FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
No. 35

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 11 November, 2015

1. The House met at 11.17 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 10 November, 2015.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Announcement**
Visitors in the Gallery:
Mr Deputy Speaker recognized the presence of the following:

(*i*) Members of Lord Denning Chambers, Faculty of Law, Benue State University, Makurdi;

(*ii*) Members of Students' Union Government, Kano University of Science and Technology, Wudil, Kano State.

4. **Petitions**
The following petitions were presented and laid by:

(*i*) Hon. Olowookere Ajisafe (*Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency*), from Emmanuel Omotunde Ojo and 3 others, praying the House to investigate the termination of their appointment by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and urge it to comply with court judgment of 20 April, 2000 on the matter;

(*ii*) Hon. Chike John Okafor (*Ehime Mbano/Ihitte Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency*), from Association of Resident Doctors, University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Ituku Ozalla, Enugu State, praying the House to discountenance the earlier petition by a faction of the Association who are currently on indefinite strike against the Chief Medical Director, and investigate the matter with a view to finding a solution to the problem;

(*iii*) Hon. Israel Ajibola (*Atakunmosa East/Atakunmosa West/Ilesa Federal Constituency*), on behalf of 10 sacked staff of Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IBEDC), praying the House to redress the termination of their appointment.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(*i*) *The severe Pollution of the Niger Delta Environment due to Alarmingly High Incidences of Preventable Oil Spills from Rundown Equipments and Aging Technology*:

Hon. Douye Diri (*Yenogoa/Kolokuma Opokuma 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.*

The Severe Pollution of the Niger Delta Environment due to Alarmingly High Incidences of Preventable Oil Spills from Rundown Equipments and Aging Technology:

The House:

Notes the massive multiple oil spills that haw occurred in Kalaba/Ayamabele and Akumoni communities of Okordia Clan in Yenagoa Local Government in Bayelsa State, from 12 ruptured points on a pipeline owned and operated by the Nigerian Agip Oil Company, between 2nd and 3rd of November, 2015.

Also notes the long history of chronic incidences of oil spillages in the Niger Delta and that in other oil producing jurisdictions of the world, this would be treated as a national ecological emergency;

Further notes that whereas this is not the first time such concerns about spills have been raised on the floor of this hallowed chambers (the Azuzuama fire incident being a recent example) the oil companies have treated previous resolutions by this Honourable House with disdain and levity, and if this is allowed to continue, the National Assembly may lose respect before the Nigerian public;

Equally notes that there has been only an average of 10 spills a year across the whole of Europe, in the last thirty (30) years;

Still notes that in sharp contrast. last year alone, according to Amnesty International and some Nigerian rights groups, including the Environmental Rights Action, there were over one thousand (1000) recorded incidences of oil spills in the Niger Delta, with Royal Dutch Shell and Italian Eni (Agip Oil Company) accounting for five hundred and fifty three (553) of these spills, notwithstanding the gross under reporting of these incidences of spillage;

Worried that there is a high likelihood that the gruesome death of 14 innocent people, on the 9th of July, 2015, at Azuzuama in the Southern Ijaw Local Government in Bayelsa State which resulted from an oil spill from another Agip owned pipeline can reoccur if urgent action is not taken now;

Also worried that not only do these spillages result in the wanton waste of lives and property, they also cause severe pollution to our environment and devastate our communities;

Further worried that the lives and livelihood of the people of the Niger Delta particularly. and Nigerians, generally, has become too cheap and dispensable to the oil companies in their unbridled quest for profit;

Observes that the House in response to the Azuzuama fire incident motion, graciously set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to look into the matter, which is similar to this present oil spill;

Also observes that a significant number of these mostly preventable oil spills, are caused by rundown equipments and ageing technology;

Further observes that in stark divergence from what obtains in other jurisdictions, as shown by penalties amounting to fifty-four billion, six hundred million Dollars ($54.6 bn), incurred by BP since 2010 as a consequence of the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, the treatment of communities affected by oil spills in the Niger Delta is sadly apathetic and callous;

