HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 20 October, 2015

1. The House met at 11.01 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, 15 October, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement**

(*a*) ***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the Staff and Students of Capville Schools, Abuja.

(*b*) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Abdullahi Bello (*Okene/Ogori-Magongo Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of his wife, Hajia Hassana Abdullahi, on Saturday, 17 October, 2015.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(*c*) ***Membership of Ad-hoc Committees*:**
Mr Speaker named the membership of the following *Ad-hoc* Committees:

(*i*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Intervene in the Looming Dispute in the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment*** **(HR. 123/2015):**

(1)	Hon. Aminu Suleiman	—	*Chairman*
(2)	Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye	—	*Member*
(3)	Hon. Mallam Bujar Kerato	—	*Member*
(4)	Hon. Princess Ngwu	—	*Member*
(5)	Hon. Ahmed Idris Wase	—	*Member*
(6)	Hon. Samuel Ikon	—	*Member*
(7)	Hon. J. Akinlaja	—	*Member*

(*ii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Request for Special Approval of Lagos State Development Policy Operation II (DPO II) under the Federal Government External Borrowing Rolling Plan*** **(2015 - 2017):**

(1)	Hon. Babangida Ibrahim	—	*Chairman*
(2)	Hon. Chike John Okafor	—	*Member*

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(3) Hon. Boma Goodhead — *Member*
(4) Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi — *Member*
(5) Hon. Shehu Garba — *Member*
(6) Hon. Olayonu Tope — *Member*
(7) Hon. Shawulu R. Kwewum — *Member*
(8) Hon. Raji Tasir Olawale Jide — *Member*
(9) Hon. Lawal Muazu — *Member*

(*iii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Request for an Increase in the Amount to be Raised through the Diaspora Bond from the International Capital Market*:**

(1) Hon. Babangida Ibrahim — *Chairman*
(2) Hon. Chike John Okafor — *Member*
(3) Hon. Boma Goodhead — *Member*
(4) Hon. Adeyinka Ajayi — *Member*
(5) Hon. Shehu Garba — *Member*
(6) Hon. Olayonu Tope — *Member*
(7) Hon. Shawulu R. Kwewum — *Member*
(8) Hon. Tahir Jide — *Member*
(9) Hon. Lawal Muazu — *Member*

(*d*) ***Additional Membership of Ad-hoc Committees*:**

Mr Speaker also announced additional Members for the following *Ad-hoc* Committees:

(*i*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Activities of Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs) Pertaining to Infrastructure and Billing* (HR. 08/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Power (when constituted).

(*ii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Withdrawal of* ₦17 *billion by the Federal Ministry of Finance from the Account of Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority* (HR. 30/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Water Resources (when constituted) .

(*iii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Activities of Joint Task Force in Niger Delta Area and that of Nigerian Agip Oil Company as it Relates to the Burning and Destruction of Equipment Seized from Illegal Refineries Operators* (HR. 31/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted).

(*iv*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Accounting Procedures of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS)* (HR.42/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Finance (when constituted).

(*v*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on Non-Transparent and Fraudulent Sale of Power Assets* (HR.120/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Power (when constituted).

(*vi*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Huge Debts and Alleged Fraudulent Sale of Banks by the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON)* (HR. 98/2015):**

Chairman, Committee on Banking and Currency (when constituted),

(*vii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Alleged Fraudulent Practice in the Collection and Management of Non-Oil Revenue Remittance by Ministries/Departments/ Agencies (MDAs)*** **(HR. 99/2015):**

(*a*) *Chairman, Committee on Finance (when constituted);*

(*b*) *Chairman, Committee on Appropriations (when constituted).*

(*viii*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Forensically Investigate the Contract Known as "Refined Product Exchange Agreement or Swap Contract" Between the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC), a Subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and Oil Trading Companies*** **(HR. 06/2015):**

(*a*) *Chairman, Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted);*

(*b*) *Chairman, Committee on Appropriations (when constituted).*

(*ix*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Award of Contract for the Installations of CCTV Cameras in Abuja and Lagos, and Failure of the ZTE Corporation to Complete the Contract*** **(HR. 102/2015):**

(*a*) *Chairman, Committee on National Security and Intelligence (when constituted);*

(*b*) *Chairman, Committee on Police Affairs (when constituted).*

(*x*) ***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Federal Ministry of Transport and the Nigeria Railway Corporation (NRC) on the Award of Contracts*** **(HR. 121/2015):**

(*a*) *Chairman, Committee on Land Transport (when constituted);*

(*b*) Hon. Abdulmalik Bungudu to replace Hon. Sarkin Adar as member of the *Ad-hoc* Committee.

