FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 59



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 26 January, 2016

**1.** The House met at 11.09 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.

**2.** **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 21 January, 2016.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.*

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

(*i*) Members of National Association of Okun Students (NAOS), University of Abuja Chapter.

(*ii*) Staff and Students of Queens Science Academy, Talatar Jido Yargaya, Kano.

**4.** **Petitions**

(*i*) A petition from Juliet Obiageli Jim Nwachukwu on her indefinite suspension from the service of Zenith Bank, was presented and laid by Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Wilfred (*Ogbaru Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) Onyema Ejime Paul on his dismissal from the service of the Federal Judicial Service Commission (FJSC),

(*b*) E. E. Ogwezzy & Co. on behalf of Ozegbe David Anioboh on the removal of his name from the nominal roll, stoppage of salary and non issuance of letter of reinstatement by the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, Abuja;

(*iii*) A petition from Enoch Ade Ojo on the breach of trust by the Managing Director of Parsons Science Construction Company, Abuja, Mr Sassine Sayegh, was presented and laid by Hon. Segun Adekola (*Ekiti South West/Ikere/Ise/Orun Federal Constituency*);

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(*iv*) A Petition from the representatives of Ibaka Community in Mbo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State on the extra judicial killing of some innocent citizens of the viliage by a Naval Officer, was presented and laid by Hon. Nse Bassey (*Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruko Federal Constituency*).

*Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.*

**5. Consolidation of Bills:**

(*i*) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Accounts Implementation Tribunal Act, Cap. P36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004: and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 275); and a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Public Accounts Implementation Tribunal Act, Cap. P 36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB.340) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

(*ii*) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, Cap. M8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, to make Provisions for Compensation for Medical Malpractice and Negligence; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 141); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, Cap. M8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 351) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**6. A Bill for an Act to Authorize the Issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation, the Total Sum of ₦6,077,680,000,000 (Six Trillion, Seventy-Seven Billion, Six Hundred and Eighty Million Naira) only, of which ₦351,370,000,000 (Three Hundred and Fifty-One Billion, Three Hundred and Seventy Million Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦l,475,320,000,000 (One Trillion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Five Billion, Three Hundred and Twenty Million Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦2,648,600,000,000 (Two Trillion, Six Hundred and Forty-Eight Billion, Six-Hundred Million Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the Sum of ₦l,845,540,000,000 (One Trillion, Eight Hundred and Forty-Five Billion, Five Hundred and Forty Million Naira) only, inclusive of ₦l57,150,000,000 (One Hundred and Fifty-Seven Billion, One Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers and ₦86,000,000,000 (Eighty- Six Billion Naira) only, as Interest on Capitalised Loans, is for Contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the Year Ending on the 31st Day of December, 2016 (HB. 337) — *Second Reading.***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do resume debate on a Bill for an Act to Authorize the Issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation, the Total Sum of ₦6,077,680,000,000 (Six Trillion, Seventy-Seven Billion, Six Hundred and Eighty Million Naira) only, of which ₦351,370,000,000 (Three Hundred and Fifty-One Billion, Three Hundred and Seventy Million Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦l,475,320,000,000 (One Trillion, Four Hundred and Seventy-Five Billion, Three Hundred and Twenty Million Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦2,648,600,000,000 (Two Trillion, Six Hundred and Forty-Eight Billion, Six-Hundred Million Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the Sum of ?l,845,540,000,000 (One Trillion, Eight Hundred and Forty-Five Billion, Five Hundred and Forty Million Naira) only, inclusive of ₦l57,150,000,000 (One Hundred and Fifty-Seven Billion, One Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers and ₦86,000,000,000 (Eighty- Six Billion Naira) only, as Interest on Capitalised Loans, is for Contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the Year Ending on the 31st Day of December, 2016" (HB. 337) (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

*Resumption of debate.*

*Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Appropriations (all other Standing Committees of the House are deemed to be Sub-Committees of the Committee on Appropriations for the purpose of consideration of the Budget Estimates), pursuant to Order XII, Rule* 97 (5) (*a*).

7. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Highways Act, Cap. F13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make further Provisions for the safety of Nigerian Highways; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 96); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Highways Act, Cap. F13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make driving against Traffic or One Way an Offence; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 162)** — *Second Reading.*
*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Highways Act, Cap. F13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make further Provisions for the safety of Nigerian Highways; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 96); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Highways Act, Cap. F13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make driving against Traffic or One Way an Offence; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 162) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC).*

8. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Price Control Act, Cap. P28, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for concessions, waivers and stiffer penalties; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 264); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Price Control Act, Cap. P28, Laws of the Federation of the Nigeria, 2004 to prescribe stiffer penalties and to make better provisions for its implementation; and for other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 311)** — *Second Reading.*
*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Price Control Act, Cap. P28, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for concessions, waivers and stiffer penalties; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 264); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Price Control Act, Cap. P28, Laws of the Federation of the Nigeria, 2004 to prescribe stiffer penalties and to make better provisions for its implementation; and for other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 311) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Chukwuka Onyema Wilfred — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.*

9. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46)**
(*i*) ***Urgent Need to Investigate the reported Cancellation of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri-South, Local Government Area Council, Delta State by the Federal Government*:**
Hon. Daniel O. Reyenieju (*Warri Federal Constituency*) introduced 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 — Agreed to.*

*Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule* 46 (3) *to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

**Urgent Need to Investigate the Reported Cancellation of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri-South, Local Government Council Area, Delta State by the Federal Government:**

The House:

*Notes* that the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri South-West Local Government Council Area, Delta State was established by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) to produce high level manpower for marine related industries needs;

*Also notes* that it is the establishment of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko as approved by the Federal Executive Council in 2015 that necessitated the Federal Government of Nigeria to constitute a Governing Council for the University, and also effected the appointment of a pioneer Vice Chancellor;

*Further notes* that the Nigerian Maritime University is the only Federal Government funded establishment, and thus the only indicator of the presence of the Federal Government of Nigeria in the whole of the Warri South-West Local Government Area;

*Aware* the Nigerian Maritime University is the first of its type in the Country even though there are other non-university marine institutions in the manner for example, whereby the Federal Government remain the proprietor of Universities of Agriculture, and other non-university institutions of Agriculture including agriculture related research centres;

*Also aware* that the Federal Government of Nigeria retain its proprietorship of the Petroleum Institute, Petroleum Polytechnic, and also at the same time the University of Petroleum Resources by virtue of the fact that universities and non-university institutions respectively train and produce different cadres/levels of manpower;

*Concerned* that the Federal Government of Nigeria has consistently been funding and maintaining these respective specialized universities, and also the non-university Agriculture institutions including research institutes and not being oblivious of the fact that universities, and non-university tertiary institutions could be established for the same disciplines, for example petroleum, agriculture, technology, etc.; but the academic programs and thrusts of the universities are not the same with those of the non-university institutions including the qualities of certificates issued;

*Concerned* that the Federal government has never for example considered obliterating any of the Universities of Agriculture (for example) simply because there are concurrently in existence non-university tertiary institutions and research institutes for agriculture;

*Also concerned* that all the existing maritime academic institutions can only award the Higher National Diploma, Ordinary National Level, Certificates, etc. and thus established to produce at best middle level manpower for the marine related industries;

*Further concerned* that the Maritime University by virtue of its academic status will of necessity produce first degree (Bachelor) holders in marine related disciplines: and with the inherent potentials to develop its academic manpower and programs to such level where it can produce holders of second and terminal degrees;

*Conscious* that the Maritime University (like other Nigerian universities) will remain as the academic centre for producing eminently qualified manpower to meet the manpower needs of any marine related academic institutions, including itself and other universities anywhere in the globe that offer marine related courses;

*Also conscious* that the presence of the Maritime University will naturally stimulate the interests of many qualified youths in its catchment areas particularly in the Ilaje (Ondo State), Ijaw and Itsekiri areas (all of whom are naturally aquatic), to show interests in marine related disciplines; many of whom on graduation could move to any part of the world to practice their acquired skills and put Nigeria on the global map of manpower exporters in the marine related disciplines;

*Further conscious* that the Maritime University will be located in area where transnational oil corporations are operating, and will thus benefit from the usually sophisticated marine-related facilities and equipments usually in possession of these oil industries; and synergies between the University and the oil industries will expose students to such sophisticated and high calibre equipments; such that are not available in any currently existing marine related institutions in Nigeria;

*Perturbed* that the close proximity of the Maritime University to some of Nigeria's major oil installations and industries (for example, Chevron, Shell, Nigeria's National Petroleum Corporation, etc.) of which marine related movements and activities remain an integral aspect of the totality of their operations which as at now (i.e. marine activities) are majorly handled by foreign experts and sub-contracting marine companies; and thus resulting into capital flight and consequent economic haemorrhage experienced by the Nigerian State; and this will be reduced and finally obliterated with a well established Maritime University fulfilling its mandate;

