HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 12 August, 2015

1. The House met at 11.22 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 Tuesday, 11 August, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46):
(*i*) *Need to check cases of Unsolicited Caller Tones, Text Messages and the Associated Charges by the Mobile Telephone Providers in Nigeria:*
Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency*) presented the subject matter and prayed the House to:

(*a*) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(*b*) suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to allow debate on the matter 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.*

Need to Check Cases of Unsolicitated Caller Tones, Text Messages and the Associated Charges by the Mobile Telephone Providers in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that every mobile phones come with their caller tones to which owners of telephone chooses;

Further notes that the choices of any caller tones does not attract any charges;

Aware that section 4 (1) (*b*) of the NCC Act, 2003 mandates the Commission to protect and promote the interest of consumers, against unfair practices including but not limited to matters relating to tariff, charges for an the availability and quality of communication services, equipment and facilities;

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Further aware that in the recent past, mobile telephone service providers in Nigeria started charging their subscribers for caller tones unsolicited in contravention of the NCC Act, 2003;

Worried that those unsolicited caller tones are most often offensive and unpleasant;

Also worried that the service providers charge fees on such unsolicited caller tones;

Alarmed that such charge negatively affects subscribers' means of livelihood;

Concerned that if such unsolicited caller tones and the charges, which are arbitrary done, are not checked, subscriber to the mobile telephone service provider would be continuously short charged;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Nigerian Communications Commission to direct the service providers to put on halt the unsolicited caller tones and the charges thereto;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Communications (when constituted) to liaise with the NCC and put to a halt all unholy practices by service providers and report back to the House within two (2) months (*Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki — Dala Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Communication (when constituted) for further legislative action (**HR. 43/2015**).

(*ii*) ***Need to Appropriately Immortalise Nigeria's Late Star Footballer — Samuel Sochukwuma Okwaraji*:**
Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen (*Ijumu/Kabba-Bunu Federal Constituency*) presented the subject matter and prayed the House to:

(*a*) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

(*b*) suspend Order VIII, Rule 46 (3) to allow debate on the matter 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.

Need to Appropriately Immortalise Nigeria's Late Star Footballer — Samuel Sochukwuma Okwaraji:

The House:

Notes that today, Wednesday, 12 August is exactly 26 years that an exemplary and patriotic Nigerian top footballer, Samuel Sochukwuma Okwaraji, slumped and died at the Mainbowl of the National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos, while playing for his fatherland in a World Cup qualification match against Angola;

Aware that the Late Samuel Okwaraji was an embodiment of humility, commitment and patriotism, who unlike his colleagues, often paid his way to Nigeria and back to his base after honouring any National assignment without asking for refund;

Worried that 26 years after the unfortunate death of Samuel Okwaraji, nothing concrete and enduring has been done by the Federal Government, Nigerian Football Authorities and Imo State Government to immortalize the name of a great hero who in his lifetime assisted younger Nigerians in their respective footballing and other careers;

Also worried that for a player who displayed uncommon passion and unequalled patriotism playing for Nigeria, the only visible attempt to immortalize him, after sacrificing his life for Nigeria on August 12, 1989, at the age of 24, is a bust erected at the entrance of the National Stadium, Lagos, which is utterly derelict, completely weather-beaten and painfully not befitting of the status of Samuel Okwaraji;

Concerned that a mini stadium purportedly named after him in his home town — Umudioka, Orlu in Imo State, whose construction was abandoned by successive administrations in Imo State for over 20 years, has now been displaced by an on-going road construction project, without any hope of possible relocation;

Also concerned that Nigerian football authorities which should be more sensitive and committed to the immortalization of Samuel Okwaraji, reneged on its promise to retire the Number 6 jersey he wore on that day;

Disturbed that today, apart from failing to immortalize Late Samuel Okwaraji, his aged mother — Mrs Jane Okwaraji and other family members are in deep economic situation, requiring rehabilitation;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Nominate few Honourable Members to visit (on behalf of the House), identify and show solidarity with members of Samuel Okwaraji's family;

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to name a Stadium or Sports Centre after Samuel Okwaraji, in recognition of his contribution and sacrifice to Nigeria, as well as provide necessary welfare scheme for his aged mother and other members of his immediate family;

(*iii*) also urge the Imo State Government to name an Institution after Samuel Okwaraji who brought honour to the State and rehabilitate the aged Mother;