(*xi*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on Urgent Need to Investigate Allegation of Contract Inflation in Relation to the Mambila Multi-Purpose Dam and Hydro-Electric Power Project*** **(HR. 82/2015):**

(*a*) *Chairman, Committee on Power (when constituted);*

(*b*) *Chairman, Committee on Water Resources (when constituted).*

(*e*) ***Nigeria-Saudi Arabia Parliamentary Friendship Group:***

Mr Speaker also named Hon. Amiru Tukur as additional member of the Group.

4. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46)

(*i*) ***The Fatal Accident that Claimed 35 lives at Umuchu/Umunze Highway in Aguata Local Government Area of Anambra State:***

Hon. Eucharia Azodo (*Aguata 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.*

Fatal Accident that Claimed 35 Lives at Umuchu/Umunze Highway in Aguata Local Government Area of Anambra State:

The House:

Notes the tragedy at Afor Market Square Umuchu along Umuchu.Umunze highway on Sunday, 11 October, 2015, at about 5.30 p.m. during the celebration of New Yam Festival when a faulty Mercedes Benz 911 lorry loaded with timber lost control and ran into a crowd, killed 35 persons and injured many others;

Also notes that Igboukwu/Umuchu/Umunze/Isiochi highway is a Trunk A road and one of the busiest roads in Anambra State;

Aware that most accidents that occurr on this road are avoidable if proper preventive measures are put in place by relevant agencies;

Also aware that there are no road signs on this major road to warn and alert road users of structures like markets, sharp bends, schools, churches or dangers ahead;

Worried that the road where this accident occurred is an ever-busy highway, close to a market square;

Concerned that the agencies responsible for road maintenance and road safety have not done anything necessary to prevent re-occurrence of such painful incidents;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the House to observe a minute silent and pray for the repose of the souls of those that lost their lives and also pray for the speedy recovery of the injured ones;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to mandate the Federal Ministry of Works and Federal Road Safety Commission to immediately erect road signs and speed braker devices on this highway and restrict the movement of heavy trucks from the hours of 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. to avert and prevent the reoccurrence of such ugly incident; and

(*iii*) further urge NEMA to see to the medical needs of the injured victims with a view of saving their lives (*Hon. Eucharia Azodo — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
In Prayer (*ii*), line 3, immediately after the word "trucks", *leave out* the words "from the hours of 7a.m. to 7p.m." (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

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

Question on the Motion as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the tragedy at Afor Market Square Umuchu along Umuchu.Umunze highway on Sunday, 11 October, 2015, at about 5.30 p.m. during the celebration of New Yam Festival when a faulty Mercedes Benz 911 lorry loaded with timber lost control and ran into a crowd, killed 35 persons and injured many others;

Also noted that Igboukwu/Umuchu/Umunze/Isiochi highway is a Trunk A road and one of the busiest roads in Anambra State;

Aware that most accidents that occurr on this road are avoidable if proper preventive measures are put in place by relevant agencies;

Also aware that there are no road signs on this major road to warn and alert road users of structures like markets, sharp bends, schools, churches or dangers ahead;

Worried that the road where this accident occurred is an ever-busy highway, close to a market square;

Concerned that the agencies responsible for road maintenance and road safety have not done anything necessary to prevent re-occurrence of such painful incidents;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the House to observe a minute silent and pray for the repose of the souls of those that lost their lives and also pray for the speedy recovery of the injured ones;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to mandate the Federal Ministry of Works and Federal Road Safety Commission to immediately erect road signs and speed braker devices on this highway and restrict the movement of heavy trucks to avert and prevent the reoccurrence of such ugly incident; and

(*iii*) further urge NEMA to see to the medical needs of the injured victims with a view of saving their lives (**HR. 128/2015**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(*ii*) ***The Exit of a Matriarch (HID Awolowo)*:**
Hon. Segun Alexandra Adekola (*Ekiti South West/Ikere/Ise/Orun 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.*

HID Awolowo: Exit of a Matriarch:

The House:

Notes with remorse the recent exit to glory of the Matriarch of the Awolowo family, Chief Mrs Hannah Idowu Dideolu (Nee Adesina, better known as HID) Awolowo, wife of the late premier of the defunct Western Region and the Leader of Opposition in the Federal Parliament from 1959-1963, the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo at the ripe age of 99 years just over two months short of her 100 years Birthday;

Also notes that Mama was born to a modest family in the small Ikenne Community of Ogun State on 25 November, 1915 and died on 19 September, 2015, and she was married to the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo who famously referred to her as his **"Jewel of Inestimable value"** until his death in 1987;

Further notes that she lived a development-centred life of total service to the course of humanity worthy of emulation by all Nigerians irrespective of ethnicity and political affiliation;

Aware that Mama as a successful business woman and an astute politician, was the first Nigerian distributor for Nigerian Tobacco Company (NTC) in 1957, and also the first to import lace materials and other textile into Nigeria;

Also aware that as an astute Politician she played an active role in the politics of Western Nigeria where she stood in for her husband in the alliance formed between the NCNC and the AG, called the United Progressive Grand Alliance (UPGA) while he was in jail;

Further aware that she was not only a pillar of support and the custodian of her husband's tremendous political and cultural legacy but also served as a rallying point to all even after the death of her husband;

Observes that Mama HID was the voice of reason and the stabilizing factor behind her husband towering success, thus necessitating Chief Obafemi Awolowo to opine in his book, **"My early life"** written in 1968, where he said "I do not hesitate to confess that I owe my success in life to three factors: the grace of God, a Spartan Self-Discipline and a Good Wife";

Also observes the need to celebrate this great woman of inestimable value that came, saw the potential in Awolowo and "conquered" with him in all ramifications;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Observe a minute silence in her honour for the repose of her soul; and

(*ii*) condole with the members of the Awolowo family and the entire nation over the death of Mama HID by paying a condolence visit to the bereaved family (*Hon. Segun Alexander Adekola — Ekiti South/Ikere/Ise/Orun Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted with remorse the recent exit to glory of the Matriarch of the Awolowo family, Chief Mrs Hannah Idowu Dideolu (*Nee* Adesina, better known as HID) Awolowo, wife of the late premier of the defunct Western Region and the Leader of Opposition in the Federal Parliament from 1959-1963, the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo at the ripe age of 99 years just over two months short of her 100 years Birthday;

Also noted that Mama was born to a modest family in the small Ikenne Community of Ogun State on 25 November, 1915 and died on 19 September, 2015, and she was married to the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo who famously referred to her as his **"Jewel of Inestimable value"** until his death in 1987;

Further noted that she lived a development-centred life of total service to the course of humanity worthy of emulation by all Nigerians irrespective of ethnicity and political affiliation;

Aware that Mama as a successful business woman and an astute politician, was the first Nigerian distributor for Nigerian Tobacco Company (NTC) in 1957, and also the first to import lace materials and other textile into Nigeria;

Also aware that as an astute Politician she played an active role in the politics of Western Nigeria where she stood in for her husband in the alliance formed between the NCNC and the AG, called the United Progressive Grand Alliance (UPGA) while he was in jail;

Further aware that she was not only a pillar of support and the custodian of her husband's tremendous political and cultural legacy but also served as a rallying point to all even after the death of her husband;

Observed that Mama HID was the voice of reason and the stabilizing factor behind her husband towering success, thus necessitating Chief Obafemi Awolowo to opine in his book, **"My early life"** written in 1968, where he said "I do not hesitate to confess that I owe my success in life to three factors: the grace of God, a Spartan Self-Discipline and a Good Wife";

Also observed the need to celebrate this great woman of inestimable value that came, saw the potential in Awolowo and "conquered" with him in all ramifications;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Observe a minute silence in her honour for the repose of her soul; and

(*ii*) condole with the members of the Awolowo family and the entire nation over the death of Mama HID by paying a condolence visit to the bereaved family (**HR. 129/2015**).

5. **Devastating Gully Erosion in some Communities in Kaura-Namoda/Birnin-Magaji Federal Constituency**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

The House:

Notes that most communities in Kaura-Namoda/Birnin-Magaji Federal Constituency, particularly Maikuru, Yautabaki, Gabake, Sakajiki, Sabonbirnin, Magare, Kwalobdawa, Gidan Goje, Gusani and Banga, have been massively devastated by gully erosion for many years;

Also notes that many people in the constituency have been rendered homeless due to the collapse of their buildings as a result of the erosion, while many roads linking the communities have been completely destroyed and farm lands degraded;

Concerned that the erosion has exposed, and thereby made the land vulnerable to wind erosion, which is gradually causing desertification and could eventually lead to drought in the areas, if not checked;

Also concerned that the long term implication of the twin hazards of flood and wind erosion of the areas is degradation of the land, leading to loss of soil fertility which will result in low agricultural yield and the situation, coupled with the collapse of the road network, will make the whole place inaccessible, and the resultant economic recession will adversely affect the people;

Disturbed that unless urgent steps are taken to address this serious ecological problem, the lives, houses, environment and the means of livelihood of the people will continue to be endangered;

Convinced that the construction of proper channels and line drains, as well as reconstruction of roads destroyed by erosion in the areas will enhance rapid economic development of these agrarian communities;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Environment (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Environment to urgently take necessary actions to address these ecological problems;

(*ii*) also mandate the Committees on Works, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) (when constituted) to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works and FERMA to ensure the re-construction of the roads destroyed by the erosion; and

(*iii*) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to those who have been rendered homeless due to the collapse of their buildings (*Hon. Aminu Sani Jaji — Kaura-Namoda/Birnin-Magaji Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to.

Motion referred to the Committees on Environment, and Works (when constituted), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5) **(HR. 130/2018)**.

6. Abuse of the Grant of Pioneer Status by Companies

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Section 1 of the Investments Development (Income Tax Relief) Act, Cap. I7, LFN 2014 and the Companies Income Tax Act (CITA) vest power on the President to grant pioneer status or tax relief as incentives to companies designated as pioneer industries to encourage investments and stimulate growth in the under-explored sectors that are considered important to the growth of the economy;

Also notes that Section 10 of the Investments Development Act provides that tax relief period shall be for three years from the first day of production by the company with option for extension for another year or two years;

Worried that in the past four years, the Nigerian Investments Promotion Council (NIPC) had issued pioneer status certificates to companies other than those envisaged by the law, including Petroleum exploration and production companies, and had granted it to companies for five straight years, contrary to extant laws and had also granted unwholesome extensions and even further granted the status to companies that had previously benefitted from the grant;

Also worried that the NIPC had, on occasions, granted the pioneer status retrospectively, thereby causing the government to even refund taxes already paid by the companies, which have cost the Federal Government about ₦1.850 trillion in revenues;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Finance (when constituted) to investigate the issuance of pioneer status in the past six years with the aim of determining if there had been abuses, and then recommend ways to recover the lost revenues and bring anyone found to have willfully or in disregard of the laws, set out to cause such monumental financial loss to Nigeria (*Hon. Herman Hembe — Konshisha/ Vandekiya Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in the Prayer and insert as follows instead thereof:
"Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the matter and report back to the House in one month" (*Hon. Herman Hembe — Konshisha/ Vandekiya Federal Constituency*).

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

Question on the Motion as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 1 of the Investments Development (Income Tax Relief) Act, Cap. I7, LFN 2014 and the Companies Income Tax Act (CITA) vest power on the President to grant pioneer status or tax relief as incentives to companies designated as pioneer industries to encourage investments and stimulate growth in the under-explored sectors that are considered important to the growth of the economy;

Also noted that Section 10 of the Investments Development Act provides that tax relief period shall be for three years from the first day of production by the company with option for extension for another year or two years;

Worried that in the past four years, the Nigerian Investments Promotion Council (NIPC) had issued pioneer status certificates to companies other than those envisaged by the law, including Petroleum exploration and production companies, and had granted it to companies for five straight years, contrary to extant laws and had also granted unwholesome extensions and even further granted the status to companies that had previously benefitted from the grant;

Also worried that the NIPC had, on occasions, granted the pioneer status retrospectively, thereby causing the government to even refund taxes already paid by the companies, which have cost the Federal Government about ₦1.850 trillion in revenues;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the matter and report back to the House in one month **(HR. 131/2015)**.

7. Poor Service Delivery by Nigeria's Fire Services

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Fire Services are structured to respond quickly to fire outbreaks in order to reduce to the barest minimum, the impacts of fire on lives and properties;

Worried that the Fire Services in the country are deficient due to lack of modern and sophisticated equipment, motivation and poor conditions of service;

Aware that unless urgent steps are taken to reposition the Fire Services across the country for better performance, fire outbreaks would continue to lead to avoidable loss of lives and damage to properties;

Concerned that victims of fire incidents are usually neglected without any form of compensation to alleviate their sufferings, as in some cases, Government's promises of assistance are not usually kept;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal and State Governments to urgently improve the operations of Fire Services nationwide in terms of structure, funding, conditions of service, provision of modern equipment and mode of operation for optimum performance; and

(*ii*) appeal to corporate and private institutions to support the Fire Services through donations of fire equipment and operational vehicles (*Hon. Abdulraheem Olajide Jimoh — Lagos Mainland Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) *Leave out* all the words in Prayer (*ii*) and *insert* as follows instead thereof:
"Appeal to corporate bodies and institutions to support fire Services through donations and provide water facilities such as boreholes and pipe-borne water in every office of the Fire service" (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) In Prayer (*i*), line 3, immediately after the word "operation" *insert* the words "and capacity building and training" (*Hon. Babatunde Kolawole — Akoko South East/Akoko South West Federal Constituency*).

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

(*iii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to review the entire Fire service structure with a view to making it independent so that it can be properly funded and regulated" (*Hon. Magaji Da'u Aliyu — Birnin-Kudu/Buji Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(*iv*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to implement all recommendations of the National Council on Fire, and the Federal Fire service to carry out periodic inspection with a view to ensuring that every property has the required fire protection equipment" (*Hon. Solomon Bulus Maren — Mangu/Bokkos Federal Constituency*).

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

Question on the Motion as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Fire Services are structured to respond quickly to fire outbreaks in order to reduce to the barest minimum, the impacts of fire on lives and properties;

Worried that the Fire Services in the country are deficient due to lack of modern and sophisticated equipment, motivation and poor conditions of service;

Aware that unless urgent steps are taken to reposition the Fire Services across the country for better performance, fire outbreaks would continue to lead to avoidable loss of lives and damage to properties;

Concerned that victims of fire incidents are usually neglected without any form of compensation to alleviate their sufferings, as in some cases, Government's promises of assistance are not usually kept;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal and State Governments to urgently improve the operations of Fire Services nationwide in terms of structure, funding, conditions of service, provision of modern equipment and mode of operation, and capacity building and training for optimum performance;

(*ii*) appeal to corporate bodies and institutions to support fire Services through donations and provide water facilities such as boreholes and pipe-borne water in every office of the Fire service; and

(*iii*) urge the Federal Government to implement all recommendations of the National Council on Fire, and the Federal Fire service to carry out periodic inspection with a view to ensuring that every property has the required fire protection equipment (**HR. 132/2015**).

8. Recovery of Revenues Payable to the Federation Account from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and its Joint Venture Partners

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on behalf of the Government of the Federation, entered into Joint Venture Agreements with Oil Companies operating in Nigeria;

Also notes that the NNPC and the Oil Companies are expected to fund the Joint Venture Operations (JVOs), and share the Oil produced and other associated benefits or revenues in line with their interest holdings as contained in the Joint Operation Agreements;

Aware that the Federal Government's contribution to the funding of the Joint Ventures is sourced from the Appropriations Act, and released by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) through a system of monthly cash calls which frees the Government from any other cost obligation;

Also aware that besides the lifting of Oil in the agreed sharing ratio, there are associated income or miscellaneous revenues accruable to the Joint Venture, for which Government is entitled to a good share in accordance with the Joint Operation Agreements (JOA);

Cognizant that section 162 (1) of the Constitution of Nigeria requires all collectable revenues of the Government of the Federation to be paid into the Federation Account;

Concerned that income from such sources as sale of assets, marine transportation, ullage or pipeline transportation, etc. which form part of the Joint Venture Operations are unaccounted for and not usually paid into the Distributable Pool by the Oil Companies which are the operators of the Joint Ventures;

Also concerned that these sources of the Joint Venture Income amount to Billions of Naira or Millions of Dollars (particularly ullage or pipeline transportation) as the case may be;

Disturbed that the Operator-Companies net off these income against expenses (already settled) allegedly in collusion with officials of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to avoid the remittance of the income to the Federation Account;

Also disturbed that the Joint Operation Agreements (JOA) largely favour the operator-companies to the detriment of the non-operator, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) which is the agent of the Federal Government;

Resolves to:

Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the Operations of the Joint Venture Agreements with particular reference to leakages and also carry out a forensic assurance review of the Joint Venture books to establish the amounts of income that accrued to the Joint Venture Partners in the past seven (7) years and the actual amount remitted to the Federation Account, and report back to the House within seven (7) weeks (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) In the Prayer, line 1, *leave out* the words "Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee" and *insert* as the words "Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted) instead thereof (*Hon. Chinda Kingsley — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

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

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*ii*) as follows:
"Mandate the Committee to also investigate leakages with regard to our production sharing contracts (PSC) agreements with oil companies where similar leakages exist and recover/block such revenue leakages" (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba — Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

(*iii*) In Prayer (*i*) as amended, immediately after the words "Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream)", *insert* the word "Finance" (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba — Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made, put and negatived.

Question on the Motion as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on behalf of the Government of the Federation, entered into Joint Venture Agreements with Oil Companies operating in Nigeria;

Also noted that the NNPC and the Oil Companies are expected to fund the Joint Venture Operations (JVOs), and share the Oil produced and other associated benefits or revenues in line with their interest holdings as contained in the Joint Operation Agreements;

Aware that the Federal Government's contribution to the funding of the Joint Ventures is sourced from the Appropriations Act, and released by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) through a system of monthly cash calls which frees the Government from any other cost obligation;

Also aware that besides the lifting of Oil in the agreed sharing ratio, there are associated income or miscellaneous revenues accruable to the Joint Venture, for which Government is entitled to a good share in accordance with the Joint Operation Agreements (JOA);

Cognizant that section 162 (1) of the Constitution of Nigeria requires all collectable revenues of the Government of the Federation to be paid into the Federation Account;

Concerned that income from such sources as sale of assets, marine transportation, ullage or pipeline transportation, etc. which form part of the Joint Venture Operations are unaccounted for and not usually paid into the Distributable Pool by the Oil Companies which are the operators of the Joint Ventures;

Also concerned that these sources of the Joint Venture Income amount to Billions of Naira or Millions of Dollars (particularly ullage or pipeline transportation) as the case may be;

Disturbed that the Operator-Companies net off these income against expenses (already settled) allegedly in collusion with officials of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to avoid the remittance of the income to the Federation Account;

Also disturbed that the Joint Operation Agreements (JOA) largely favour the operator-companies to the detriment of the non-operator, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) which is the agent of the Federal Government;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted) to investigate the Operations of the Joint Venture Agreements with particular reference to leakages and also carry out a forensic assurance review of the Joint Venture books to establish the amounts of income that accrued to the Joint Venture Partners in the past seven (7) years and the actual amount remitted to the Federation Account, and report back to the House within seven (7) weeks (**HR. 133/2015**).

9. **Deploring Nigeria's Absence at the Zero Routine Gas Flaring Initiative in Washington D.C., United States of America**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria is faced with severe challenges arising from unbridled gas flaring at onshore/ offshore production sites by international oil companies operating within its shores;

Aware that the Zero Routine Flaring by 2030 Initiative was launched by the United Nation's Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon, and the World Bank Group President, Jim Yong Kim, as part of the World Bank's Spring meeting in Washington, USA;

Observes that the Initiative strives to get Governments, Oil companies, and Developmental Institutions to see gas flaring as unsustainable as it constitutes waste of resources, poses grave environmental and health dangers to the people and also detrimental to the climate, and thus, agree to cooperate to eliminate routine flaring, not later than 2030;

Worried that Nigeria's absence at the meeting of the Zero Routine Gas Flaring by 2030 Initiative, which was held in Washington D.C., United States of America on April 17, 2015 and the country's inability to sign the treaty, the cardinal objective of which is to end gas flaring by oil companies by 2030, is a major cause for concern;

