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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NOTICE PAPER

Monday, 9 November, 2015

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

1. **Devastating Gully Erosion along Onitsha-Nkpor-Enugu Expressway, Anambra State:**
Hon. Eucharia Azodo Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Hon. Obinna Chidoka:

The House:

Notes that Onitsha-Enugu Expressway is a Federal road linking Anambra and Enugu States and that the Nkpor Junction bye pass was constructed to ease traffic through to the Old Onitsha-Enugu Road;

Worried that severe gully erosion has eroded the west-end and cut off a large portion, thereby narrowing the 4-lane Road to a single lane;

Also worried that the terminal of the flyover at the Nkpor junction by Eddy Motor Park has been eaten up by the erosion, thereby posing threats to commuters and other road users who have to spend hours in the gridlock as a result of the narrowed lane;

Concerned that the adverse effects are bound to increase if urgent measures are not taken to contain the devastating gully erosion, especially as the Christmas Season approaches when many people are expected to travel home for the festivities;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) and the Federal Ministry of Works to immediately commence rehabilitation/reconstruction of the bad spots at the Nkpor Junction on the Onitsha-Enugu Expressway;

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Works, FERMA, and Environment to assess the situation with a view to averting the complete collapse of the entire road network and report back to the House within 4 weeks; and

(*iii*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to include funds of the reclamation ofthe eroded portion of the Road in the 2016 budget.

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2 **Need For Transparency and Accountability in the Disbursement of the Victims Intervention Fund:**
Hon. Asabe Vilita Bashir Hon. Kamale Adamu Dali Usman:

The House:

Notes the senseless killings and destruction of properties in the North-East Zone and other parts of the country by the Boko Haram sect which has resulted in displacementof thousands of persons who have been rendered homeless, jobless and exposed to diseases and starvation;

Recalls that in 2014, the Federal Government initiated a Victims Support Fund managed by a Committee headed by Rtd. General TheophilusDanjuma to cater for the needs of victims of terrorism and other forms of violence across the countryand the Committee, at a dinner in August 2014, raised over ₦50 billion;

Also aware that the Federal Government has released the sum of N5Billion naira in 2015 as its contribution to the Fund and that so many other individuals have redeemed their pledges of sumsrunning into Billions of naira;

Also notes recent reports that the Committee has so far disbursed over ₦500 Million to victims of terrorism while the victims, especially those in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States are crying for assistance and dying in their hundreds without any form of assistance coming their way;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the President of Nigeria to reappraise the modalities for the disbursement of the funds by the Victims Support Fund to ensure probity, accountability and transparency in such a way that stakeholders will play vital role in deciding the actual victims of terrorism and what assistance is to be rendered; and

(*ii*) also urge the Committee to constantly publish in its website, the names and pictures of beneficiaries of the funds, indicating clearly the amount of assistance rendered, and make records of its activities available to the public in its secretariat or registry.

3. **Call for Investigation of the Contract for the Construction of Cham Dam in Balanga Local Government Area of Gombe State:**
Hon. Ali Isa J. C.

The House:

Notes that the Cham Dam is a giant irrigation project for farmers under the Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority and since the commencement of its construction in the 1990s, the Dam has provided irrigation facilities to farmers and job opportunities for youths who have been engaging in regular and dry season farming;

Also notes that the non-incompletion of the Dam projectled to serious flooding that destroyed farms and properties in the community recently and the irregular and inadequate maintenance resulted in the eventualcollapse of the Dam;

Aware that the contracts for the re-construction and accompanying irrigation project were awarded to MessrsTylon Construction Company and Suard Construction Firm at the total sum of ₦832,677,743.05 and it was later reviewed to ₦865.508,571.46;

Worried that despite the payment of ₦401,923,318.86 representing 46.5% of the contract sum in 2012, there is practically no work done to justify the huge amount that has been paid to the contractors, and there is now the possibility of an abandonment of the project;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to direct the Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority (UBRBDA) and the contractor to resume work at the site without further delay;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to investigate the contract details, released funds and ascertain the level of work done and report back within 4 weeks for further legislative action; and

(*iii*) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to assistthe victims of flooding in the Communities.

4. **Urgent Need to Re-Award the Contract for the Completion of Abandoned 19km Sabo-Sobe Road in Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State:**
Hon. Pally Iriase:

The House:

Notes that Sobe clan in Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State was carved out of old Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State in August, 1991;

Also notes that the only link road between Sobe and Sabongida-Ora Headquarter of Owan West Local Government Area is a tortuous two hours meandering journey through Ifon in Ondo state;

Aware that the Federal Government, in its rural integration programme and the altruistic need to fully reunite Sobe community (indigenes and inhabitants) with their kith and kin in Owan West Local Government Area, awarded the 19km Sabo-Sobe road project to Piccolo Brunelli Engineering Limited in 2007;

Also aware that the Road project which traverses Ugbubezi, Atoturu, Ugbeturu and Eti-ose communities was about 60% completed in 2013 before it was abandoned;

Worried that the non-completion of the road has exposed the over fifteen thousand (15,000) inhabitants of the communities to avoidable hardships as well as denial of the full integration of Sobe with Owan West Local Government Area of Edo State;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government to direct the Federal Ministry of Works to include funds for the completion of the abandoned Sabo-Sobe Road project in the 2016 Appropriations proposals and re-award the contract for the completion of the Road to a competent firm.

5. **Deplorable State of Nara-Isu-Onicha-Okposi-Ugwulangwu-Ukawu-Abaomege (With Spur to Amasiri) Road in Enugu and Ebonyi States:**
Hon. Linus Okorie:

The House:

Notes the deplorable state of the Nara-Isu-Onicha-Okposi-Ugwulangwu-Ukawu-Abaomege (with spur to Amasiri) Road in Enugu and Ebonyi States, which was constructed during the Second Republic under the administration of former President Shehu Shagari;

Aware that the Road is the major link between the Southeast States of Enugu and Ebonyi States and their South South counterparts of Cross River and Akwa Ibom States and is also of strategic importance in the evacuation and distribution of the popular Abakaliki rice, a national staple over which the people of the area have comparative advantage;

Concerned about the hardships being experienced by travelers and the economic and social activities in the towns and communities along the route of the Road which have been adversely affected leading to increased unemployment, poverty, social strife, crime and the constant loss of lives and property occasioned by accidents resulting from drivers attempting to negotiate the numerous potholes on the failed portions of the Road;

Further aware that the Federal Ministry of Works had concluded the design for the reconstruction of the road since 2012;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works to include the reconstruction of the Nara-Isu-Onicha-Okposi - Ugwulangwu-Ukawu-Abaomege (with spur to Amasiri) Road in Enugu and Ebonyi States in the 2016 budget proposals, and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure adherence to prayer (i) above.

6. **Call for Enforcement of the Sea Fisheries Act in order to protect the Artisanal Fishermen:**
Hon. Awaji-Inombek D.Abiante:
Hon. Nnam Obi Uchechukwu
Hon. J. O. Betty Apiafi
Hon. B. S. Emerengwa
Hon. O. K. Chinda
Hon. Francis C. Uduyok
Hon. Ken Chikere Anayo
Hon. Brown R. Iwo Oruene
Hon. Blessing IbibaNsiegbe
Hon. Eke Jerome Amadi
Hon. Gogo B. Tamuno
Hon. Amadi O. Dennis
Hon. Nbina Jacobson
Hon. Douye Diri
Hon. Dekor R. Dumnamene
Hon. Goodluck Opiah
Hon. Boma Goodhead

The House:

Notes the precarious situation of Artisanal Fishermen and the local fishery business in Nigeria and the need for urgent steps to be taken to abate the situation which is being occasioned by persistent violations of the Sea Fisheries Act by industrial fish trawling operators;

Aware that these fish trawling operators persistently and flagrantly violate the regulations that set the limits within which inshore/onshore trawlers can operate and in the process, damaging the fishing nets and gear of the artisanal fishermen;

Observes that the use of unapproved "small eye" nets/mesh by these operators scrapes the floor of the ocean, thereby removing the organisms that fishes feed on as well as scooping away the fingerlings that are supposed to be left to grow to maturity;

Also observes that owing to the fact that local fishermen cannot compete with these large trawlers owned by international companies and other persons, their means of livelihood is now gravely threatened as the industrial fishing vessels explore stock that should be fished by the artisanal fishermen, thereby driving them out of business;

Worried that the lack of enforcement of the Sea Fisheries Act is capable of completely crippling the artisanal and local fishery industry.

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services and Ports, Habours and Waterways to investigate the matter and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative actions.

7. **Need to Investigate the Claims by State Governments of Expenditures Incurred on Rehabilitation of Federal Roads in their States:**
Hon. Muhammed Kabir Ajinah:

The House:

Notes the report that the National Economic Council on Thursday, September 17, 2015 approved the disbursement of a total sum of ₦535.596 billion to various States of the Federation as a refund of expenditures they claimed to have incurred in the maintenance of Federal Roads across the country;

Also notes the acknowledgment by the National Economic Council that 13 States of the Federation have complied fully with the requirements for reimbursement of funds used in maintaining Federal Roads in their States while 8 States have complied partially and 21 States have not complied with the requirements;

Aware of the statement by the National Economic Council that in 2013, the Federal Government disbursed the sum of ₦13 billion to the States as a refund of expenditures made on Reconstruction of Federal Roads across the country;

Also aware of the Guidelines issued by the Federal Government on August 1, 2010 for the execution of Federal Government projects by State Governments and Reimbursement of Expenditure which outlines the procedure and requirements to be followed by States for rehabilitation of Federal Roads, hence the need to verify the expendituresbeing claimed by States Governments to ensure that they complied with the guidelines, and are also in strict compliance with sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 with regardto planning, organization and evaluation of tenders and awards of roads contracts;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Works to investigate the claims by State Governments on the expenditures incurred in reconstructing Federal Roads to determine their propriety, integrity of the construction works and otherrelated matters, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks, for further legislative action.

8. **Devastating Gully Erosion in Nnewi North, Nnewi South and Ekwusigo Federal Constituency, Anambra State:**
Hon. Chris Emeka Azubogu:

The House:

Aware that Anambra State is erosion prone and that Nnewi North, Nnewi South and Ekwusigo Federal Constituency, a Commercial zone with lots of manufacturing companies, making it a major contributor to the economy of Nigeria, is being devastated by gully erosion leading to loss of lives destruction of properties worth millions of Naira, and washing away of farmlands;

Cognizant that the enormity of the devastation has put the menace beyond the capacity of the State Government and Local Councils to cope, hence the need for the intervention of the Federal Government;

Concerned that except a sustainable national strategy is developed and adopted for the containment of the menace, Nnewi North, Nnewi South and Ekwusigo Federal Constituency will continue to lose so much resources as industries and farmlands would continue to be washed away;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to, as a matter of urgency, intervene and provide relief materials and necessary support to the families that have been displaced from their homes by the erosion menace;

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Environment and Habitat to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Environment and other relevant government agencies to assess the level of the devastation and make proper provision in the 2016 budget for remediation; and

(*iii*) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure adherence to the above prayers.

9. **Urgent Need to Curb the Unwholesome Practices of Banks in Nigeria:**
Hon. Segun Adekola Alexander:

The House:

Aware of the practice of some Banks giving their employees targets to bring in deposits ranging from Hundreds of millions to billions of naira within a time frame, ranging from one to six months, as the case may be, failing which various forms of threats, intimidation or harassments are made to the employees, including issuance of queries, demotions and ultimately, summary dismissals;

Notes that a critical assessment of the targets being given to these employees to meet show them to be unrealistic, unreasonable, ordinarily unattainable, and irrational, but the Banks resort to unethical means to ensure that the targets are met by either explicitly or impliedly encouraging their staff, especially the female ones, to engage in illicit behavior to attract the deposits;

Also notes the persistent acts of enslavement being carried out by most Banks through the vicious policy of casualization of staffs without adequate welfare packages, low income, high level of stagnation without promotion, degradation of employees' dignity, discriminatory practices against the female staff, long working hours and vicious dismissal policies;

Concerned that this trend which is an outright breach of the dignity of the human person and of labour, negates the concept of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which Nigeria is a member;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency to investigate these unwholesome practices with a view to bringing them to an end and report back to the House within one (1) month for further legislative inputs;

10. **Urgent Need to Complete the Construction of Dumne-Shelleng Road Across River Gongola-Bobini-Guyuk to Nasarawo (Gombe State) Federal Road:**
Hon. Philip A. Gutuwa,

The House:

Notes that the Dumne-Shelleng Road across River Gongola to Bobini-Guyuk to Nasarawo in Gombe State, a Federal road traversing Adamawa and Gombe States which was awarded by the Federal Government in the 1980s had been abandoned for years now;

Also notes that the inhabitants of the States along the route are predominantly farmers who depend on the Road to convey their agricultural produce to the markets;

Observes that, the dilapidated state of the road is adversely affecting the economic activities in those areas and has retarded growth and development as industries and financial institutions do not find the areas conducive for business; thus bringing a lot of hardships on the residents;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Works to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Works to ascertain the status of the contract with a view to ensuring the completion of the Dumne-Shelleng Road across River Gongola-Bobini-Guyuk to Nasarawo (Gombe State).

11. **The Need to Review the Digitization Proram in the Nigerian Broadcasting Industry:**
Hon. Edward G. Pwajok:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria commenced the Digitization Program in December 2007 following Late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's directive to the Nigerian Broadcasting Commission (NBC) to that effect but at a stakeholders meeting held on June 3, 2008, the Nigerian Broadcasting Industry leaders agreed to reschedule the initial International deadline of June 17, 2010 to June 17, 2015;

Aware that the country has not been able to meet the requirements for the deadline of 2015, thus necessitating a new deadline of July 17, 2017, for digital switch over which is meant to phase out the use of analogue television sets which will entail the use of Pay TV Channels whereby viewers pay for TV viewing by subscription on periodic basis;

Also notes that the platforms for the Pay TV programs are dominated by foreigners like the DSTV owned by Multichoice, a South African Company and Startimes which is 70% owned by Chinese and 30% by the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA);

Also aware that majority of television owners in the rural areas and even some in the urban areas still use analogue television sets primarily due to their lower costs, durability and reliability;

Further aware that Nigeria has consistently failed to meet the deadlines for migration to the Digital broadcasting because of many challenges which include the huge infrastructure costs to be met in order to ensure that the Digital Television sets do not experience interruptions when there is heavy rain or thunderstorms which are euphemistically referred to as "bad weather" which distorts the picture quality of the programmes;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Telecommunications to appraise the desirability of the whole concept of Digitalization program and the time lines given; and liaise with relevant agencies like the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC), Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), Consumer Protection Council (CPC), and also investigate the Startimes/NTA Partnership, particularly the revenues generated and report back to the House within four weeks.

12. Call for Reconstruction of Oron Road in Oron Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State
Hon. Ekpenyong Nse Bassey:

The House:

Notes that Oron Road in Oron Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State which connects all the oil drilling operations in the area and consequently contributes immensely to the wealth of the nation is in deplorable condition, having been abandoned for a long period of time;

Concerned that the road is the nexus connecting all other economic and tourism centres in the area as it links the Maritime Academy of Nigeria, the Oron National Museum, Beach, Main Market, Main Park and a large percentage of the banks in the town;

Worried that the neglect and consequent devastation of the road has crippled economic activities in the area, leading to the loss of man hours and millions of Naira daily;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Works to include the reconstruction of the Road in the 2016 budget proposal and for the Committee on legislative compliance to monitor and ensure adherence.

13. Calling Attention to the Deplorable State of Murtala Mohammed International Airport Road, Lagos.
Hon. Enitan Dolapo Badru:

The House:

Notes that the 4.2km Murtala Mohammed International Airport Road, which is the gateway into the mega city of Lagos for international travelers coming into the country has deteriorated to the extent that it has become an eyesore, a traffic risk, den of hoodlums who rob travelers plying the road and a national embarrassment;

Also notes that originally, the Airport was built to process about 500,000 passengers annually but today, it processes about three million passengers out of over four million passengers that travel out of the country annually and it is expected that in the next few years, this figure would rise to about 5 million passengers as Nigeria's economy continues to grow, being the biggest economy in Africa.

Aware that many nations of the developed world, and even some African countries have ensured that the Roads linking their international airports are well maintained, being one of the earliest impressions a foreign visitor gets about their country;

Concerned that the poor state of the road is worsened by indiscriminate parking of tankers and yellow commercial buses along the road, often causing gridlock and thus making travelers entering Lagos through the Murtala Mohammed International Airport Road, to suffer stress and delay due to the slow traffic caused by the bad portions of the road and narrowed lane;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to direct an immediate rehabilitation of the Road under the Presidential Special Intervention Fund for Road Projects (PSIRP), as a palliative measure, and then award a contract for a complete reconstruction of the Road into an 8-lane dual carriageway with a 2.75m shoulders, pedestrian walkways, landscaping and planting of ornamental plants along the Road; and

(*ii*) also urge the relevant agencies to rid the road of all environmental nuisances, illegal parking, dumping of refuse and other encumbrances.

14. Urgent need to renovate Police Barracks across the Country:
Hon. Hassan Saleh:

The House:

Observes with regret the pathetic state of Police barracks across the country and the persistent call for their renovations;

Recalls that the barracks were built to provide cheaper, safer and comfortable accommodation for Members of the Force as well as ensuring that Force discipline and code of conduct are maintained among residents, to avail them a good mental disposition to carry out their assignments;

Also observes that these barracks, which were built many years ago, have, without continuous renovation, improvement and repairs on facilities, dilapidated with open stinking gutters, broken sewages, damaged roofs, cracked walls amongst others, yet men and women of the Nigeria Police Force who are charged with the nation's security and maintenance of law and order, live in them with their family members;

Worried that thousands of residents of the barracks live with uneasy calm rather than with peace of mind and comfort necessary for an effective discharge of their duties and a disciplined attitude and behaviour to the general public, the result being that their poor housing, living and welfare conditions impact negatively on their work;

Concerned that there is an urgent need to renovate and, build modern Polio barracks and improve their living conditions in order to prevent an attitudinal turn- off to many competent Nigerians who are being sought to be recruited into the Nigeria Police Force;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Ministry of Police Affairs, and the Inspector General of Police to design modalities for partnering with well-meaning investors to renovate existing barracks and build new ones with maintenance obligations; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to monitor the development and report back to the House quarterly, for further legislative action.