*Also perturbed* that the presence of the Marine University will open the area to different forms of external influences and consequently expose the youths of the areas to different world views, knowledge, interpersonal/group relationships; and thus imbibing the ethos of fair competition, oneness of mankind and the desire to seek for peace so as to ensure the flourishing of the institution;

*Further perturbed* that the cartographic space of the Warri South Local Government Area remain the highest oil bearing and oil producing area in Nigeria and hosts to thousands of workers that are prospecting and producing crude oil, and neither the Federal Government, nor oil companies has considered stoppage oil prospecting and oil production simply because of the aquatic terrain;

*Apprised* that the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Niger Delta Development Commission is constructing a motorable road from Omadino in the Warri South Local Government Council Area through Okerenkoko to Ugborodo located in the Escravos estuary of the Atlantic Ocean whereby the Maritime University, Okerenkoko will in due course be accessible by road;

*Also apprised* that the non-accessibility by road has not prevented the establishment of the multi-billion dollars Liquefied Natural Gas Plant, Bonny which is host to experts from different parts of the world;

*Further apprised* that the current democratic dispensation, the reported 'cancellation' of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko (if true), will be the first time such an action in terms of 'cancelling' a university already established by the Federal Government will be embarked upon;

*Worried* that a lot of public funds have so far been expanded since the announcement of the establishment of the Maritime University, Okerenkoko by the Federal Government and it behoves the Parliament to investigate the rationale behind such action which will result in the unnecessary wastage of public funds;

*Acquainted* with the fact that this Honourable House has the Constitutional and moral responsibility to investigate the reported cancellation of the Maritime University and possibly halt the cancellation;

*Resolves to*:

Mandate the Committees on Maritime Safety Education and Administration, and Education to investigate the circumstances surrounding the reported 'cancellation' of the Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri South LGA, Delta State; and report back to the House within two (2) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Daniel O. Reyenieju — Warri Federal Constituency*).

*Debate*.

*Question agreed to*.

The House:

*Noted* that the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri South-West Local Government Council Area, Delta State was established by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) to produce high level manpower for marine related industries needs;

*Also noted* that it is the establishment of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko as approved by the Federal Executive Council in 2015 that necessitated the Federal Government of Nigeria to constitute a Governing Council for the University, and also effected the appointment of a pioneer Vice Chancellor;

*Further noted* that the Nigerian Maritime University is the only Federal Government funded establishment, and thus the only indicator of the presence of the Federal Government of Nigeria in the whole of the Warri South-West Local Government Area;

*Aware* the Nigerian Maritime University is the first of its type in the Country even though there are other non-university marine institutions in the manner for example, whereby the Federal Government remain the proprietor of Universities of Agriculture, and other non-university institutions of Agriculture including agriculture related research centres;

*Also aware* that the Federal Government of Nigeria retain its proprietorship of the Petroleum Institute, Petroleum Polytechnic, and also at the same time the University of Petroleum Resources by virtue of the fact that universities and non-university institutions respectively train and produce different cadres/levels of manpower;

*Concerned* that the Federal Government of Nigeria has consistently been funding and maintaining these respective specialized universities, and also the non-university Agriculture institutions including research institutes and not being oblivious of the fact that universities, and non-university tertiary institutions could be established for the same disciplines, for example petroleum, agriculture, technology, etc.; but the academic programs and thrusts of the universities are not the same with those of the non-university institutions including the qualities of certificates issued;

*Concerned* that the Federal government has never for example considered obliterating any of the Universities of Agriculture (for example) simply because there are concurrently in existence non-university tertiary institutions and research institutes for agriculture;

*Also concerned* that all the existing maritime academic institutions can only award the Higher National Diploma, Ordinary National Level, Certificates, etc. and thus established to produce at best middle level manpower for the marine related industries;

*Further concerned* that the Maritime University by virtue of its academic status will of necessity produce first degree (Bachelor) holders in marine related disciplines; and with the inherent potentials to develop its academic manpower and programs to such level where it can produce holders of second and terminal degrees;

*Conscious* that the Maritime University (like other Nigerian universities) will remain as the academic centre for producing eminently qualified manpower to meet the manpower needs of any marine related academic institutions, including itself and other universities anywhere in the globe that offer marine related courses;

*Also conscious* that the presence of the Maritime University will naturally stimulate the interests of many qualified youths in its catchment areas particularly in the Ilaje (Ondo State), