FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 60

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Thursday, 29 October, 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. Chartered Institute of Human Capital Development of Nigeria Bill, 2015 (HB. 28) (*Hon. Gideon Gwani*) — *First Reading*.

2. Environmental Health Officers (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 29) (*Hon. Gideon Gwani*) — *First Reading*.

3. Federal Capital Territory Area Councils (Administrative and Political Structure) Bill, 2015 (HB. 30) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta and Hon. Zephaniah Jisalo*) — *First Reading*.

4. Commodities Exchange Bill, 2015 (HB. 31) (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta*) — *First Reading*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. Devastating Gully Erosion in Orumba North/South Federal Constituency of Anambra State: Hon. Sopuluchukwu E. Ezeonwuka:

   The House:

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Notes that most communities in Orumba North/South Federal Constituency, particularly Oko, Nanka and Ekwulobia (Aguata Federal Constituency) have been massively devastated by flooding and the attendant gully erosion, for many years unabated;

Also notes that many people in the aforesaid constituency have been rendered homeless due to the collapse of their buildings as a result of erosion, while roads linking the communities have been completely destroyed and farmlands degraded, leading to loss of soil fertility thereby making the land unfavorable for farming activities;

Concerned that unless urgent steps are taken to tackle the ecological problems by the construction of proper channels and line drainages, as well as reconstruction of the roads destroyed by erosion, the people of these agrarian communities would continue to suffer;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to those who have been rendered homeless due to the collapse of their houses;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Environment and Habitat to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Environment to urgently take necessary actions to address the ecological problems; and

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

2. **Call for Declaration of a State of Emergency in the Power Sector:**
Hon. Segun A. Adekola

The House:

Notes that item 13 (*a*), Part II of the Second Schedule to the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria empowers the National Assembly to make laws for the Federation or any part thereof with respect to generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in Nigeria;

Also notes that on 1st of November 2013, the Power Holding Company of Nigeria, (PHCN), was unbundled into 18 separate Companies made up of six Generation Companies (GENCOs), one Transmission Company (TRANCO) and 11 Distribution Companies (DISCOs), ostensibly for greater efficiency;

Aware that in order to boost efficiency in electricity supply, the Federal Government, sometime in 2014, gave a huge sum of ₦213 Billion to these new investors as an intervention fund;

Concerned that despite the huge investments made by the Federal Government in the power sector, coupled with its privatization, the power situation has been deteriorating incrementally;

Worried about the negative effects of lack of steady power supply which has forced many foreign companies to relocate to other neighboring countries, an event that has led to job losses, thereby worsening the unemployment rate in the country and greatly hurting the economy;

Believes that if no drastic measures are taken to correct the untoward situation, Nigeria's economic base will continue to shrink with the consequent adverse effects on the social wellbeing of the people;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the President of Nigeria to declare a state of emergency in the power sector so as to enable the Government tackle the problem of power supply squarely; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Power to carry out an investigation to determine why, after the privatization of PHCN, with huge sums of money expended, there is no commensurate result, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action.

3. **Suicide Bomb Attack by Suspected Boko Haram Insurgent on Worshipers at Jambutu Jummat Mosque Jimeta, Adamawa State:**
Hon. Abubakar Lawal Garba:

The House:

Notes the suicide bomb attack by suspected Boko Haram insurgent on Friday, October 23, 2015 on Muslim worshipers at Jambutu Jummat Mosque, Jimeta, Adamawa Sate killing about 36 people and injuring more than 100 other persons;

Recalls similar attacks near Jimeta modern market on 4 June, 2015 and at the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camp on September 11, 2015, respectively which claimed more than 50 lives and injured about 100 others;

Laments that the attacks on the camp and place of worship in Yola have affected its commercial and economic fortunes and above all, violated the fundamental human rights of the people to worship peacefully;

Worried about the negative effects of these attacks on the economic and social lives of the people;

Resolve to:

(*i*) Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other relevant Agencies to provide enough drugs and necessary medical attention to the victims of the bomb blast currently receiving treatment at Specialist Hospital and Federal Medical Center (FMC), Yola;

(*ii*) also urge relevant security Agencies to deploy more personnel to intensify surveillance and intelligence gathering, and if practicable, provide training to place of worship volunteers on use of metal detectors with the aim of preventing further attacks on the communities;

(*iii*) further urge the Executive arm of Government to urgently acquire and provide enough state-of the art bomb detecting devices;

(*iv*) empathize with the relations of the victims as well as the Government and people of Adamawa State; and

(*v*) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased.