(*iv*) further urge the Nigerian Football Federation to immortalize Late Samuel Okwaraji for his selfless contribution to soccer development in Nigeria, and evolve ways of recognizing other past soccer heroes, as a way of encouraging present footballers (*Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen — Kabba - Bunu/Ijumu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (*i*) (*Hon. Pally Iriase — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*iv*) as follows:
"Urge the Nigerian Football Federation not to go back on its promise and retire Jersey No. 6 in honour of the fallen hero" (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan South West/Ibadan North 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 today, Wednesday, 12 August is exactly 26 years that an exemplary and patriotic Nigerian top footballer, Samuel Sochukwuma Okwaraji, slumped and died at the Mainbowl of the National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos, while playing for his fatherland in a World Cup qualification match against Angola;

Aware that the Late Samuel Okwaraji was an embodiment of humility, commitment and patriotism, who unlike his colleagues, often paid his way to Nigeria and back to his base after honouring any National assignment without asking for refund;

Worried that 26 years after the unfortunate death of Samuel Okwaraji, nothing concrete and enduring has been done by the Federal Government, Nigerian Football Authorities and Imo State Government to immortalize the name of a great hero who in his lifetime assisted younger Nigerians in their respective footballing and other careers;

Also worried that for a player who displayed uncommon passion and unequalled patriotism playing for Nigeria, the only visible attempt to immortalize him, after sacrificing his life for Nigeria on August 12, 1989, at the age of 24, is a bust erected at the entrance of the National Stadium, Lagos, which is utterly derelict, completely weather-beaten and painfully not befitting of the status of Samuel Okwaraji;

Concerned that a mini stadium purportedly named after him in his home town — Umudioka, Orlu in Imo State, whose construction was abandoned by successive administrations in Imo State for over 20 years, has now been displaced by an on-going road construction project, without any hope of possible relocation;

Also concerned that Nigerian football authorities which should be more sensitive and committed to the immortalization of Samuel Okwaraji, reneged on its promise to retire the Number 6 jersey he wore on that day;

Disturbed that today, apart from failing to immortalize Late Samuel Okwaraji, his aged mother — Mrs Jane Okwaraji and other family members are in deep economic situation, requiring rehabilitation;

Resolved to:

(i) Urge the Federal Government to name a Stadium or Sports Centre after Samuel Okwaraji, in recognition of his contribution and sacrifice to Nigeria, as well as provide necessary welfare scheme for his aged mother and other members of his immediate family;

(ii) also urge the Imo State Government to name an Institution after Samuel Okwaraji who brought honour to the State and rehabilitate the aged Mother;

(iii) further urge the Nigerian Football Federation to immortalize Late Samuel Okwaraji for his selfless contribution to soccer development in Nigeria, and evolve ways of recognizing other past soccer heroes, as a way of encouraging present footballers;

(iv) equally urge the Nigerian Football Federation not to go back on its promise and retire Jersey No. 6 in honour of the fallen hero (**HR. 44/2015**).

4. Presentation of Bills:
The following Bills were presented and read the *First Time*:

(*i*) National Biotechnology Development Agency (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 33).

(*ii*) Chartered Institute of Management Information Technology of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 20).

(*iii*) National Programme on Immunization Act (Repeal) Bill, 2015 (HB. 14).

(*iv*) National Primary Healthcare Development Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB.15).

(*v*) Palm Oil Development Bill, 2015 (HB. 45).

(*vi*) Army Colour (Prohibition of Use) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 46).

(*vii*) Counterfeit and Fake Drugs and Unwholesome Processed Foods (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 20).

(*viii*) Environmental Managers Registration Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 17).

(*ix*) Free Trade Zone Bill, 2015 (HB. 37).

(*x*) International Trade Commission Bill, 2015 (HB. 36).

5. *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do suspend Order VII, Rule 24 to enable the Deputy Speaker preside, while the Speaker move a motion sponsored by him and 87 other Members" (*Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Orker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

6. **Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery and Development of the North East Zone of Nigeria:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

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 US$2.1 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, bridges 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 order to 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 (*rtd*) - led ***Terrorist Victims Support Fund***, other private donors and Agencies both in Nigeria and worldwide (*Hon. Yakubu Dogara — Bogoro/Dass/Tafawa Balewa Federal Constituency and 87 Others*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted 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;

Regretted 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 noted 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 noted 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 noted 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 noted 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;

Recalled 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 US$2.1 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*);

Recognized 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;

Noted 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:

Resolved 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, bridges 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 order to 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 (*rtd*) - led ***Terrorist Victims Support Fund***, other private donors and Agencies both in Nigeria and worldwide (**HR. 45/2015**).

7. *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the Speaker do resume his seat as the Presiding Officer pursuant to Order VII, Rule 24" (*Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Orker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

8. **The Need to Avert the Occurrence of Massive Flooding along the River Benue and Lower River Niger:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

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 communities 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;

Also worried that the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) report of 2012 on flood disaster showed that 33 out of 36 States of the Federation were affected by the flooding. 14 out of the 36 States were severely affected, 7,705,378 people in 256 Local Government Areas and 3,870 communities were affected, while 363 people died and over 18,200 persons sustained different degrees of injuries;

Further worried that the impending flood will affect the socio-economic development of the Benue trough;

Resolves to:

(i) Urge all concerned Government Agencies, State Governments and Stakeholders to note the 2015 seasonal rainfall prediction 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 purposes 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 (*Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Orker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*vi*) as follows:
"Urge the affected State Governments and other relevant agencies to resettle people living legally close to the flood prone areas and make those areas buffer zones, to avoid constant loss of lives and properties" (*Hon. Yusuf Buba — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) Insert a new Prayer (*vii*) as follows:
"Advise related State and Federal Government Agencies to ensure related communities are directly and adequately intimated about the impending flood, to arrange for evacuation along the most critical path of the flood to avert avoidable death and loss of property and to arrange for relief materials and compensation for affected communities" (*Hon. Markterseer Gbillah — Gwer-East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

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

(*iii*) In Prayer (*iii*), line 1, immediately after the words "River Benue", *leave out* all other words and *insert* the following instead thereof "and other Rivers particularly Odo-Ogun and Isheri North in Lagos State for the purposes of controlling the flood" (*Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye — Kosofe Federal Constituency*).

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

(*iv*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*viii*) as follows:
"Urge the Executive branch as a priority to adequately fund the existing Niger/Benue Valley Programme domiciled in the Ministry of Water Resources in the 2016 Appropriation Bill" (*Hon. Aliyu Ahman-Pategi Bahago — Edu/Moro/Pategi Federal Constituency*).

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

(*v*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*ix*) as follows:
"Access the readiness of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and all concerned Federal and State Government Agencies, Stakeholders, in order to ensure that a plan is put in place before November, 2015" (*Hon. Nassir Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

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

(*vi*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*x*) as follows:
"Urge the Executive branch to direct the Aliko Dangote Committee on 2012 Flood Victims Fund to utilize the funds generated for the rehabilitation of the flood victims" (*Hon. Abdulrahman Shuaibu — Maiha/Mubi North/Mubi South Federal Constituency*).

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

Main Question as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

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

Also noted 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 communities of River Benue and Lower River Niger;

Recalled 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;

Also worried that the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) report of 2012 on flood disaster showed that 33 out of 36 States of the Federation were affected by the flooding, 14 out of the 36 States were severely affected, 7,705,378 people in 256 Local Government Areas and 3,870 communities were affected, while 363 people died and over 18,200 persons sustained different degrees of injuries;

Further worried that the impending flood will affect the socio-economic development of the Benue trough;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge all concerned Government Agencies, State Governments and Stakeholders to note the 2015 seasonal rainfall prediction 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, and other Rivers particularly Odo-Ogun and Isheri North in Lagos State for the purposes of controlling the 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;

(*vi*) equally urge the affected State Governments and other relevant agencies to resettle people living legally close to the flood prone areas and make those areas buffer zones, to avoid constant loss of lives and properties;

(*vii*) advise related State and Federal Government Agencies to ensure related communities are directly and adequately intimated about the impending flood, to arrange for evacuation along the most critical path of the flood to avert avoidable death and loss of property and to arrange for relief materials and compensation for affected communities;

(*viii*) urge the Executive branch as a priority to adequately fund the existing Niger/Benue Valley Programme domiciled in the Ministry of Water Resources in the 2016 Appropriation Bill;

(*ix*) access the readiness of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and all concerned Federal and State Government Agencies, Stakeholders, in order to ensure that a plan is put in place before November, 2015;

(*x*) also urge the Executive branch to direct the Aliko Dangote Committee on 2012 Flood Victims Fund to utilize the funds generated for the rehabilitation of the flood victims.

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness (when constituted) for further legislative action (**HR. 46/2015**).

9. **Looming Epidemic in FESTAC and Satellite Towns:**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes 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 towns 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 renewed 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 hold up; equally 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 (*Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh — Amuwo Odofin Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committee on Housing and Habitat (when constituted), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) *for further legislative action* (**HR. 47/2015**).