Also aware that ten multinational Oil companies, six global Developmental Institutions and nine nations, such as Norway, Cameroun, Russia, Kazakhstan, Gabon, Uzbekistan, Congo, Angola and France and multinational firms like Royal Dutch Shell, Total, Statoil, Eni, BG Group, Kuwait Oil Company, Petroamazonas of Ecuador, State Oil Company of Azerbaijan, Societe Nationale des Petroles du Congo, and Societe Nationale des Hydrocarbones of Cameroun signed an agreement to end routine gas flaring at oil production sites by 2030 while Nigeria, with serious Gas flaring issues, was not represented;

Disturbed that Nigeria's absence at the meeting sent a wrong signal that she was not ready to end gas flaring which has caused a lot of damage to the environment of Ahoada-West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni, and the people, who are victims of the devastating effects of gas flaring, continue to live with this danger by the day as even the money paid by these companies, ostensibly as compensation to continue to flare gas, cannot be equated with the colossal damage to the health of the people and their environment;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to initiate the process of formally endorsing the Initiative after concluding any ongoing policy review of its energy industry;

(*ii*) invite the Permanent Secretary or a representative of the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources to explain to the House, the reason(s) why Nigeria did not send any delegate to the event aimed at ending gas flaring;

(*iii*) mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted) to conduct a comprehensive review of relevant government policy initiatives aimed at curbing gas flaring and assess such in order to determine if they conform to global best practices (*Hon. Uchechuku Nnam-Obi — Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni/Ahoada West Federal Constituency and* 13 *Others*)

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in Prayer (*i*) (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

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

Question on the Motion as amended, put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria is faced with severe challenges arising from unbridled gas flaring at onshore/offshore production sites by international oil companies operating within its shores;

Aware that the Zero Routine Flaring by 2030 Initiative was launched by the United Nation's Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon, and the World Bank Group President, Jim Yong Kim, as part of the World Bank's Spring meeting in Washington, USA;

Observed that the Initiative strives to get Governments, Oil companies, and Developmental Institutions to see gas flaring as unsustainable as it constitutes waste of resources, poses grave environmental and health dangers to the people and also detrimental to the climate, and thus, agree to cooperate to eliminate routine flaring, not later than 2030;

Worried that Nigeria's absence at the meeting of the Zero Routine Gas Flaring by 2030 Initiative, which was held in Washington D.C., United States of America on April 17, 2015 and the country's inability to sign the treaty, the cardinal objective of which is to end gas flaring by oil companies by 2030, is a major cause for concern;

Also aware that ten multinational Oil companies, six global Developmental Institutions and nine nations, such as Norway, Cameroun, Russia, Kazakhstan, Gabon, Uzbekistan, Congo, Angola and France and multinational firms like Royal Dutch Shell, Total, Statoil, Eni, BG Group, Kuwait Oil Company, Petroamazonas of Ecuador, State Oil Company of Azerbaijan, Societe Nationale des Petroles du Congo, and Societe Nationale des Hydrocarbones of Cameroun signed an agreement to end routine gas flaring at oil production sites by 2030 while Nigeria, with serious Gas flaring issues, was not represented;

Disturbed that Nigeria's absence at the meeting sent a wrong signal that she was not ready to end gas flaring which has caused a lot of damage to the environment of Ahoada-West/Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni, and the people, who are victims of the devastating effects of gas flaring, continue to live with this danger by the day as even the money paid by these companies, ostensibly as compensation to continue to flare gas, cannot be equated with the colossal damage to the health of the people and their environment;

Resolved to:

(*i*) invite the Permanent Secretary or a representative of the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources to explain to the House, the reason(s) why Nigeria did not send any delegate to the event aimed at ending gas flaring;

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) (when constituted) to conduct a comprehensive review of relevant government policy initiatives aimed at curbing gas flaring and assess such in order to determine if they conform to global best practices **(HR. 134/2015)**.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control Act, Cap. N1, LFN, 2004 and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 42) — *Second Reading*.**

Order read, deferred by leave of the House.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Standards Organization of Nigeria Act, Cap. S9, LFN, 2004 to Mandate the Organization to Compile and Publish Quarterly, an Inventory of Substandard Products in Circulation and Impose Stiffer Penalties on Defaulters and for Other Related Matters (HB. 47) — *Second Reading*.**

Order read, deferred by leave of the House.

12 .Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 21 *October*, 2015 *at* 10.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.39 *p.m.*

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker