FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FOURTH SESSION
No. 10

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 15 July, 2014

1. The House met at 11.44 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 Thursday, 10 July, 2014.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46):**

(*i*) Hon. Irona Alphonsus Gerald (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*) intimated the House on incessant attacks on some communities in Egbema town, Egbema Local Government Area of Imo State since January 2012 by suspected cult groups. He noted that the attackers abducted a number of persons, and many people fled their homes for fear of further attacks. He stressed the need for security agencies to move into the area with a view to stopping the attacks 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 it 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.*

Incessant Killing of Innocent Civilians by Suspected Cult Groups in Egbema Clan, OhajI/ Egbema Local Government Area of Imo State Between January 2012 - to July, 2014:

The House:

Notes with concern the incessant killing of innocent civilians across villages and communities in oil and gas rich Egbema Clan of Ohaji/Egbema Local Government Area of Imo State by suspected cult groups;

Further notes that on Wednesday, 9 July, 2014, attackers suspected to be members of cult groups invaded Ukwugba in Obiakpu Community, Egbema Clan at about 2pm, shot and killed in cold blood two persons and ran away to neighbouring communities within Egbema;

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Sadly notes that on Sunday, 13 July, 2014 at about 6.00 a.m., the rival cult group in a retaliatory attack invaded Obiakpu main town in Egbema Clan and killed four innocent 'persons including a community leader Chief Emmanuel Opara (Akurulo) before they ran away to neighbouring communities;

Concerned that in Abaezi, Obiakpu and Abacheke Communities in Egbema Clan, over 40 people were killed by the same rival cult groups between January 2012 to June 2014;

Further concerned that several people were abducted and taken as hostages and houses destroyed during the attacks;

Alarmed that several people have been rendered homeless and several others fled for fear of further attacks;

Further alarmed that food stuffs and other valuable properties worth several millions of Naira were destroyed;

Disturbed that the cult groups operated with sophisticated weapons and dressed in military camouflage during the several attacks and ran away to the neighbouring Egbema Communities in Rivers State and Delta State;

Further disturbed by the continued attacks could spread to other neighbouring villages and Communities of Mmahu, Obokofia, Opuoma, Mgbara, Umuorji, Ekugba, Ofurolla, Umudike, Obeakpu, Etekwuru all in Egbema Clan;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn the attacks in villages and communities in Egbema Clan and the massacre of innocent citizens by the rival cult groups;

(*ii*) Commiserate with people of the affected villages and communities in Egbema Clan over the massacre of innocent citizens;

(*iii*) Urge the relevant security Agencies to immediately provide enough personnel with necessary equipment in the strategic locations in Egbema Clan;

(*iv*) Urge the Inspector - General of Police to investigate the activities of the cult groups and bring the culprits and their sponsors to book;

(*v*) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently.provide relief materials to the displaced and victims of these attacks in Egbema Clan (*Hon. Irona Alphonsus Gerald — Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed.

The House:

Noteds with concern the incessant killing of innocent civilians across villages and communities in oil and gas rich Egbema Clan of Ohaji/Egbema Local Government Area of Imo State by suspected cult groups;

Further noted that on Wednesday, 9 July, 2014, attackers suspected to be members of cult groups invaded Ukwugba in Obiakpu Community, Egbema Clan at about 2pm, shot and killed in cold blood two persons and ran away to neighbouring communities within Egbema;

Sadly noted that on Sunday, 13 July, 2014 at about 6.00 a.m., the rival cult group in a retaliatory attack invaded Obiakpu main town in Egbema Clan and killed four innocent 'persons including a community leader Chief Emmanuel Opara (Akurulo) before they ran away to neighbouring communities;

Concerned that in Abaezi, Obiakpu and Abacheke Communities in Egbema Clan, over 40 people were killed by the same rival cult groups between January 2012 to June 2014;

Further concerned that several people were abducted and taken as hostages and houses destroyed during the attacks;

Alarmed that several people have been rendered homeless and several others fled for fear of further attacks;

Further alarmed that food stuffs and other valuable properties worth several millions of Naira were destroyed;

Disturbed that the cult groups operated with sophisticated weapons and dressed in military camouflage during the several attacks and ran away to the neighbouring Egbema Communities in Rivers State and Delta State;

