FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SESSION
NO. 74

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 3 April, 2014

1. The House met at 11.42 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, 2 April, 2014.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

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

(*i*) Members of SOS Children's Villages Nigeria, Gwagwalada, Abuja; and

(*ii*) National Association of Faculty of Administration Students (NAFAS), Nasarawa State University Chapter.

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

(*i*) Hon. Daniel Effiong Asuquo (*Akamkpa/Biase Federal Constituency*) from Blessed Okokon and Williams, on behalf of the staff of the United Cement Company, Calabar (UNICEM), praying the House to redress the suspension of Branch Executive Union of UNICEM and the dismissal of all its workers;

(*ii*) Hon. John Dyegh (*Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*) on behalf of Korna Terbemer, praying the House to prevail on the Authority of University of Ibadan to allow him continue his studies in the school.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance:**

(*i*) Citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Dakuku Adol Peterside (*Opobo/Nkoro/Andoni Federal Constituency*) informed the House about the current leadership succession crisis in the Independent Petroleum Marketers' Association of Nigeria (IPMAN). He noted that the organization controls over 10,000 fuel service stations nationwide and stressed the need to

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take urgent action to resolve the crisis in order to avoid fuel scarcity, as IPMAN has threatened to close down its service outlets throughout the country. 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 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 for Parties Involved in the Leadership and Succession Crisis in IPMAN to Exercise Restrain and Not Encumber the Fragile Distribution of Petroleum Products in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that the operations of members of IPMAN is basically the distribution of petroleum products across Nigeria which is key to the downstream operations in the petroleum sector;

Further notes that IPMAN and her membership are numbered well over Ten Thousand (10,000) outlets or service stations across Nigeria, thus constitutes one-third of petroleum products retailing infrastructure;

Aware that there is an on-going leadership succession crisis rocking the National Secretariat of IPMAN;

Further aware that the leadership of IPMAN has threatened to call its members nationwide to close down their operations this week;

Worried that the scarcity of petroleum products currently in Nigeria may be more severe if the leadership crisis in IPMAN is allowed to affect their operations;

Concerned that if the parties to the crisis and stakeholders are not called to order, that the crisis is capable of threatening the fragile availability and distribution of petroleum products in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Justice to immediately liaise with the leadership of IPMAN and NUPENG to avert any unpleasant consequences following the succession crisis in IPMAN and finding ways to resolve them;

(*ii*) call on all parties to the crisis in IPMAN and NUPENG to sheathe their sword and not take any action that will further expose Nigerians to hardship (*Hon. Dakuku Adol Peterside — Opobo/Nkoro/Andoni Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) In Prayer (*i*), line 1, immediately after the word "Justice", *insert* the words "Labour, Employment and Productivity" (*Hon. Eddie Mbadiwe — Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) In Prayer (*i*), *leave out* the word "Justice" (*Hon. Odebunmi Dokun — Surulere/Ogo Oluwa Federal Constituency*).

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

(*iii*) In Prayer (*i*) as amended, *insert* the following after the last word "and to report back to the House in one week" (*Hon. Kamil Akinlabi Mudashiru — Afijio/Atiba East/Oyo West 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 operations of members of IPMAN is basically the distribution of petroleum products across Nigeria which is key to the downstream operations in the petroleum sector;

Further noted that IPMAN and her membership are numbered well over Ten Thousand (10,000) outlets or service stations across Nigeria, thus constitutes one-third of petroleum products retailing infrastructure;

Aware that there is an on-going leadership succession crisis rocking the National Secretariat of IPMAN;

Further aware that the leadership of IPMAN has threatened to call its members nationwide to close down their operations this week;

Worried that the scarcity of petroleum products currently in Nigeria may be more severe if the leadership crisis in IPMAN is allowed to affect their operations;

Concerned that if the parties to the crisis and stakeholders are not called to order, that the crisis is capable of threatening the fragile availability and distribution of petroleum products in Nigeria;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Labour, Employment and Productivity to immediately liaise with the leadership of IPMAN and NUPENG to avert any unpleasant consequences following the succession crisis in IPMAN and finding ways to resolve them and to report back to the House in one week;

(*ii*) call on all parties to the crisis in IPMAN and NUPENG to sheathe their sword and not take any action that will further expose Nigerians to hardship (**HR. 47/2014**).

(*ii*) Also citing Standing Order VIII, Rule 46, Hon. Christiana Alaaga (*Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the reported persistent attacks by Fulani herdsmen on some communities in Benue State, in which many people lost their lives and properties worth millions of Naira were destroyed. She noted that the crisis had recently taken a more dangerous dimension with the alleged use of chemical weapons by the attackers. She thus urged the House to consider this development as a matter of urgent public importance, and to suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) so that it could 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.*

The Urgent Need to Stop the Normadic Herdsmen from Attacks, Occupation of Ancestoral Farmlands and Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons on Defenceless Farmers in Gwer East/Gwer West Local Government Areas in Benue State:

The House:

Notes the persistent attack of the suspected Fulani herdsmen on several communities all over Nigeria with the North Central Geopolitical zone the worst hit in recent times, has led to, the loss of thousands of lives, houses and farmlands worth over millions of Naira;

Further notes that nomadic herdsmen numbering over 200 hundred laid siege on Agena, Mbatsada communities of Gwer East Local Government in the early hours of the day shot and killed people as they came out of their houses. At the end of the day, 20 people were killed including women and children with 500 people rendered homeless, most affected being women, children and vulnerable;

Worried that these crises have taken a dangerous dimension of the alleged use of chemical weapons by the herdsmen on the Tiv farmers of those areas and if this practice is not stopped it might spread to other parts of the country;

