HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 4 November, 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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MOTIONS

1. **Need for Legislative Appraisal of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Programmes: Hon. Chukwuka W. Onyema:**

The House:

Notes that Nigeria was one of the 189 Countries/Signatories to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Programmes at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in September 2000;

Also notes that the key areas the programmes cover include eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reduction of child mortality rate, improving maternal health, combating HIV-AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development;

Further notes that in order to continue with the vision, the MDGs programmes metamorphosed into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted by the UN General Assembly in September, 2015;

Concerned that there is an urgent need to review the implementation plan in order to ensure efficient sustainability of the programmes;

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Also concerned that some of the construction projects undertaken under the Millennium Development Goals programmes have been abandoned at various stages of completion following the metamorphosis to the Sustainable Development Goals, and many of the contractors of those projects are being owed for jobs duly completed, while some of the projects that were completed, have neither been equipped nor put into use;

Aware that the intervention of the Legislature, matched with adequate funding and political commitment, will ensure that those abandoned projects are completed;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure compliance and report back to the House within 6 weeks.

2. **Business Continued from Assembly to Assembly:**
***Environmental Health Officers (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill*, 2015 (HB. 29):**
Hon. Gideon Gwani:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order XII, Rule 96 of the Standing Orders of the House, the legislative business of the House which, though completed and laid in the House by a Committee of the House which remain undetermined at the end of the Assembly shall be resumed and proceeded with in the next Assembly in the same manner as if the tenure of the Assembly had not come to an end, if the House resolves in affirmative that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted, be reconsidered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo;*

Also notes that the Environmental Health Officers (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 was awaiting consideration in the Committee of the Whole before the last Assembly ended:

Aware that the said Bill has been re-gazetted as HB. 29 and read the first time on Tuesday, 13 September, 2015;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

3. **Rehabilitation of Dilapidated Sections and Expansion of Narrow and Dangerous Bridges along Zaria-Funtua-Sokoto Road:**
Hon. Abdulmalik Zubairu Bungudu:

The House:

Notes the economic importance of the Zaria-Funtua-Gusau-Sokoto Road to the Zamfara-Sokoto-Kebbi axis of the North-Western part of the country, as it facilitates the movement of people and goods, but concerned that many sections have dilapidated and hardly motorable, particularly the Zaria-Funtua-Gusau axis;

Informed that Dan-Marke bridge along the Road collapsed twice in less than two months as a result of flooding and some other bridges like the Kadauri and Mayanchi are at the risk of collapsing, considering the fact that the area is prone to erosion;

Concerned that despite the persistent cries of the residents and commuters in the past several years, nothing has been done by successive Governments to remedy the situation, which is inflicting untold hardships on the residents and commuters and also retarding economic and commercial activities, as well as increasing insecurity in the area;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to immediately embark on repairs of the affected sections of the road in order to ease the hardships of travellers; and

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works to appropriate funds in the 2016 budget for reconstruction of the dilapidated sections of the road and collapsed Dan- Marke bridge and also assess the state of Kadauri and Mayanchi bridges and take appropriate measures to avoid their also collapsing.

4. Urgent Need for the Completion of the Abandoned Omotosho-Epe-Ajah 135km, 330kv Double Circuit Transmission Line and award of Contract for the Construction of the 330/132/33kv Substation Project to Address the Problem of Electricity Supply in Epe and its Environs: Hon. Wale Raji:

House:

Notes the travails of the people of Epe Federal Constituency comprising Epe, Eredo, Agbowa, Ejirin and other communities with a population of over 500,000 who have been living in perpetual darkness for about ten (10) years now owing to lack of electricity supply from the national grid;

Also notes that the overloaded and overstretched 33KV line from Egbin Thermal substation is the only source of electricity supply to Epe and its environs and accounts for the erratic power supply as a result of frequent breakdowns which has negatively affected the socio-economic life of the people as local industries and businesses have all shut down or resorted to the use of generators at very exorbitant costs;

Worried that if urgent measures are not taken to address the situation, high level of unemployment, youth restiveness, hooliganism, cultism and other social vices will continue to be on the increase;

Aware that the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) sometime in December 2010, through its 10 GW Grid expansion plan awarded to KEC Construction Company Ltd the construction of Omotosho-Epe-Ajah 135 KM, 330 KV Double Circuit Transmission line at a contract sum of USD24,650,255.24 or ₦1,627,303,799.79, in an attempt to address the problem and the project officially commenced in June 2011;

Also aware that the second segment of the contract which is Epe 330/132/33 KV substation project estimated to cost ₦6,500,000,000 has not been awarded even though the host community has provided the land required for the project and the Lagos State Government has given the necessary approval for the use of the land;

Concerned that despite the importance of the project, it has remained abandoned since year 2012 at only 27% completion after an advance payment of USD3,697,538.29 or ₦244,095,569.97 had been made to the contractor; and now, the estimated cost of completion of the project is ₦6 billion;

Also concerned that the non-completion of the project will lead to a complete collapse of the economy of the entire Epe Federal Constituency and other towns within and outside Lagos State expected to be served by the project, with very adverse socio-economic and political consequences on the people;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the cause of the abandonment of the Omotosho-Epe-Ajah 135 Km, 330 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line project at only 27% completion and the total power outage in Epe over the past ten (10) years;

(*ii*) urge the Ikeja Distribution Company to urgently take measures to restore electricity supply to Epe Federal Constituency pending the completion of the Omotosho Power Project which is expected to provide permanent solution: and

(*iii*) implore the Federal Ministry of Power and the Transmission Company of Nigeria to make adequate provisions in the 2016 budget for award of contract for the construction of the 330/132/33 KV substation at Epe and the completion of the abandoned Omotosho-Epe-Ajah 135 Km, 330 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line project.

5. **Call for Investigation of the Activities of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) with a view to repositioning its Operations for a more comprehensive and Affordable Health Insurance for Nigerians:**
Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta Hon. Onwubuariri Obinna Kingsley:

The House:

Aware that the NHIS was established by the Federal Government to provide easy access to healthcare for all Nigerians at an affordable cost through various prepayment systems, and has made remarkable progress in terms of its coverage from less than 150,000 people in 2004 to about 7.2 million Nigerians in 2015, however, it is mainly public sector employees and their families that are currently being covered;

Concerned that this coverage means that it is just a little above 3% of the total population of the country that has access to health insurance despite the goal of achieving universal coverage by 2015;

Also aware that at a Presidential Summit on Universal Health Coverage in 2014, there was a declaration setting a target of 30 percent coverage of Nigerians by 2015 which is still an insignificant percentage compared to the nation's population;

Disturbed that the vast majority of Nigerians who live in the rural areas, that have little or no incomes and who ought to be the primary target when anticipating universal health coverage in Nigeria, especially as it relates to the prepayment system, are not currently captured in the Scheme;

Also concerned about the hardships being experienced by contributors in the hands of the operators of the Scheme which negates the very objectives of its establishment;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to examine the operations of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) with a view to its being repositioned to cater for all cadre of Nigerians and bringing an end to the harrowing experiences being encountered by contributors to the Scheme.

6. **Illegal Employment of Casual Labourers by Employers of Labour contrary to the Labour Act:**
Hon. Aderanjo Taofeek Abiodun:

The House:

Notes that despite the clear provision of section 7 (1) of the Labour Act, Cap. L1, LFN, 2004 which limits the period of casualization of labour to three (3) months, the practice is still very rampant, especially with Asian and Lebanese companies;

Worried that the increase in, and grudging acceptance of the unlawful practice ought to be of great concern to the Government and the employees themselves who are made to work under slavish conditions characterized by abysmal low wages, absence of medical care/allowances, lack of job security, promotion, gratuity and other severance benefits; lack of leave or leave allowance, denial of freedom of association, absence of death benefits and insurance or collective bargaining agreements;

Also worried that this modern day slavery called "casualization", if allowed to continue would end up producing individuals who would have over-worked themselves with little earnings and consequently little or no savings at retirement, since such benefits as pensions are not granted to this category of workers;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity, and Human Rights, to liaise with relevant agencies to investigate the extent of these infractions on the rights of workers with a view to curbing the unwholesome practices, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

7. **Need to Ensure the Proper Execution of the Contract for Dredging of the Calabar Port Channel:**
Hon. Daniel Effiong Asuquo:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government had, in 1996 awarded the contract for the dredging of the Calabar Port Channel, for the sum of ₦3,000,000,000 (Three Billion Naira) and later in 2006, re-awarded it for the sum of S56,000,000 (Fifty- Six Million Dollars);

Aware that due to the non-completion of the dredging contract, the Federal Government awarded another contract in November 2014 for the sum of ₦20,000,000,000 (Twenty Billion Naira) for the completion of the project;

Conscious that by the contract signed by the Nigerian Ports Authority, the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the concessionaire, the Calabar Channel Management, the Port ought to be dredged to a depth of 9.8 metres;

Concerned that although the depth of 9.8 metres has not been attained even though the Calabar Channel Management duly deployed its equipment to the water channel, the Nigerian Ports Authority has already paid the full contract sum of ₦20,000,000,000 (Twenty Billion Naira to the contractor who is no longer on site;

Also aware that the Calabar Port Channel has the potential to boost economic activities in the South-South, South-East and North-Central geopolitical zones of Nigeria and become an oil and gas logistics hub for West and Central African countries such as neighbouring Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea;

Worried that due to the non-completion of the dredging contract for about two decades now, the zones that it was designed to serve continues to be shortchanged whilst the Calabar Processing Zone, which would have benefitted tremendously from it, has been crippled, with the country unable to leverage on the economic activities that a fully dredged and functional Calabar Port Channel would have spawned;

Disturbed that the non-completion of the project is also putting great pressure on Lagos Ports, as well as throwing up huge logistical challenges and needless costs as cargoes meant for the Calabar Port are routed through the already congested Lagos Ports to their various destinations in the South-South, South-Eastern and North-Central States;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Ports, Habours and Water Ways to investigate the processes that led to the award of the dredging contract to a company that does not seem to have the competence and equipment to properly execute the contract, and also evaluate the work so far done by the contractor in the light of the amount so far paid under the contract, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

8. The Need for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to Comply with the **Mandate of Creating Additional State Constituencies in Accordance with the Provisions of the 1999 Constitution:**

Hon. Francis Charles Uduyok:

The House:

Notes that Section 91 of the Constitution of Nigeria, 1999 states that subject to the provisions of this Constitution, a House of Assembly of a State shall consist of three or four times the number of seats which that State has in the House of Representatives divided in a way to reflect as far as possible nearly equal population: provided that a House of Assembly of a State shall consist of not less than twenty-four and not more than forty members;

Also notes Section 112 which states that subject to the provisions of sections 91 and 113 of this Constitution, the Independent National Electoral Commission shall divide every State in the Federation into such number of State constituencies as is equal to three or four times the number of Federal Constituencies within that State;

Aware that it is the duty of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to create State Constituencies in line with Sections 112, 113 and 114 of the Constitution;

Disturbed that people of some States may not be well represented at the moment going by the requirements of fairness in Sections 91, 112 and 114 of the Constitution, as in several States such as Anambra, Akwa Ibom, Benue, Imo, Jigawa, Kogi, Ogun, Ondo, Rivers and Sokoto, the Constitutional provision which makes it mandatory that a State House of Assembly shall consist of three of four times the number of seats which the State has in the House of Representatives, is not being complied with;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as a matter of urgency to commence the creation of additional State Constituencies in the affected States of Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bayelsa, Sokoto, Jigawa, Kogi, Imo, and Benue, so as to ensure that the number of seats at the Houses of Assembly is multiplied by three or four times the number of seats at the House of Representatives; and

(*ii*) also urge all other government agencies concerned with ensuring the creation of constituencies to comply with the provision of the Constitution.

9. **Urgent Need for the Cleanup of Wreckages of Military Hardwares and Landmines in the North East Zone:**

Hon. Adamu D. U. Kamale Hon. AsabeVilita:

The House:

Notes that the successes recorded by the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security operatives in the fight against the Boko Haram Sect in the North-East has led to the recovery of several Local Government Areas previously under the control of the insurgents, especially between March-April,

2015, following which hundreds of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) that were in camps across the zone returned to their various homes;

Aware that the insurgents put up stiff resistance to ward off the retaking of the areas, as a result of which several Armored Personnel Carriers (APCs), tanks, trucks, pick-ups etc. were destroyed;

Disturbed that as a strategy of defence, the insurgents planted landmines while retreating, which are still in place and pose dangers to the inhabitants;

Worried that hundreds of wrecked military hardwares belonging to the insurgents litter the streets of the recovered territories, and added to the landmines planted by the insurgents, the residents are faced with psychological trauma which poses great danger to their lives and the environment;

Concerned that the continued presence of destroyed military hardwares and landmines threaten the safety of the inhabitants of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States contrary to Section 14 (2) (*b*) of the 1999 Constitution that guarantees security and welfare of the people as the primary purpose of government;

Recalls that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janerio, Brazil, 3 to 14 June, 1992 imposed obligations on members of the United Nations (UN) to prevent the generation of hazardous wastes and the rehabilitation of contaminated sites as a consequence of war or adverse effects on the environment;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, clear all the wreckages of military hardwares scattered across the recovered territories of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States and also assist the victims and families of landmine explosions in the North-East zone; and

(*ii*) also urge the Nigerian Military High Command to set up a special team to deactivate and remove all landmines in the recovered territories of the North-East.

BILL

10. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of a Palm Oil Development Fund, which shall be responsible for the Development, Coordinating and Encouraging the Exportation and Utilization of Palm Oil in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 45) (*Hon. Eucharia Azodo*) — *Second Reading*.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Committee	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
1.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on the Activities of Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs)	Wednesday, 4 November, 2015	2.00 p.m.	Room 3.31 Chairman's Office, New Building Assembly Complex
2.	*Ad-hoc* Committee on Alleged Non-Transparent and Fraudulent Sale of Power Assets by BPE	Wednesday, 4 November, 2015	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 348 New Building (House) Assembly Complex