4. **Call for Upgrade of the Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo, to the Status of a University:**
Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi:

The House:

Notes that the National Universities Commission Act, Cap. N81, LFN, 2004 vests the Commission with powers to create new Universities and other degree awarding institutions;

Also notes that the Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo which was founded in 1977 is the only higher institution in the country where supportive staff in special education, sign language and braillists, etc. are mandatorily provided in every lecture room or hall to support those with hearing or visual impairments;

Further notes that those two sets of specialists are exclusively trained in the College, not only for its students but also for other institutions and different organizations spread across the country wherever there are special needs;

Observes that since there is no university in Nigeria that caters for these special set of Nigerians, it is safe to assume that they must have been finding it difficult to adapt to the present university system in Nigeria;

Recalls that in 2014, some Colleges of Education were upgraded to degree-awarding status as Universities, including the Adeyemi College of Education (Ondo);

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to liaise with the National Universities Commission (NUC) with the aim of setting up machinery for upgrading the Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo to the status of a University.

5. **Urgent Need to Establish the Status of Undeveloped Allotted Plots in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and to take Measures Geared towards Enforcing the Terms and Conditions for such Grant and Allotment and Establish the Identity and Ownership of Properties in the Highbrow Areas of the FCT, Abuja:**
Hon. Emmanuel Ekon Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

The House:

Notes that by virtue of Section 1 of the Land Use Act, Cap. L5, LFN, 2004, all lands situated in the territory of each State of the Federation are vested in the Governor of that State who has powers to issue Certificates of Occupancy to deserving citizens upon application;

Also notes that under the said Act and the 1999 Constitution, the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja has the status of a Governor of a State for the purpose of issuing Certificates of Occupancy in respect of lands situated in the Federal Capital Territory to deserving citizens upon application;

Aware that a Certificate of Occupancy usually contains terms and conditions stating, inter alia, specific period of time when the allottee is expected to develop such alloted land or risk forfeiting such land as is provided in the Act;

Observes that the Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory and its relevant Agencies, namely the Federal Capital Development Authority, FCT Department of Land Administration, Department of Development Control, Abuja Geographic Information Systems etc. have not been enforcing the terms, conditions and covenants contained in the Certificates of Occupancy regarding development of alloted land within a specific period of time;

Also observes that the neglect, failure, refusal and / or default of the Ministry and its Agencies has encouraged land speculators to keep lands undeveloped for several years in order for them to appreciate in value so that they could thereafter sell them at exorbitant prices;

Disturbed that the aforesaid practice of keeping lands undeveloped for a lengthy period of time is one of the reasons for the high cost of houses and the accommodation problems in the FCT;

Believes that if the practice is not checked, the noble efforts of the Government to address the housing needs of residents of the FCT will continue to be frustrated by land speculators to the detriment of helpless Nigerians:

Also believes that for the purposes of security in the FCT, probity, payment of appropriate property taxes and rents, there is an urgent need to determine the identities of the owners of all properties and lands (both developed and undeveloped) in the highbrow areas of the FCT;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to conduct an investigative hearing to determine the status of undeveloped allotted lands in the FCT and their owners, and recommend measures to ensure the enforcement of the terms, conditions and covenants contained in the Rights of Occupancy and or Certificates of Occupancy given to each allotee of undeveloped land in the FCT, particularly in the areas where full infrastructure had been provided by Government, such as Guzape, Maitama, Asokoro, etc. and report back to the House within 4 weeks for further legislative action.

6. **Call on the National Universities Commission (NUC) not to Restore Pass Degree to Nigerian Universities Grading System:**
Hon. Mojeed Alabi:

The House:

Notes that the Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC), Prof. Julius Okojie, at a recent workshop in Abuja, directed the Vice-Chancellors of Universities in Nigeria to review the existing 5-grade points system of computing Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), which does not recognize Pass Degree;

Also notes that a 6-grade points system of computing Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) in Nigerian Universities for graduating students was in existence before December 2012 when the NUC directed the Universities to change to the current 5-grade point system;

Aware that the National Universities Commission (NUC) had, in a circular to Nigerian Universities, sometime in December 2012, announced the abolition of Pass Degree from University grading system for graduating students, with a directive for implementation of the 5-points system of grading;

Also aware that the abolition of Pass Degree from Universities grading system was hinged on the need to improve the standard of the Nigerian University system by ensuring that graduating students with raw scores in the range of 40-44 percent, that is, a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 1.00-1.49, would be regarded as having failed, along with others who scored below 40 percent or 1.00 CGPA;

Further aware that some Universities have complied with the directive while others are at various stages of implementing the 5-grade points system that was introduced barely three years ago;

Concerned that given the current falling standard of education in Nigeria, restoring Pass Degree and recognizing 40-44% as pass mark would further worsen Nigerian Universities' global ranking, and would also negate the much desired need to challenge University students to improve on their academic performances;

Disturbed that the policy inconsistency being exhibited by the National Universities Commission (NUC) in changing the University grading system twice within three years portends a great danger for Nigeria's image in the global community and would, if allowed, further compromise academic standards in Nigerian Universities compared to their global counterparts;

Also disturbed that given the growing competitiveness of the Nigerian labour market, any policy that discourages high academic performance by students, like the restoration of Pass Degree in Nigerian Universities, will further endanger the chances of graduates securing worthwhile employment and comparing impressively with their counterparts from other parts of the world;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the National Universities Commission (NUC) to suspend the implementation of the directive to Nigerian Universities on the review of the existing 5-points grading system pending the time all grey areas are sorted out;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to invite the Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC) to appear before it to address the recent directive to the Vice-Chancellors of Universities in Nigeria to review the existing 5-points grading system with a view to ascertaining:

(*a*) the extent of evaluation carried out by the National Universities Commission (NUC) on the existing 5-points grading system before arriving at the planned discontinuation of the system and reversion to a 6-point grading system; and,

(*b*) the propriety or otherwise of the planned restoration of Pass Degree vis-à-vis competitiveness of the labour market, falling education standard and image implications of the policy inconsistency.

7. **Call for Overhaul of the Tertiary Education Sector to Meet the Modern Needs of Nigeria: Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum:**

The House:

Notes that spaces available for youths seeking admissions into Nigerian Universities are grossly inadequate as available reports show that in the last four years, over one million youths who sat for and passed the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) did not get admissions;

Also notes that the marginal increase in available spaces in the tertiary institutions has not kept pace with the number of students queuing up each year to obtain admissions despite the fact that a very high percentage of young people, especially in the Northern States, drop out of schools:

Worried about reports that less than one-third (⅓) of students who completed basic schools proceeded to senior secondary schools, and in some parts of North East and North West, more than fifty percent (50%) percent of children of school age do not attend schools;

Further notes that as a result of the limited spaces available for admission seekers into Universities, Nigerians have resorted to looking for admissions in other climes for their children, a venture that is bleeding the Nation's economy;

Recalls a report by the Examination Ethics International that Nigerians are spending ₦1.5 trillion on studying abroad which is nearly half of the total Federal Government Appropriations of ₦4 trillion for 2015;

Also recalls another report in 2008 by the Committee of Vice Chancellors that Nigerians spent ₦500 million (70% of the 2008 budgetary allocation to Nigerian Universities) on their children studying in the United States of America and the United Kingdom;

Further recalls that a former Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria had disclosed that the ₦150 million tuition fees paid to Ghanaian institutions by Nigerians was more than 70% of the ₦121 Billion annual budget for all Nigerian universities in 2008;

Concerned about the disclosure that a very significant number of the 71,000 Nigerian students studying in Ghana are enrolled in fake, sub-standard, and in some cases, unregistered institutions established specifically to exploit Nigerians:

Aware of the report that the Federal Government spent ₦900 million in 2011 to sponsor 150 students abroad;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to declare a state of emergency in the education sector;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to enhance the capacity of the Open University of Nigeria to absorb the hundreds of thousands of qualified students who are unable to gain admissions into the regular universities;

(*iii*) further urge the Federal and State Governments to enhance the capacity of Nigerian Universities and Polytechnics by investing in the recruitment of personnel and construction of physical structures;

(*iv*) call on the private sector to increase its grants to the education sector and also establish well equipped tertiary institutions with qualified staff to absorb qualified students with a view to turning Nigeria into a preferred destination for education tourism; and

(*v*) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to study the crisis in the education sector and make appropriate recommendations to the House within 4 weeks.

8. Non-Payment of Allowances to Nigerian Students on Scholarship Programs Abroad: Hon. Olufunke Adedoyin:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Scholarship Board awards scholarships to Undergraduate, Masters and Doctorate Students from Nigeria to study overseas under the Bilateral Educational Agreement (BEA);

Also notes that the Bilateral Educational Agreement Scholarship Scheme is a joint program being run by the Nigerian Government (through the Federal Ministry of Education) in collaboration with Governments of other countries, such as Russia, China, Cuba, Morocco, Algeria, Ukraine etc;

Aware that under the scheme, successful students from all the States of the Federation nominated by the Nigerian Government to foreign Governments are placed in universities by the receiving countries without being required to pay tuition, while the Nigerian Government pays for students' visas, flight, health insurance, warm clothing allowance and a monthly allowance of USDS500;

Also aware that the visas issued to the students are student visas, which preclude any form of employment even during holidays, and, therefore, makes the students rely solely on the monthly allowances to be paid by the Nigerian Government;

Worried that as a result of non-payment of allowances to the students since January 2015, survival has been nearly impossible for them given that the average cost of living in most European cities is about US$750 monthly, while in cities like St Petersburg and Moscow, it could get as high as US$1,000, making even the monthly stipend of US$500 inadequate;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs, and Finance and the respective Embassies to initiate measures towards paying, forthwith, the outstanding allowances owed to students on the Bilateral Educational Agreement Scholarship scheme;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to produce a comprehensive data on the number, courses of study, institutions/countries and the current payment status of the students studying abroad under the Bilateral Educational Agreement;

(*iii*) also mandate the Committee to probe all scholarship matters being handled by:

(*a*) the Federal Scholarship Board,

(*b*) the Ministry of Education,

(*c*) National Universities Commission (NUC),

(*d*) Tertiary Education Tax Fund (TETFUND),

(*e*) Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF),

(*f*) Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), and

(*g*) any other Agency involved in granting overseas scholarships, and report back to the House within two (2) months for further legislative action.

9. **Need to ensure that Confiscated Fake, Substandard and Contraband Goods are properly disposed of in Accordance with International Best Practices:**

Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante
Hon. Ogundu Kingsley Chinda
Hon. Blessing Ibiba Nsiegbe
Hon. Nbina Jacobson
Hon. Nnam Obi Uchechuku
Hon. Boma Goodhead
Hon. Eke Jerome Amadi
Hon. Douye Diri
Hon. Amadi Oguerinwa Dennis
Hon. Owoidighe Ime Ekpoattai
Hon. Akinjo Kolade Victor
Hon. Betty Apiafi
Hon. Ken Chikere Anayo
Hon. Gogo Bright Tamuno
Hon. Dekor Robinson Dumnamene
Hon. B. S. Emerengwa
Hon. Brown Randolph Iwo Oruene
Hon. Francis Charles Uduyok
Hon. Goodluck Opiah
Hon. Danburam Abubakar Nuhu
Hon. Golu Timothy

The House:

Commends the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC), Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), and Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) for their efforts and contributions to the development of the nation;

Notes that in the course of their duties, particularly of enforcement, substandard, fake and contraband goods and products are impounded to ensure that such products do not get to the consuming public;

Also notes that some of those seized items, not being fit for public use or consumption, are usually destroyed by the agencies through open-air burning or burying;

Concerned that the process of destroying these contraband constitutes serious hazards to human health, the environment, eco-balance, plants, vegetation and animals;

Aware that the pollution introduced into the atmosphere settles on surface waters, plants, vegetation, crops and livestock, ultimately entering into the human food chain;

Also aware that the open air burning of these contraband pollutes the atmosphere by introducing chemicals, particulate matters and biological materials that cause harm or discomfort to humans, animals, living organisms and damage the natural/built environment and the atmosphere;

Further aware that such harmful fumes released into the atmosphere, which sometimes form smog and acid rain that create visibility and safety hazards, are not localized but subject to the wind and weather and could spread far and wide without their being initially intended to do so;

Worried that the fumes can be toxic and carcinogenic, cause respiratory and other diseases and irritate the eyes, nose, throat and other organs in the body, and particles from the burning items could reach deep into the lungs and tissues and cause symptoms such as coughing, wheezing, chest pain, shortness of breath and also aggravate asthmatic and other respiratory conditions, which may occur several days after the actual burning, and could eventually lead to death;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Health Care Services, Environment and Habitat, Drugs and Narcotics, Customs and Excise, Commerce and Industry to investigate the current method of disposal of confiscated fake, substandard and contraband goods, especially the impact of the practices on human health and the environment, as well as the level of compliance with global best practices, and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative actions.

10. **Need to Investigate the Level of Compliance by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) with the Laws in its Various Intervention Projects**
Hon. Toby Okechukwu:

The House:

Notes that the Central Bank of Nigeria has executed and continues to execute various intervention projects and other contracts in the education and other sectors across the nation running into over ₦400 billion of tax payers' money;

Aware that in violation of the provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, only three (3) of the twenty one (21) intervention projects already contracted or procured by the CBN were properly certified;

Also aware that the CBN has engaged and continues to engage several consultants and contractors for the execution of these intervention projects;

Concerned that the CBN did not follow due process as provided in the laws in the engagement of the consultants and contractors for the execution of these intervention projects;

Also concerned that the CBN awarded the contracts without the involvement of the Bureau of Public Procurement as required in the Public Procurement Act, 2007, which runs contrary to the Federal Government's policies and determination to curb economic waste, ensure accountability and strict adherence to the rule of law;

Worried about the source of funds for these intervention projects and whether the CBN is complying with the provisions of Central Bank of Nigeria Act, 2007, Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2011 and the Federal Government's directive regarding the Treasury Single Account;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency to investigate the legality and propriety of these contractual transactions and other related matters by the Central Bank of Nigeria and report back to the House in four (4) weeks, for further legislative action.

BILLS

11. **Consolidation of Bills:**

(*a*) A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Youth Service Corps Act, Cap. N84, LFN, 2004 to embody certain provisions aimed at enhancing the welfare needs of Corp Members, enable their Acquisition of Special Business and Commercial Skills and empower them financially to be better able to fend for themselves at the end of their service and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 82) (*Hon. Joan Onyemaechi Mrakpor*) — *Second Reading*.

(*b*) A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Youth Service Corps Act, Cap. N84, LFN, 2004 to make it Mandatory for the Service Corps to provide Life Insurance Policy for Corp Members and to provide for Matters Incidental Thereto (HB. 80) (*Hon. Joan Onyemaechi Mrakpor*) — *Second Reading*.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Agency for Training and Regulation of Vocational Trades, in order to create Self-Employment and to cushion the effects of Youth Unemployment in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 55) (*Hon. Musa Sarki Adar*) — *Second Reading*.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Alleged Fraudulent Practices in Collection of and Management of Non-Oil Revenue Remittance	Thursday, 29 October, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Committee Room 437 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
2.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Request for Approval of Lagos State Development Policy Operation (DPO II)	Thursday, 29 October, 2015	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 4.48 New Building (House) Assembly Complex
3.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Request for an Increase in Diaspora Bond	Thursday, 29 October, 2015	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 4.48 New Building (House) Assembly Complex