Further disturbed by the continued attacks could spread to other neighbouring villages and Communities of Mmahu, Obokofia, Opuoma, Mgbara, Umuorji, Ekugba, Ofurolla, Umudike, Obeakpu, Etekwuru all in Egbema Clan;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Condemn the attacks in villages and communities in Egbema Clan and the massacre of innocent citizens by the rival cult groups;

(*ii*) Commiserate with people of the affected villages and communities in Egbema Clan over the massacre of innocent citizens;

(*iii*) Urge the relevant security Agencies to immediately provide enough personnel with necessary equipment in the strategic locations in Egbema Clan;

(*iv*) Urge the Inspector - General of Police to investigate the activities of the cult groups and bring the culprits and their sponsors to book;

(*v*) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgentlyprovide relief materials to the displaced and victims of these attacks in Egbema Clan (**HR. 24/2014**).

(*ii*) Hon. Peter Akpatason (*Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) called the attention of the House to a recent flood disaster that ravaged Igarra community in Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency, Edo State. He noted that the flooding occurred following a week-long torrential rainfall which led to loss of lives and destruction of properties. He stressed the need for the Federal Authorities to urgently intervene to alleviate the sufferings of the affected people, and therefore urged the House to consider the matter as one of urgent public importance and suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) so that it 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.*

Unprecedented Flood Disaster in Igarra Community, the Headquarters Ofakoko Edo Federal Constituency of Edo State:

The House:

Notes that the town of Igarra, the headquarters of Akoko-Edo Local Government area of Edo state which also doubles as Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency, was ravaged by a divesting flood occasioned by a week-long torrential down pour;

Further notes that thousands of inhabitants of the community have been rendered homeless by the disaster;

Aware that scores of buildings have been submerged in water, causing buildings collapse, loss of lives and colossal damage to property;

Disturbed that the situation of the hopeless and helpless victims will only get worse in the absence of urgent intervention;

Worried that if no urgent action is taken more lives will be lost as heavier rains are expected in the weeks and months ahead according to the 2014 predictions of Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET);

Resolves to:

Urge the National Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to urgently undertake on-the-spot-assessment with a view to:

(*a*) evacuating and providing relief materials to victims;

(*b*) determining the causes and the extent of damage as well as possible remedies (*Hon. Peter Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to Committee on Emergency and Disaster Management Preparedness for further legislative action, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) (**HR. 25/2014**).

4. **Presentation of Reports:**

(*i*) ***Committee on Communications*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Communications on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) the total sum of ₦52,516,736,000 (Fifty-Two Billion, Five Hundred and Sixteen Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty Six Thousand Naira) only, of which the sum of ₦14,823,226,000 (Fourteen Billion, Eight and Twenty-Three Million ,Two Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand Naira) only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, the sum of ₦15,082,743,000 (Fifteen Billion, Eighty-Two Million, Seven Hundred and Forty-Three Thousand Naira) only, is for Capital Expenditure, the sum of ₦3,400,000,000 (Three Billion, Four Hundred Million Naira) only is for Special Projects, the sum of ₦10,810,767,000 (Ten Billion, Eight Hundred and Ten Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Seven Thousand Naira) only, is for transfer to the Federal Government of Nigeria and the sum of ₦8,400,000,000 (Eight Billion, Four Hundred Million Naira) only, is for transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund, for the year ending on the 31st day of December, 2014 (HB. 734)" (*Hon. Shehu Usman Bawa — Kaduna North Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) ***Committees on Federal Capital Territory, Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters, and Finance*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Federal Capital Territory Administration, Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters, and Finance on a Bill for an act to Authorize the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₦271,050,903.462 (Two Hundred and Seventy-One Billion, Fifty Million, Nine Hundred and Three Thousand, Four Hundred and Sixty-Two Naira) only, of which the sum of ₦49,200,944,858 (Forty-Nine Billion, Two Hundred Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Eight Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs and the sum of ₦58,159,047,573 (Fifty-Eight Billion, One Hundred and Fifty-Nine Million, Forty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy Three Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs while the Balance of ₦163,690,911.031 (One Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Six Hundred and Ninety Million, Nine Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Thirty-One Naira) only, is for Capital Projects for the Service of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the Financial year commencing from 1st January and ending on 31st December, 2014 (HB. 691)" (*Hon. Emmanuel Jime — Makurdi/Guma Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iii*) ***Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the total sum of ₦322,600,000,000 (Three Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Six Hundred Million Naira) only, of which the sum of ₦15,080,730,000.00 (Fifteen Billion, Eighty Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty Thousand Naira) only, is for Personnel Costs, the sum of ₦10,186,820,000.00 (Ten Billion, One Hundred and Eighty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty Thousand Naira) only, is for Overhead Expenditure and ₦2,281,280,000.00 (Two Billion, Two Hundred and Eighty One Million, Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Naira) only, is for Capital Expenditure while ₦295,051,170,000.00 (Two Hundred and Ninety-Five Billion Fifty-One Million, One Hundred and Seventy Thousand Naira) only, is for Development Projects for the Service of the Niger Delta Development Commission for the fiscal Year Commencing on 1st April, 2014 and ending on 31st December, 2014 (HB. 722)" (*Hon. Nicholas Mutu — Bomadi/Patani Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iv*) ***Committee on Banking and Currency*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Banking and Currency on a Bill for an Act to Amend Sections 2, 16 (5), 34 (1) and (2) 35, 46 (2) 48, 60, 61 and 62 of the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria Act, 2010 (HB. 531)" (*Hon. Jones Chukwudi Onyereri — Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*v*) ***Committees on Commerce and Justice*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Commerce and Justice on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Sales of Goods Act of 1893 and Enact the Sales of Goods Act, 2013 to Provide for Regulation of Sales of Goods in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 486" (*Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga — Abakaliki/Izzi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

