditation procedure of the NUC;

Disturbed that the procedure for selecting accreditation officials lacks credibility and is biased in favour of only members of the Academia capable of doing the bidding of the leadership of the National Universities Commission;

Feels that the process of accreditation ought to provide a means of recognizing some levels of performance, quality and integrity which engenders confidence from the pubic and the educational community;

Fears that if such acts of corruption are left unchecked, the imbalance in the regulation of Universities would persist and may consequently result in further decline in the quality of education;

Resolves to:

(*i*) condemn the imbalance in the regulation and fraudulent practices in the procedure of accreditation of academic programmes of Universities in Nigeria;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Education to investigate the allegations to determine if the condition of physical facilities, teaching staff, etc. meet the benchmark minimum academic standards of programmes in Nigerian Universities and other approved accreditation guidelines and report back to the House within 4 weeks;

(*iii*) also mandate the Committee to determine whether or not the procedure of regulating Nigerian Universities should be reviewed to enable Nigeria meet International Standard of Education and then curtail the capital flight arising from Nigerians patronising foreign Universities.

BILLS

2. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the manner in which Individuals may, in the Public Interest, disclose Information that Relates to Unlawful or Other Illegal Conduct or Corrupt Practices of Others; to Provide for Protection against Victimization of Persons who make these Disclosures, to Provide for a Fund to Reward Individuals who make Disclosures and for Other Related Matters, 2014 (HB. 82) — *Third Reading*.

3. A Bill for an Act to Amend Section 293 (3) of the Investment and Securities Act to remove the Bottlenecks in the Execution of the Award or Judgment of Investment and Securities Tribunal and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 602) — *Second Reading*.

4. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Act to Strengthen the Agency to Prosecute Offences under the Act, the Merchant Shipping Act, Cap. M11 LFN 2011 and the Coastal and Inland Shipping Act and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB.595) — *Second Reading*.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

5. **Committee on Pensions:**
Hon. Ibrahim Bawa Kamba:
"That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Pensions on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Pension Reform Act, No. 2 of 2004 and Re-Enact the Pension Reform Act, 2013 to make Provision for Contributory Pensions Scheme and for Other Connected Matters (HB. 487) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Laid*: 29/10/2013).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Rules and Business	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 Assembly Complex
2.	Steel (*with Minister of Steel and Mines Development*)	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 144 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
3.	Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (*with Hon. Minister of Health*)	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 034 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
4.	Agriculture	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 348 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
5.	Power	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 437 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
6.	Finance (*with Independent Revenue Generation*)	Thursday, 20 February, 2014	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 019 New Building (House) Assembly Complex