FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 37

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 12 August, 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 BILLS

1. National Biotechnology Development Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 33) (*Hon. Gyang Istifanus Dung*) — *First Reading*.

2. Chartered Institute of Management Information Technology of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 20) (*Hon. Gideon Gwani*) — *First Reading*.

3. National Programme on Immunization Act (Repeal) Bill, 2015 (HB. 14) *(Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta)* — *First Reading*.

4. National Primary Healthcare Development Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB.15) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

5. Palm Oil Development Bill, 2015 (HB. 45) (*Hon. Eucharia Azodo*) — *First Reading*.

6. Army Colour (Prohibition of Use) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 46) (*Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh*) — *First Reading*.

7. Counterfeit and Fake Drugs and Unwholesome Processed Foods (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 20) (*Hon. Goodluck Nanah Opiah*) — *First Reading*.

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8. Environmental Managers Registration Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 17) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) – *First Reading*.

9. Free Trade Zone Bill, 2015 (HB. 37) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

10. International Trade Commission Bill, 2015 (HB. 36) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. **Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery and Development of the North East Zone of Nigeria:**

Hon. Yakubu Dogara	Hon. Rima M. Shawulu Kwewum	Hon. S. Usman Danjuma
Hon. Leo O. Ogor	Hon. Baido Danladi Tijos	Hon. Garba Julde Chede
Hon. Aminu Ibrahim Malle	Hon. Ayuba Mohammed Bello	Hon. Mukhtar B. Aliyu
Hon. Mahmud L. Maina	Hon. Mohammed Sanda	Hon. Moh'd T. Monguno
Hon. Abdulkadir Rahis	Hon. Mohammed N. Sheriff	Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir
Hon. Mallam Bukar Gana	Hon. Jibrin Satumari	Hon. Isa H. Mohammed
Hon. Ahmed Yerima	Hon. Shehu Aliyu Musa	Hon. Gurai Alhaji Adamu
Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso	Hon. Lawal Yahaya Guman	Hon. Haliru DaudaJika
Hon. Danasabe Charles H.	Hon. Mohammed Garba Gololo	Hon. Mohammed S. Abdu
Hon. Ibrahim Moh'd Baba	Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub	Hon. Lawal A. Garba
Hon. Adamu Dan U. Kamale	Hon. Abdulrahaman Shaibu A.	Hon. Philip A. Gutuwa
Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim	Hon. Kwamoti Bitrus Laori	Hon. A. Saad Nandas
Hon. Barambu U. Kawawa	Hon. Binta Bello	Hon. Ali Isa J.C.
Hon. Yunusa A. Abubakar	Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku	Hon. Ahmed Mailantarki
Hon. Sidi Yakubu	Hon. Khadija Bukar A. Ibrahim	Hon. Z. M. Galadima
Hon. Sabi Garba	Hon. Goni Bukar Lawan	Hon. Ismail Ahmed Gadaka
Hon. Abdulrazak Namdus	Hon. Philip Shaibu	Hon. Dickson Takishi
Hon. Salisu Zakari Ningi	Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam	Hon. Mark Gbillah
Hon. Azubogu Chris	Hon. Odebunmi Segun	Hon. Babanluda Ibrahim
Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil	Hon. Oni Olamide	Hon. Ayodele Oladimeji
Hon. Olabode Ayorinde	Hon. Badamasi Ayuba	Hon. Gaza J. Gbefwi
Hon. Mustapaha B. Dawaki	Hon. Isa Salisu Bashir	Hon. Hussain Kangiwa
Hon. Samson Okwu	Hon. Solomon Adaelu	Hon. Tata Omar
Hon. Lawari Hassan A.	Hon.Aminu Sani Jaji	Hon. B. Kolawole
Hon. Victor Nwokolo	Hon. Rita Orji	Hon. Sam Onuigbo
Hon. Sunday Kazura	Hon. Olasupo Abiodun	Hon. Wale Raji
Hon. Abdul-Malik Zubairu	Hon. Rufai Chanchangi	Hon. Jacobson Nbiva
Hon. N. Baballe I. G.	Hon. Omosede Igbinedion	Hon. Shadima Mutiu
Hon. Olufemi Adebanjo	Hon. Iboro Ekanem	Hon. Aminu A. Manu
Hon. Auru Tukur Idris		

The House:

Notes that the terrorist activities of ***BOKO HARAM SECT*** in most parts of the North East Zone/Region of Nigeria comprising Borno, Yobe, Adamawa, Gombe, Bauchi and Taraba States since 2009 has devastated most parts of the Region and resulted in the death of thousands of people, including boys, girls and children generally, women, men and other vulnerable persons in the society;

Regrets that these terrorists have destroyed houses, homes, settlements, communities, villages, towns, cities, markets, schools and educational facilities, hospitals and health institutions, Factories, government buildings and facilities, roads, bridges, water facilities, electricity networks and power facilities,police and military bases, vehicles and other security and telecommunications infrastructure. Their atrocities include massacres; burning down of entire villages; attacks on protected sites such

as places of worship and the slaughter of people taking refuge in such sites; torture; cruel and degrading treatment; abduction on a massive scale, including of children; forced displacement; child recruitment; and extremely severe and widespread violations of the rights of women and girls, including sexual slavery, sexual violence, forced "marriages", forced pregnancy in violation of human rights and international humanitarian law. Indeed the abduction of 276 teenage girls from Chibok in April 2014 has been the largest single incident so far, and 219 of those captured are still unaccounted for;

Worried that these terrorist activities have led to the displacement of about 5 million people and creation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in many places, the vast majority of whom are women and children. The Boko Haram terrorist activities have forced a huge number of people to flee to other parts of the country and many have taken refuge in our neighbouring country's of Chad, Niger and Cameroon and even Burkina-Faso;

Concerned that the economy of the North East Zone has been devastated and largely destroyed as investors, businessmen, managers and employees have fled the zone in droves. This destruction has had a major impact on the economy of the region as it has led to severe food shortages, unemployment in a region that has traditionally produced cash and food crops across the Sahel. Agriculture and other economic activities have suffered and poverty has worsened. Boko Haram has disrupted schools and livelihood activities and markets and reduced trade flows;

Also notes that Boko Haram attacks against education generally has resulted in most of the state governments' closure of facilities in the worst affected areas and this has drastically decreased access to education. Displaced children are generally unable to pursue their education with attendance rates declining dramatically in the North-East. Even in areas where schools have remained open, many children, including IDPs, do not attend for fear of attack and abduction. This has made parents wary of sending their children to school;

Further notes that the Nigerian Military, in collaboration with Cameroun, Niger and Chad have recovered virtually all the territories lost to the Boko Haram terrorists. However, military operations continue, but need for rehabilitation and reconstruction of destroyed areas, is urgent;

Equally notes that IDPs whose properties have been damaged or destroyed are generally unable to afford the cost of reconstruction. Those whose livelihoods are closely linked to the land, such as, farmers or people running small businesses, are particularly affected.The IDPs who are often overwhelmingly women and children have only minimal access to health services. Global acute malnutrition rates in Yobe and Borno States rose to 15.5 per cent and 13.6 per cent respectively as of August 2014;

Again notes that the response to IDPs' assistance and protection needs is generally implemented via disaster management mechanisms. National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is mandated under the 1999 National Emergency Management Agency Act to provide emergency relief to victims of "natural or other disasters" and to assist in their rehabilitation. NEMA collaborates with Federal, State and Local Government agencies, with State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs) being the primary responders on the ground. The National Refugee Commission with expanded mandate for IDPs is unable to cope with the scope and level of displacement. This legal framework has proved inadequate;

Also concerned that there is no law or policy framework setting out responsibilities in terms of IDPs' protection and assistance. The failure to define roles and responsibilities continues to hamper the humanitarian and development response, requiring a holistic approach towards durable solutions and efforts to prevent and prepare for future displacement;

Recalls that Nigeria ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, also known as the ***Kampala Convention***, in May 2012 and rewrote a draft policy on IDPs to incorporate its provisions. As of December 2014, however, the Federal Executive Council had yet to adopt the policy and the National Assembly has not domesticated it;

Further concerned that the international community's Response to Donor assistance has been slow until recently when the World Bank pledged a funding facility of about USS2.1 billion Dollars, following the recent visit of President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, to the United States of America;

Cognizant that the Federal Government and some private philanthropists have initiated some schemes to provide economic opportunities and humanitarian support as antidotes to militancy by launching the following initiatives —

(*i*) **The Presidential Initiative for North East Nigeria (PINE)** which has *Short-term* and *Medium-term* goals. The PINE initiative is being implemented by the Federal and State governments and driven by a Committee with representatives from 20 Ministries,

(*ii*) **Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)** — is a programme run by the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) to counter the radicalization of youths and vulnerable persons,

(*iii*) **Almajiri Education Programme (AEP)** seeks to build 400 schools for Almajiri in Nigeria's 19 former Northern States to get children off the streets and into a formal education system,

(*iv*) **Safe Schools Initiative (SSI)**. This was launched by the Nigerian government and international aid agencies in the wake of the abduction by Boko Haram of 200 school girls from the town of Chibok,

(*v*) **Terrorism Victims' Support Fund**, which ischaired by Gen. Theophilus Danjuma *(rtd);*

Recognizes that the North-East zone of Nigeria requires an urgent, methodical and well planned rescue programme of action in order to rebuild the massive destruction that has taken place;

Notes the need for a better coordinated Local and International Donor and Funding mechanism that will bring together all friends of Nigeria, and all stakeholders and groups desirous of ending terrorism in Nigeria and rebuilding the infrastructure already destroyed;

Aware that most countries that faced the type of terrorism Nigeria now faces, organised Donor Conferences to raise funds to support rehabilitation, resettlement, reconstruction, recovery and development of the affected areas;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Request the Federal Government of Nigeria, to map out a development agenda for the North East Zone comprising the six States of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe that would be implemented in phases. This Agenda should have, specific targets, funding and deliverables that are guided by Reconstruction (of homes, villages, towns and infrastructure), Repatriation (of people to their homes and villages) and Rehabilitation (of people, communities and livelihoods) and economic and social development;

(*ii*) also request the Federal Government of Nigeria to give priority attention to the rebuilding of all the schools destroyed by the Boko Haram terrorists and to facilitate scholarships up to university level - funded and supported by the Federal Government and its agencies, the Victims of Terror Trust Fund and other funding initiatives to students from the North East States. In addition, hospitals, markets, border posts, bri dges and other infrastructure destroyed by the insurgents should be rebuilt and new ones constructed;

(*iii*) further request the Federal Government of Nigeria to consider building a North-East Highway, linking the capitals and major cities of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe States and reviving agriculture in the Zone through the completion of the South Chad Irrigation Project - which is one of the largest irrigation projects in Africa with 22 million people depending on it, and other agricultural projects, in orderto open up the economies and fast-track the socio-economic development of the zone.

(*iv*) again request Mr President to set up the machinery for the establishment of a NORTH EAST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, through an Executive Bill as soon as possible to take care of the reconstruction, rehabilitation, recovery and development of the North East zone with robust financing mechanisms which shall include a percentage of the Reserve Fund, Special contribution by Companies, Donor Agencies, International NGOs, Development Partners, and other funding options that meet the challenges facing the zone;

(*v*) request Mr President, Commander in Chief, to facilitate the convening of an International Donor Conference or Summit as soon as possible for the Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Recovery and Development of the North East Zone/Region of Nigeria. This Donor Summit is to mobilize additional financial resources through international Donor Funding from UN Agencies, Multilateral and Bilateral Partners, international and National NGOs, International Foundations, International Funds, Development Banking Institutions and Agencies, such as World Bank, IMF, African Development Bank, etc.;

(*vi*) commend all stakeholders, especially the Armed Forces, Security Agencies and others who have in one way or the other contributed in containing terrorist attacks in the North East Zone and have contributed to the welfare of the IDPs and other victims of the Boko Haram terrorists attacks such as the Gen. T. Y. Danjuma - led ***Terrorist Victims Support Fund***, other private donors and Agencies both in Nigeria and worldwide.

2. **The Need to Avert the Occurrence of Massive Flooding along the River Benue and Lower River Niger:**
Hon. Emmanuel Y. Orker-Jev:

The House:

Notes that Climate Change is a global phenomenon that requires urgent attention to avert disasters such as unprecedented rainfall and flooding;

Also notes that recent torrential rains and impending release of massive volumes of water from Lagdo Dam in Cameroon which was built in 1982 to supply electricity to the Northern part of Cameroon and for irrigation have the potential to cause massive flooding along the riverine communites of River Benue and Lower River Niger;

Recalls that River Benue and its tributaries experienced the worst flooding in over a century in 2012 as a result of heavy rainfall and release of water from the Lagdo dam in Cameroon;

Worried that the flood could claim lives, destroy farmlands and properties, displace communities in Taraba, Benue and other States along the route of River Benue;

(*i*) urge all concerned Government Agencies, State Governments and Stakeholders to note the 2015 seasonal rainfall predication by the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET);

(*ii*) also urge all to be aware of the notice by the Cameroonian Government of the impending release of excess water from Lagdo Dam between now and end of November 2015;

(*iii*) request the Federal Government to construct dams on the River Benue for the purpose of controlling flood;

(*iv*) also request the Federal Government to consider the establishment of a Joint Commission with the Cameroonian Government to manage the Lagdo Dam and River Benue waterways;

(*v*) further urge the Federal Government to urgently ensure that the contract for the dredging of the River Benue is awarded and constructed to mitigate the menace and effects of floods.

3. Looming Epidemic in FESTAC and Satellite Towns:
Hon. Ogbeng Emma Egoh:

The House:

Aware that FESTAC Town, which was built to accommodate artists who came from all over the world to participate in the Second World Festival of Arts and Culture held in 1977, along with the Satellite Towns are Federal Housing Estates along the Badagry Expressway in Lagos State;

Aware that the Houses in the two Estates were allocated to Nigerian citizens through competitive biddings after the festival and that currently, over four hundred thousand (400,000) people are residing in the towns;

Also aware that the houses which were built over forty (40) years ago are now in a state of disrepair as the infrastructure that were built for the towns are no longer adequate and are also in serious decay as they have not been maintained in over 40 years since the construction of the towns which cost the government huge sums of money;

Worried by the deplorable state of the roads within the Estates which are littered with potholes, thus becoming death traps and also causing heavy traffic daily, the Estates have been witnessing epileptic power supply and lack of potable water;

Also worried that the central sewage systems in the Estates are no longer functional, as they are now gushing out dangerous wastes into the open at uncontrollable rate and the drainage are no longer flowing and now constitute habitat for giant mosquitoes, situations which could lead to outbreak of epidemic;

Concerned that if measures are not taken to rehabilitate Festac and Satellite towns, they could degenerate into slums with all the deleterious consequences for the residents of the Estates;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Government to direct the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) to, as a matter of urgency, commence rehabilitation of Festac and Satellite towns;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Housing and Habitat (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) to ensure compliance, and report back to the House.

4. **Need to Restore Electricity Supply to Aniocha South, Aniocha North and Oshimili North Local Government Areas of Delta State:**
Hon. Joan Onyemaechi Mrakpor:

The House:

Notes that the defunct Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) had, in 2011, disconnected electricity supply to the above Local Government Areas on the ground that the single line 33KV feeder transmission sub-station from Obosi, Anambra State was inadequate;

Aware that in May 2015, the Federal Government commissioned a new 2 x 150 MVA 330/132/33 KV transmission sub-station in Asaba aimed at improving power supply to the Local Government Areas, however, Asaba district is still in blackout;

Concerned that the disconnection of electricity supply to the areas for about four years now has made life unbearable for the inhabitants as small and medium scale enterprise and industries that were hitherto thriving are now comatose;

Also concerned that the continued blackout in the areas has brought in its wake serious security challenges as there is an upsurge in criminal activities like robbery, kidnapping and other related crimes stemming from perpetual darkness in the nights and lack of productivity by mainly the youth;

Realizes that restoration of electricity supply to the areas will drive economic growth, facilitate employment for the teeming populace, ensure security of lives and property, improve the general well-being of the inhabitants of the areas and halt rural-urban drift;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Power (when constituted) to liaise with the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) to ensure that the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC) restores electricity supply to the affected Local Government Areas.

5. **Urgent Need to Rehabilitate the Ikorodu-Shagamu and Ikorodu-Itokin-Ijebu-Ode Highways Connecting Lagos and Ogun States:**
Hon. Babajimi Adegoke Benson:

The House:

Notes that Ikorodu-Shagamu and Ikorodu-Itokin-Ijebu-Ode Highways connecting Lagos and Ogun States from two different angles are of vital economic importance to the two States in particular, and Nigerians as a whole;

Also notes that the Roads, which were constructed over forty years ago, have been in deplorable states and efforts at rehabilitating them had produced substandard results;

Further notes the report in the Daily Trust Newspaper of December 4, 2014 that the Ikorodu-Shagamu Highway was among the Roads which the Federal Government approved for reconstruction at the cost of over ₦430.5 billion with the assurance that the sum of ₦21 billion had been set aside to kick start the project;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Works (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works to determine the cause of the delay in commencement of reconstruction of the Ikorodu-Shagamu Road which has been approved by the Federal Government;

(*iii*) call on the Federal Government to include the Ikorodu-Itokin-Iiebu-Ode Road in the scheme of 2016 budget.

6. Need to Expedite Action on the Establishment of the National Assembly Broadcast Project:
Hon. Abiodun Dada Awoleye:

The House

Notes that the activities of the National Assembly have been grossly under-reported as only a very small percentage of legislative activities, ranging from plenary sessions, committee meetings, public hearings and oversight functions have been captured by the existing electronics and print media covering the National Assembly;

Aware that the idea of the National Assembly Radio and Television Project was conceived in 2003 but the commencing of the process for its establishment was in 2007, while the actual take off was scheduled to be 2010;

Further aware of the immense advantages in the establishment of the project to enhance transparency opportunities will be accorded the citizenry within the country and Nigerians in the Diaspora and also enable the international community participate in the process of law making as well as enhance the level of transparency in the activities of the legislature;

Realizes that when the National Assembly Radio and Television Project is established, the totality of the National Assembly activities would be covered and effective feedback mechanism will be provided for the citizenry;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Information and National Orientation (when constituted) in conjunction with its Senate counterpart to ensure the take off of the Television and Radio Project at the earliest stage of the 8th Assembly;

(*ii*) urge that the use of major Nigerian languages be included in the content.

7. Need to Investigate the Four Trillion Naira Debt Owed Contractors by the Federal Government and its Agencies:
Hon. Chike Okafor:

The House,

Notes with dismay the cases of failure by the Federal Government and its agencies to pay for contracts duly executed with certificates of completion issued to the contractors;

Aware that the contracts were duly awarded after passing through budgetary process and monies for their execution appropriated for the fiscal years in question;

Also aware that the debt profile of the Federal Government and its agencies to contractors is over four trillion Naira;

Concerned about the untold hardships the contractors are faced with as a result of the failure of the Federal Government and its agencies to pay them after they had borrowed money from banks to execute the contracts;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Works, Aids Loans and Debt Management, Finance and Appropriations (when constituted) to investigate the Four Trillion Naira Debt owed contractors by the Federal Government and it Agencies and report back to the House within three (3) weeks for further legislative inputs.

8. **Incessant Attacks on Communities in Gombe State by Boko Haram Insurgents:**
Hon. Khamisu A. Mailantarki Hon. Binta Bello Hon. J. C. Ali Isa:
Hon. Aishatu Jibrin Dukku Hon. Yunusa A. Abubakar Hon. B. Umar Kawuwa:

The House:

Notes the numerous attacks on communities in Gombe State in the last couple of weeks by the Boko Haram insurgents which have led to loss of lives and destruction of properties worth millions of Naira;

Concerned that the attacks, which appear to be aimed at destroying the economic base of the State, have reached a scale that is beyond the capacity of the Gombe State Government alone to handle;

Worried about the recurring nature of the attacks which have destroyed the means of livelihood of many inhabitants of the State, thus causing them to resort to living in refugee camps or helplessly roaming about;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to increase the number of security personnel in Gombe State in order to forestall further attacks;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to assess the damages done in the State in order to include it into the proposed rebuilding plan for the North East Zone;

(*iii*) commend the Gombe State Government and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for their work in providing succor and relief materials for the victims of the attacks; and send a delegation to visit the areas affected by the insurgency in the State and the camps for the internally displaced persons to empathize with the victims.

9. **Fraudulent Extortion from Employment Seekers by Government Agencies and Recruitment Firms:**
Hon. Joseph Edionwele:

The House:

Notes the very high unemployment rate in Nigeria where, about seven out of every ten graduates are unemployed as a result of which job seekers have become prey to unscrupulous recruitment agencies, firms and organizations which exploit those unwary and desperate Nigerians;

monitor the development and report back to the House on the extent of compliance.

10. **Poor Maintenance of Public Facilities Despite Budgetary Provisions in the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs):**
Hon. Kotimi Ojo Agunsoye:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government devotes an average of about forty percent (40%) of its annual budget to new and on-going capital projects which include construction, infrastructural development, purchase of diverse equipment and several other capital intensive projects;

Observes that most Ministries, Departments and Agencies are reasonably funded to embark on specific capital projects to enhance the living condition of the Nigerian people;

Worried about the continuing trend of allowing government owned facilities to dilapidate soon after their completion, despite billions of naira spent on constructing them;

Concerned that a number of government owned facilities such as the National Theatre, Lagos, National Stadium, Lagos, Abuja National Stadium, and several other Federal Government buildings across the country have been allowed to suffer structural and operational decline leading to their deterioration, neglect and decay, thus constituting a shame on the nation;

Observes that a critical survey by a social scientist showed that most Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) lack the requisite best practice in maintenance culture in our work environment and especially for the preservation of complex structures;

Resolves to:

Urge the management of all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to:

(*i*) immediately draw plans to include yearly budgetary allocations for the maintenance of government infrastructure facilities and equipment, and also ensure the availability of qualified maintenance personnel, including training of maintenance officers, in line with international best practices;

(*ii*) carry out a regular inspection of all government infrastructure, facilities and equipment to ensure functionality and efficiency and also stem misuse thereof;

(*iii*) institute periodic assessment of performance of maintenance managers and also have a structured plan towards sustaining maintenance culture;

(*iv*) mandate the relevant Committees (when constituted) to investigate the lack of maintenance culture in Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies;

(*v*) urge the National Orientation Agency to embark on a rigorous campaign for the entrenchment of maintenance culture across board;

(*vi*) urge the Executive Arm of Government to chart a road map on National Maintenance Policy for both the Public and Private sectors to engender a new basis for a sustainable growth and development.

11. **Urgent Need to Fill the Vacancies in the Office of National Commissioners and Resident Commissioners of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC): Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok**

The House:

Notes reports in the media, particularly the *Leadership* newspaper of 10 August, 2015, that the tenures of the National Commissioners of INEC have expired as at 10 August, 2015, save for two of the Commissioners, and that the tenures of most of the Resident Electoral Commissioners have expired;

Aware that INEC has critical constitutional functions conferred on it by the Constitution which, among other things mandates INEC to organize elections to the offices of President, Vice President, Governor, Deputy Governor, National Assembly and State Assembly memberships, register Political Parties, monitor the organization and operation of Political Parties, conduct the registration of voters, schedule the time frame within which elections and Political Party Congresses/Primaries are to be held, etc.;

Also aware that the elections to the Governorship of Kogi and Bayelsa States have been fixed for 21 November, 2015 and 5 December, 2015 respectively and that the major Political Parties have slated their primaries to elect Gubernatorial candidates for the last week of August 2015;

Disturbed that INEC presently is not properly constituted to carry out its constitutional functions of preparing for those elections, monitoring party congresses and updating register of voters;

Concerned that there may be legal issues on the activities of the Commission on account of the vacancies existing in the said offices;

Resolves to:

Urge the President of Nigeria to set in motion the machinery to fill the top vacancies in INEC particularly that of a substantive Chairman, National Commissioners and Resident Electoral Commissioners.