Equally observes that rather than own up to their culpability and do the needful, as is usual and convenient, the cause of spills is routinely attributed to illegal bunkering or sabotage and the impacted communities left to their fate;

Still observes that despite numerous promises that these multi-national oil operators have made to this Honourable House and impacted communities, no useful efforts or progress on tackling oil spills made;

Concerned that these figures are seriously alarming, and that the oil companies have clearly and manifestly, lost control of their operations in the Niger Delta;

Also concerned that if decisive action is not taken to combat the reckless and criminal conduct of the oil industry and firm structures put in place to have the oil companies comply with international best practices in their operations, the Niger Delta will suffer irreversible environmental catastrophe;

Resolves to:

(*a*) Urge the Nigerian Agip Oil Company to swiftly move to the affected communities and contain the spill to avoid a fire outbreak and do the needed clean up;

(*b*) mandate the Committees on Environment and Habitat, Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to undertake joint evaluations of the operating practices of oil companies;

(*c*) also urge oil companies to publish monthly updates of oil spills in five (5) national dailies and submit copies of same to the House, as well as, disclose the existence of potentially dangerous equipments and situations to the public so that communities do not remain ignorant;

(*d*) also mandate relevant House Committee(s) to investigate the chronic incidences of oil spills and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action; and

(*e*) further urge the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) to be more proactive in carrying out its supervisory roles in the oil industry to ensure that they conform to international best practices (*Hon. Diri Douye — Yenagoa/Kolokuma Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Noted the massive multiple oil spills that haw occurred in Kalaba/Ayamabele and Akumoni communities of Okordia Clan in Yenagoa Local Government in Bayelsa State, from 12 ruptured points on a pipeline owned and operated by the Nigerian Agip Oil Company, between 2nd and 3rd of November, 2015.

Also noted the long history of chronic incidences of oil spillages in the Niger Delta and that in other oil producing jurisdictions of the world, this would be treated as a national ecological emergency;

Further noted that whereas this is not the first time such concerns about spills have been raised on the floor of this hallowed chambers (the Azuzuama fire incident being a recent example) the oil companies have treated previous resolutions by this Honourable House with disdain and levity, and if this is allowed to continue, the National Assembly may lose respect before the Nigerian public;

Equally noted that there has been only an average of 10 spills a year across the whole of Europe, in the last thirty (30) years;

Still noted that in sharp contrast. last year alone, according to Amnesty International and some Nigerian rights groups, including the Environmental Rights Action, there were over one thousand (1000) recorded incidences of oil spills in the Niger Delta, with Royal Dutch Shell and Italian Eni (Agip Oil Company) accounting for five hundred and fifty three (553) of these spills, notwithstanding the gross under reporting of these incidences of spillage;

Worried that there is a high likelihood that the gruesome death of 14 innocent people, on the 9th of July, 2015, at Azuzuama in the Southern Ijaw Local Government in Bayelsa State which resulted from an oil spill from another Agip owned pipeline can reoccur if urgent action is not taken now;

Also worried that not only do these spillages result in the wanton waste of lives and property, they also cause severe pollution to our environment and devastate our communities;

Further worried that the lives and livelihood of the people of the Niger Delta particularly. and Nigerians, generally, has become too cheap and dispensable to the oil companies in their unbridled quest for profit;

Observed that the House in response to the Azuzuama fire incident motion, graciously set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to look into the matter, which is similar to this present oil spill;

Also observed that a significant number of these mostly preventable oil spills, are caused by rundown equipments and ageing technology;

Further observed that in stark divergence from what obtains in other jurisdictions, as shown by penalties amounting to fifty-four billion. six hundred million Dollars (S54.6 bn), incurred by BP since 2010 as a consequence of the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, the treatment of communities affected by oil spills in the Niger Delta is sadly apathetic and callous;

Equally observed that rather than own up to their culpability and do the needful, as is usual and convenient, the cause of spiils is routinely attributed to illegal bunkering or sabotage and the impacted communities left to their fate;