Further worried that the 45km Makurdi/Naka Federal Government highway has been completely taken over for the past two months these invaders who shot and killed at sight anybody that ventures to pass on this road, consequently crippling interstate transportation and all commercial activities via this road;

Concerned that most farmlands and settlements along this federal roads are now taken over by these herdsmen who graze their cattle on farm crops left behind by fleeing farmers;

Disturbed that with the growing number of internally displaced persons, there is impending humanitarian crises like the outbreak of epidemics, famine and crime all resulting to more casualties;

Aware that several calls made on various stakeholders, security agencies and other government organs to intervene have had little or no positive results at the moment;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn in very clear terms the killings and maiming by the herdsmen;

(*ii*) Urge NEMA to urgently provide relief materials to the surviving victims of the attacks who are internally displaced in Agena, Mbatsada, Sengev and Mbakyoondu communities;

(*iii*) call on security agencies like the Nigerian Army, Police and DSS to arrest the perpetrators of this violence especially those using the alleged chemical weapons to attack farmers and bring them to book;

(*iv*) further call on security agencies to take urgent steps to ensure the protection of travellers .and motorist on Makurdi/Naka Federal interstate highway as well as evacuate those herdsmen who have settled on ancestral farmlands and taken possession of houses in Gwer West Local Government.;

(*v*) also call on the Federal Government to compensate the farmers who have lost their. farmers who have lost their farmlands and farm crops and hence lost their means of livelihood to these crises (*Hon. Christina Alaaga — Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (**HR. 48/2014**).

6. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the West African Examinations Council Act, Cap. W4, Laws of the Federation of Nigerian, 2004 to, among other things, give effect to the Revised Convention of the West African Examinations Council and for Other Related Matters (HB. 588) — *Second Reading*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the West African Examinations Council Act, Cap. W4, Laws of the Federation of Nigerian, 2004 to, among other things, give effect to the Revised Convention of the West African Examinations Council and for Other Related Matters (HB. 588) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

Debate:

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time, put and agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Education.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Authorize the Provision of Free Pre-Natal and Post-Natal Health Services to every Nigerian Woman Pregnant with Child in Government Hospitals and for Other Related Matters (HB. 607) — *Second Reading*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorize the Provision of Free Pre-Natal and Post-Natal Health Services to every Nigerian Woman Pregnant with Child in Government Hospitals and for Other Related Matters (HB. 607) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Victor Afamefuna Ogene — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Debate adjourned to enable the Committee on Rules and Business determine whether a Bill on the same subject matter is pending before the House.

8. **Consideration of Reports:**

(*i*) ***Committee on Agriculture*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Agriculture on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science Act, No. 26 of 2007 to properly define the Institute's Regulatory Role, Enforce the Provisions of the Act and Provide Penalties for Breach Thereof and for Other Related Matters (HB. 478) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Arowosoge I. Abiose — Ekiti South West/Ikere/Orun/Ise 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*)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE ACT, NO. 26 OF 2007 TO PROPERLY DEFINE THE INSTITUTE'S REGULATORY ROLE, ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT AND PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR BREACH THEREOF AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Debate:

Consideration of report deferred to allow for more time for Members to study the Report.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Agriculture on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science Act, No. 26 of 2007 to properly define the Institute's Regulatory Role, Enforce the Provisions of the Act and Provide Penalties for Breach Thereof and for Other Related Matters (HB. 478) to allow for more time for Members to study the Report.

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

(*ii*) ***Committees on Public Procurement and Legislative Compliance*:**
That this House do consider the Report of the Committees on Public Procurement and Legislative Compliance on the Illegal Operation of the Bureau of Public Procurement without the National Council on Public Procurement in Breach of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 and approve the Recommendations therein.

Order read, and deferred to determine whether the report is related to any matter pending in court, pursuant to Order IX, Rule 57(5).

(*iii*) ***Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Loans and Debts, and Justice*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Loans and Debts, and Justice on the proposed $1.56 Billion Loan by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and approve the Recommendations therein" (*Hon. Muriana Saubana A. — Ibarapa Central/Ibarapa North 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.

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 Petroleum Resources (Upstream), Petroleum Resources (Downstream), Loans and Debts, and Justice on the proposed $1.56 Billion Loan by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and deferred consideration.

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

(*iv*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by Ambassador Jerry Sonny Ugokwe:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Ambassador Jerry Sonny Ugokwe against the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) on alleged re-designation and re-allocation of a green area assigned to him at Apo Legislative Quarters 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*)

***Recommendation* (*i*):**
"Urge the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) to uphold the designation of Plot 855 as a green area and revoke the allocation of the said plot for residential purposes" (*Hon. Uzo Azubuike — Abia North/Abia South Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*ii*):**
"Urge the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory and the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) administration to uphold and maintain the Abuja Master Plan" (*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 Ambassador Jerry Sonny Ugokwe against the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) on alleged re-designation and re-allocation of a green area assigned to him at Apo Legislative Quarters and approved Recommendations (*i*) and (*ii*) of the Report.

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

(*v*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report of the Petition by Mr Anthony Ositadimma Ugwueke:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Anthony Ositadimma Ugwueke against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on wrongful dismissal from service 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 Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to review the petitioner's case and reverse the dismissal order to termination of appointment" (*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 Anthony Ositadimma Ugwueke against the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on wrongful dismissal from service and approved the only Recommendation of the Report.

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

9. Adjournment:
That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 8 *April*, 2014 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Deputy House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.26 *p.m.*

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker