FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 51

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 15 October, 2015

ORDER OF THE DAY

MOTION

Urgent Need to Address the Incessant Clashes between Herdsmen, Farmers and their Host Communities in Nigeria:
Hon. Wale Raji:

The House:

Notes that over the years, Nigeria has recorded several incidents of serious and devastating clashes amongst Herdsmen, farmers, and their host communities in which many lives were lost and properties were destroyed;

Also notes that in spite of the measures adopted by successive governments, the problem seems to have defied all solutions;

Worried that the development has now assumed a very dangerous dimension with the recent invasion of the Farmland of Chief Olu Falae resulting in the Yoruba Council of Elders condemning the development in strong terms with pronouncement capable of threatening the peace and unity of the country;

Also worried that the prevailing precarious security situation in the country could be further worsened by the increasing frequency of these clashes if not addressed urgently;

Aware that several factors such as urbanization, growth in population, deforestation amongst others are responsible for the heavy depletion of customary grazing land, nomadic paths and the resultant negative consequences of reduced livestock population, increased difficulty of herding, seasonal migration and the strain in the relationship between the herdsmen, farmers and their host communities;

Hopeful that as a panacea for peace amongst the feuding parties, it is expedient for Cattle Rearing Settlements equipped with grazing reserves, residential accommodation, health and educational infrastructure to be established to bring cattle breeding in Nigeria in tandem with modern practices thereby discouraging pastoral migration;

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Convinced that if traditional method of cattle rearing is discouraged and modern method is embraced with the establishment of Cattle Rearing Settlements with modern facilities, communal conflicts and incessant clashes will be significantly reduced, if not eliminated and peaceful co-existence among the feuding parties will be greatly engendered;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to as a matter of urgency embark on the establishment of Cattle Rearing Settlements equipped with modern infrastructural facilities like grazing reserves, residential accommodation, health and educational infrastructure to bring traditional cattle rearing practice in Nigeria in conformity with modern practices.