Still observed that despite numerous promises that these multi-national oil operators have made to this Honourable House and impacted communities, no useful efforts or progress on tackling oil spills made;

Concerned that these figures are seriously alarming, and that the oil companies have clearly and manifestly, lost control of their operations in the Niger Delta;

Also concerned that if decisive action is not taken to combat the reckless and criminal conduct of the oil industry and firm structures put in place to have the oil companies comply with international best practices in their operations, the Niger Delta will suffer irreversible environmental catastrophe;

Resolved to:

(*a*) Urge the Nigerian Agip Oil Company to swiftly move to the affected communities and contain the spill to avoid a fire outbreak and do the needed clean up;

(*b*) mandate the Committees on Environment and Habitat, Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to undertake joint evaluations of the operating practices of oil companies;

(*c*) also urge oil companies to publish monthly updates of oil spills in five (5) national dailies and submit copies of same to the House, as well as, disclose the existence of potentially dangerous equipments and situations to the public so that communities do not remain ignorant;

(*d*) also mandate relevant Committee(s) to investigate the chronic incidences of oil spills and report back to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action; and

(*e*) further urge the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) to be more proactive in carrying out its supervisory roles in the oil industry to ensure that they conform to international best practices **(HR. 192/2015)**.

Motion referred to Committee on Environment and Habitat.

(*ii*) ***Discriminatory Treatment of Nigerian Crew by Virgin Atlantic Airways:*** Hon. Atunwa Razak Olatunde (*Ilorin West/Asa 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.*

Discriminatory Treatment of Nigerian Crew by Virgin Atlantic Airways:

The House:

Aware that Virgin Atlantic commenced operation of the Lagos-London route on 16 July, 2001 under a Licence granted to it pursuant to the Bilateral Air Services Agreement between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the United Kingdom;

Observes that the Lagos-London route is one the most profitable route for Virgin Atlantic taking account of capacity and frequency;

Notes with utter dismay, that Virgin Atlantic has embarked on a wholesale and discriminatory dismissal and compulsory redundancy of its Nigerian employees without adequate compensation in contra-distinction with the favourable treatment given to UK and other international crews, namely:

(*i*) UK Crew have a choice of continuing in employment in a lesser roles or taking voluntary redundancy while Nigerian crew have no such option;

(*ii*) UK Shanghai, Hong Kong and Delhi Crew taking the option of voluntary redundancy can choose to commence their redundancy in April 2016 or October 2016 while Nigerian Crew must proceed on compulsory redundancy on 30 November, 2015;

Concerned about the plight of the entire Nigerian Crew of Virgin Atlantic who stand to lose their jobs in less favourable and unceremonious circumstances;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Aviation, and Labour, Employment and Productivity to immediately investigate the matter and report to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Razak Atunwa — Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Virgin Atlantic commenced operation of the Lagos-London route on 16 July, 2001 under a Licence granted to it pursuant to the Bilateral Air Services Agreement between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the United Kingdom;

Observed that the Lagos-London route is one the most profitable route for Virgin Atlantic taking account of capacity and frequency;

Noted with utter dismay, that Virgin Atlantic has embarked on a wholesale and discriminatory dismissal and compulsory redundancy of its Nigerian employees without adequate compensation in contra-distinction with the favourable treatment given to UK and other international crews, namely:

(*i*) UK Crew have a choice of continuing in employment in a lesser roles or taking voluntary redundancy while Nigerian crew have no such option;

(*ii*) UK Shanghai, Hong Kong and Delhi Crew taking the option of voluntary redundancy can choose to commence their redundancy in April 2016 or October 2016 while Nigerian Crew must proceed on compulsory redundancy on 30 November, 2015;

Concerned about the plight of the entire Nigerian Crew of Virgin Atlantic who stand to lose their jobs in less favourable and unceremonious circumstances;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Aviation, and Labour, Employment and Productivity to immediately investigate the matter and report to the House within two weeks (**HR. 193/2015**).

Motion referred to Committees on Aviation, and Labour, Employment and Productivity.

6. Personal Explanation

Rising on Order VIII, Rule 47 Hon. Herman Hembe (*Konshisha/Vandekiya Federal Constituency*) informed the House that some social media and newspapers recently circulated false news that himself and another Member, Hon. Ali Madaki engaged in open altercation and physical fight within the premises of National Assembly. He stressed that the news was absolutely false and deliberately designed to tarnish their image and damage the integrity of the House.

Mr Deputy Speaker noted the explanation.

7. Privilege (Order VI, Rule 20 and 22)

Hon. Brown Randolph Iwo (*Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to a report in ***Daily Sun*** newspaper of Tuesday, 10 November, 2015, where it was reported there was serious misunderstanding among Members of the House of Representatives over the constitution of the Leadership of the Standing Committees of the House. He stressed that the media reports were false, unfounded and calculated to bring the House to disrepute. He thus viewed the publication as a breach of his privilege and that of the House.

Mr Deputy Speaker advised Members to disregard the reports and urged the media to always exercise restraint in the publication of unverified reports.

8. Presentation and First Reading of Bills

The following Bills were presented and read the *First Time*:

(*i*) Hire Purchase Bill, 2015 (HB. 87).

(*ii*) Federal Capital Territory HIV/AIDS Control Agency Bill, 2015 (HB. 71).

(*iii*) Energy Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 72).

(*iv*) Chartered Institute of Finance and Control of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 75).

(*v*) Franchise Bill, 2015 (HB. 76).

(*vi*) Chartered Institute of Loan and Risk Management of Nigeria Bill, 2015 (HB. 77).

(*vii*) Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 88).

(*viii*) Nigerian Peace Corps Bill, 2015 (HB. 89).

9. Deplorable State of Nara-Isu-Onicha-Okposi-Ugwulangwu-Ukawu-Abaomege (with Spur to Amasiri) Road in Enugu and Ebonyi States

Motion made and Question proposed:

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 (*Hon. Linus Okorie —Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to (**HR. 194/2015**).

Motion referred to Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

10. Urgent Need to Renovate Police Barracks Across the Country

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

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

Recalls that the barracks were built to provide cheaper, safer and reasonably 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 or repairs of facilities, dilapidated with open and 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 in 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 as their poor housing, living and welfare conditions impact negatively on their work;

Concerned that there is an urgent need to renovate and build modern barracks and improve the living conditions of men and women of the Force in order to prevent an attitudinal turn- off to many competent Nigerians who would have wanted 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 (*Hon. Hassan Saleh — Ado/Ogbadibo Okpokwu Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Amendment Proposed:
Insert a new Prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to re-construct and equip all Police Stations and Police Barracks destroyed by insurgents and other related violence on the nation" (*Hon. Aishatu J. Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

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

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

The House:

Observed with regret the pathetic state of Police barracks across the country and the persistent calls for their renovation;

Recalled that the barracks were built to provide cheaper, safer and reasonably 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 observed that these barracks, which were built many years ago, have, without continuous renovation, improvement or repairs of facilities, dilapidated with open and 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 in 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 as their poor housing, living and welfare conditions impact negatively on their work;

Concerned that there is an urgent need to renovate and build modern barracks and improve the living conditions of men and women of the Force in order to prevent an attitudinal turn- off to many competent Nigerians who would have wanted to be recruited into the Nigeria Police Force;

Resolved 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;

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

(*iii*) urge the Federal Government to re-construct and equip all Police Stations and Police Barracks destroyed by insurgents and other related violence on the nation (**HR. 195/2015**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Police Affairs.

11. Calling Attention to the Deplorable State of Murtala Mohammed International Airport Road, Lagos:

Motion made and Question proposed:

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 five hundred thousand (500,000) passengers annually but today, it processes about three million (3,000,000) passengers out of over four million (4,000,000) passengers that travel out of the country annually and it is expected that in the next few years, this figure would rise to about five million (5,000,000) 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 connecting 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 has been 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, the narrowed lane and the vehicles parked indiscriminately along the road;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to direct for 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 (*Hon. Enitan Dolapo Badru — Lagos Island I Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to (**HR. 196/2015**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

12.. Call for Reconstruction of Oron Road in Oron Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State

Motion made and Question proposed:

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, the Beach, the Main Market, the 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 proposals and for the Committee on Legislative Compliance to monitor and ensure adherence (*Hon. Ekpenyong Nse Bassey — Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offiong/Oruko Federal Constituency*).

Question put and agreed to (**HR. 197/2015**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

13. Call for Censoring of the Social Media
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that the social media is an inexpensive and widely accessible electronic tool that enables anyone to publish or access information, collaborate or build relationships, share or exchange videos, pictures, ideas and interests in a computer based network, and that many Nigerians, especially the youth, are connected to different platforms, such as YouTube, Whatsapp, Facebook, Hangouts, Wechat, etc.;

Notes that all the social media platforms have a self-imposed minimum age of not less than 13 years for the setting up of profiles, depending on the site but certain individuals and organizations take advantage of the lapses in the social media usage to post or send, receive or down load sexual, homosexual, pornographic and other immoral/illicit materials on the sites;

Worried that the hosting and posting of inappropriate materials with sexual, pornographic or homosexual contents, portend grave danger to the long-term survival of the nation's moral values, given the systematic mode of brain washing that is going on in the social media;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Deplore the hosting and exchange of sexual, pornographic, homosexual and other immoral/illicit materials on the social media;

(*ii*) urge the telecommunications service providers to develop or acquire software that will block or filter-out certain images or contents that violate moral and religious values;

(*iii*) also urge the telecom service providers to use a Notice Take Down procedure that will enable a swift removal of any sexual, pornographic or homosexual material when notified by network users by their dedicating a hotline that will receive and treat complaints; and

(*iv*) further urge the Nigerian Communications Commission to create significant barriers to the misuse of mobile networks and services, phones and other devices used for the perpetration of such inappropriate and immoral/illicit materials (*Hon. Johnbull Shekarau - Shendam/Mikang/Qua'an/Pan Federal Constituency*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

The House:

Aware **that the social media is an inexpensive and widely accessible electronic tool that enables anyone to publish or access information, collaborate or build relationships, share or exchange videos, pictures, ideas and interests in a computer based network, and that many Nigerians, especially the youth, are connected to different platforms, such as YouTube, Whatsapp, Facebook, Hangouts, Wechat, etc.;**

Noted **that all the social media platforms have a self-imposed minimum age of not less than 13 years for the setting up of profiles, depending on the site but certain individuals and organizations take advantage of the lapses in the social media usage to post or send, receive or down load sexual, homosexual, pornographic and other immoral/illicit materials on the sites;**

Worried **that the hosting and posting of inappropriate materials with sexual, pornographic or homosexual contents, portend grave danger to the long-term survival of the nation's moral values, given the systematic mode of brain washing that is going on in the social media;**

Resolved to:

(*i*) **Deplore the hosting and exchange of sexual, pornographic, homosexual and other immoral/illicit materials on the social media;**

(*ii*) **urge the telecommunications service providers to develop or acquire software that will block or filter-out certain images or contents that violate moral and religious values;**

(*iii*) **also urge the telecom service providers to use a Notice Take Down procedure that will enable a swift removal of any sexual, pornographic or homosexual material when notified by network users by their dedicating a hotline that will receive and treat complaints; and**

(*iv*) **further urge the Nigerian Communications Commission to create significant barriers to the misuse of mobile networks and services, phones and other devices used for the perpetration of such inappropriate and immoral/illicit materials (HR. 198/2015).**

Motion referred to the Committee on Telecommunications.

14. A Bill for an Act to Amend River Basin Development Authorities Act, Cap. R9, LFN, 2004, to make provision for proper utilization of Nigerian Dams under the control of a given River Basin Development Authority and for Other Related Matters (HB. 58) — *Second Reading*.

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 17 *November*, 2015 *at* 10.00 *a.m*. (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.03 *p.m.*

Yussuff Sulaimon Lasun
Deputy Speaker