FOURTH REPUBLIC
7TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FOURTH SESSION
NO. 128

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 5 March, 2015

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. **Committees on Finance, Appropriations, Aids, Loans and Debt Management, and Legislative Budget and Research:**
Hon. Abdulmumin Jibrin:
"That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Finance, Appropriations, Aids, Loans and Debt Management, and Legislative Budget and Research on the 2015-2017 Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Paper" (*Referred*: 15/10/2014).

2. **Committees on Public Accounts, and Justice:**
Hon. Solomon Olamilekan:
"That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Public Accounts, and Justice on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Audit Act of 1958 and Re-Enact the Audit Act, 2014 to Strengthen the Power of the Auditor General for the Federation, Establish the Audit Service Commission and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 732)" (*Referred*: 23/9/2014).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Receipt and Adoption of the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to further amend the Electoral Act, No. 6 of 2010 to ensure a level playing field for all participants in the Electoral Process and for a more Transparent Process of conducting Elections in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 718):
Hon. Jerry S. Manwe:

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The House:

Notes that the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2014 was passed by the House on Tuesday, 14 January, 2015 and transmitted to the Senate for concurrence;

The Senate passed same Bill with some differences;

The two Chambers met in Conference and adopted a harmonized version of the Bill;

A clean copy of the Conference Report is ready for receipt and adoption;

And in view of the importance of the Bill in ensuring free and fair elections in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

Receive and Adopt the Conference Report on a Bill for an Act to further amend the Electoral Act, No. 6 of 2010 to ensure a level playing field for all participants in the electoral process and for a more transparent process of conducting elections in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 718).

2. **Rebasing the Nigerian Economy and need to Bridge the Gap in Tax- to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP)Ratio:**
Hon. Friday Itulah:

The House:

Notes that the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) recently changed the base year for calculating the Nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 1990 to 2010, in order to reflect the various structural changes in the economy and to accurately assess the current economic output;

Also notes that most governments across the world, on the average, re-assess their GDP computations every flve (5) years to reflect changes in output and consumption;

Aware that the Federal Government of Nigeria had not done such re-computation of economic activities in the economy since 1990, meaning that in all these years, the gains made in some sectors of the economy, such as communications, entertainment and tourism including the internet, mobile telecommunications and the Nollywood Film Industry, were never taken into consideration in computing the GDP;

Also aware that the rebased version of the economy has captured forty-six (46) new sectors from the previous thirty-three (33), which boosted the GDP significantly from W42 Trillion to W80.2 Trillion in 2013;

Further aware that the realistic computation of the GDP will enable the government achieve its medium-term objective of further narrowing the ratio of federal budget deficit-to-GDP by 2015 from its current ratio of 1:2 in 2014;

Cognizant that the development has led to a drop m the Country's debt-to-GDP ratio previously estimated at about 22.84 percent to 12.65 percent as at December, 2013;

Observes that by rebasing the economy, the tax revenue to the national economy (GDP), fell from 11.44 percent (pre- rebasing) to 6.04 percent (post- rebasing) in 20 13, arising from government's discriminatory and selective enforcement of tax laws, tax concessions and waivers;

Further observes that the recent rebasing of the GDP suggests that there is still a lot to be done to increase revenue generation to attain the average threshold of about 18 percent for low-middle-income countries, to which Nigeria currently belongs, in view of its per-capita income of USD2,760;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Finance to direct the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) to ensure strict enforcement and compliance with the national tax policy and procedures in tax collection across board, both in the public and private sectors of the economy, in order to ensure that tax administration and collection become more effective so that the growth in the economy would be adequately reflected in public revenue; and,

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to discontinue the selective enforcement of tax laws and to urgently reconsider the discretionary granting of incentives, waivers and other concessions.

3. **Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC) OML II and the Need for strict adherence to Local Content:**
Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

The House:

Notes that Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC) is desirous of relinquishing its interests in some oil blocks called OML II;

Cognizant of the circumstances surrounding its intended exit from the said oil block;

Recognizes the need for local content policy and development in the oil sector;

Acknowledges the need for compliance with the Local Content Act in order to accommodate host communities in the process of bidding for the oil block OML II which would soon be relinquished by SPDC;

Recognizing the communities hosting the said oil block to be:

(*i*) Gokana and Tai in Ogoni Community,

(*ii*) Oyigbo, Asa, Ukwa Oil Field in Abia,

(*iii*) Adoni, Opobo and Bonny in Rivers;

Aware of the discrepancies and insider trading arrangement in the bidding process by SPDC;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Local Content and Justice to invite the Minister of Petroleum Resources and the Managing Director of SPDC with a view to investigating the bidding process of the said Oil block OML II.

4. **Urgent Need for Payment of Compensation to Owners of Land Acquired by the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas Limited (NLNG):**
Hon. Akpodiogaga S. Emeseye:

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) acquired 230 plots of land in Omoku, Rivers State in 1996 for the building of its Gas Transmission System (GTS) under Right of Way (ROW) basis;

Also notes that two (2) years after the acquisition, and following series of demands and mass demonstration by the land owners for payment of compensation, the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) isolated 25 plots of the land for which it made meager payments of Three Hundred Thousand Naira (₦300,000. 00) per plot;

Alarmed that the NLNG employed deceit and blackmail to coax the owners of the 25 plots to accept the ₦300,000.00 compensation after the offer was initially rejected;

Worried that the protracted negotiation with the Company, which has lasted for sixteen (16) years now, for payment of a fair compensation for unsettled owners of the outstanding 205 plots yielded only a verbal promise by officials of the Company for a ₦414,000,000,000.00 payment;

Informed that the owners of the 205 plots over which compensation has not been paid are becoming frustrated over the non-committal posture and dishonest tactics being employed NLNG in delaying, and ultimately scheming to avoid the payment of the amount it verbally agreed with the owners, a development that has put the land owners on edge;

Observes that the refusal of the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) to pay a fair compensation is a flagrant violation of section 6 (3) of the Oil Pipelines Act, 1956, and paragraph 17 (1) (*c*) and (*c*) (*ii*) of the Petroleum (Drilling and Production) Regulations Act, 1969, both of which require fair compensation to be paid to the owners or occupiers of land entered into or damaged;

Concerned that there is urgent need to avert any crisis that may sabotage the nation's critical Gas Infrastructure in Omoku, or anywhere else within the country.

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Gas Resources to urgently investigate the matter with a view to prevailing on the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) to pay the fair compensations to owners of the said 205 plots of land, and report back to the House within two (2) weeks.

BILLS

5. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Biosafety Management Agency Charged with Responsibility for Providing Regulatory Framework, Institutional and Administrative Mechanism for Safety Measures in the Application of Modern Biotechnology in Nigeria with a view to Preventing any Adverse Effect on Human Health, Animals, Plants and Environment and for Other Related Matters (HB. 579) — *Third Reading*.

6. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a Development Commission for Accelerated Development of Border Communities of the Federal Capital Territory and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 592) (*Hon. Mohammed Mukhtar Ahmed*) — *Second Reading*.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	Rules and Business	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 Assembly Complex
2.	FCT (*with officials of FCTA on FCT* 2015 *Appropriation Bill*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 231 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
3.	Millennium Development Goals (*Budget defence with Federal Ministry of Education, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, and Federal Ministry of Youth Development*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	1.00 p.m.	Committee Room 834 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
4.	Banking and Currency (*with Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	1.00 p.m.	Committee Room 327 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
5.	Defence (*Budget defence with DICON, NAFRC, AFCSC and NDC*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	2.45 p.m.	Committee Room 455 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
6.	HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control (*Budget defence*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Hearing Room 01 Assembly Complex
7.	Local Content (*Budget defence*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	1.30 p.m.	Committee Room 468 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
8.	Cooperation and Integration in Africa (*Budget defence with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DTCA and IPCR*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 107 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
9.	Health (*Budget defence*)	Thursday, 5 March, 2015	1.00 p.m.	Committee Room 236 New Building (House) Assembly Complex