(*vi*) ***Committee on National Planning and Economic Development*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on National Planning and Economic Development on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria to be charged with the responsibility to determine what standards of Knowledge and Skill are to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the Statistics Profession and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 541)" (*Hon. Andulrahman Badamasi — Adavi/Okehi Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report laid.

5. **Need to investigate the issue of Nigerian Children who are not Attending Schools:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that education is the basic right of all children given that section 18 (3) of the 1999 Constitution enjoins Government to eradicate illiteracy;

Also notes that the number of Nigerian children who are not attending schools is increasing at an alarming rate;

Further notes a report in the Daily Trust Newspaper of June 12, 2013 where the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) asserted that Nigeria has 10.5 million children who are not attending schools, which amounts to 47% of such children globally;

Concerned that the report is an indictment on the political leadership of the country as there has not been any improvement in the enrolment of children into schools despite the huge sums allocated annually to education; even the Hon. Minister of Education recently admitted that one out of every three children in the Northern part of the country is not attending school;

Worried that this huge number of children not attending schools portends a grave danger to the growth prospects of the country and if the trend is not urgently reversed, would jeopardize the future of these children who could thereby resort to crime;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Education to investigate the matter, proffer solutions and report back to the House within one month (*Hon. Beni Lar — Langtang North/Langtang South Federal Constituency and 12 Others*).

Debate:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do dispense with Notice pursuant to Standing Order VIII, Rule 56 to enable it take an amendment on the Motion (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) In the Prayer, immediately after the word "Education", *insert* the words ", and Human Right" (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*ii*) as follows:
"Urge the Ministry of Information and National Orientation to re-orientate Nigerian parents on the need to embrace education" (*Hon. Friday Itulah — Esan North East/Esan South East Federal Constituency*).

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

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that education is the basic right of all children given that section 18 (3) of the 1999 Constitution enjoins Government to eradicate illiteracy;

Also noted that the number of Nigerian children who are not attending schools is increasing at an alarming rate;

Further noted a report in the Daily Trust Newspaper of June 12, 2013 where the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) asserted that Nigeria has 10.5 million children who are not attending schools, which amounts to 47% of such children globally;

Concerned that the report is an indictment on the political leadership of the country as there has not been any improvement in the enrolment of children into schools despite the huge sums allocated annually to education; even the Hon. Minister of Education recently admitted that one out of every three children in the Northern part of the country is not attending school;

Worried that this huge number of children not attending schools portends a grave danger to the growth prospects of the country and if the trend is not urgently reversed, would jeopardize the future of these children who could thereby resort to crime;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Education to investigate the matter, proffer solutions and report back to the House within one month;

(*ii*) Urge the Ministry of Information and National Orientation to re-orientate Nigerian parents on the need to embrace educations (**HR. 26/2014**).

6. **Suspension of the Nigerian Football Federation (NFF) by the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA):**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) Emergency Committee on 9th July, 2014 suspended the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) with immediate effect from all football activities on account of government interference in the running of the Federation;

Further notes that the earlier deadline of 15th July, 2014 given by FIFA for Nigeria to address the issue was extended to 17th July, 2014;

Regrets that the decision, if not reversed would mean that no team or club side from Nigeria can have any international sporting contact with teams or club sides from any other country;

Worried that the suspension would deprive Nigeria of representation in any regional, continental or international competitions;

Aware that the immediate result of the suspension is that Nigeria will no longer participate in the upcoming FIFA U-20 Women World Cup coming up in Canada between 5th-24th August, 2014 if the suspension order is not lifted by 17th July, 2014;

Also worried that neither the NFF nor any of its members or officials would benefit from any FIFA or CAF development programmes, including courses or training programmes during the period of the suspension;

Concerned about the adverse effects of the suspension on the careers of Nigerian footballers and the consequent loss by the nation generally;

Resolves to:

Urge the Minister of Sports/DG National Sports Commission to, as a matter of urgency, summon all the parties involved with a view to resolving the matter to avoid the suspension lingering (*Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil — Wudil/Garko Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Hon. Francis Enokorogha (Burutu Federal Constituency) observed that the subject matter of the motion is currently before a court and it might therefore be out of order for the House to discuss the matter pursuant to Standing Order IX, Rule 57(5).

Mr Speaker stated that the prayer of the motion only seeks to bring the parties in the matter to a round table with a view to resolving the issue amicably in the greater interest of the nation, which cannot be interpreted in any way as jeopardizing the interest of any party in the matter. He therefore ruled that the House is in order to discuss the motion.

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) Emergency Committee on 9th July, 2014 suspended the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) with immediate effect from all football activities on account of government interference in the running of the Federation;

Further noted that the earlier deadline of 15th July, 2014 given by FIFA for Nigeria to address the issue was extended to 17th July, 2014;

Regretted that the decision, if not reversed would mean that no team or club side from Nigeria can have any international sporting contact with teams or club sides from any other country;

Worried that the suspension would deprive Nigeria of representation in any regional, continental or international competitions;

Aware that the immediate result of the suspension is that Nigeria will no longer participate in the upcoming FIFA U-20 Women World Cup coming up in Canada between 5th-24th August, 2014 if the suspension order is not lifted by 17th July, 2014;

Also worried that neither the NFF nor any of its members or officials would benefit from any FIFA or CAF development programmes, including courses or training programmes during the period of the suspension;

Concerned about the adverse effects of the suspension on the careers of Nigerian footballers and the consequent loss by the nation generally;

Resolved to:

Urge the Minister of Sports/Director-General, National Sports Commission to, as a matter of urgency, summon all the parties involved with a view to resolving the matter to avoid the suspension lingering (**HR. 27/2014**).

7. **Consolidation of Bills:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Agency that will Provide regulation for the promotion of the practice of Traditional and Alternative Medicine in Nigeria which include Medicine that is outside the mainstream of allopathic and Traditional Medicines and involves the management or treatment of diseases in co-operation with natural forces such as acupuncture, acupressure massage etc. and the defensive mechanisms of the body and for Other Related Matters (HB. 621), and a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Complementary and Alternative Medical (Establishment and Development) Commission Bill to encourage, Promote and Co-ordinate Traditional Medicine practice in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 670) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Sunday Adepoju — Ibarapa East/Ido Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the School of Mines and Geological Studies in Akoko-Edo Local Government Area of Edo State and for Other Related Matters (HB. 679) — *Second Reading*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the School of Mines and Geological Studies in Akoko-Edo Local Government Area of Edo State and for Other Related Matters (HB. 679) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Akpatason Ohiozojeh Peter — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*).

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 Solid Minerals.

9. **Adjournment:**
That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 16 *July*, 2014 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (Hon. *Mulikat Akande-Adeola — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.15 *p.m.*

Aminu Waziri Tambuwal
Speaker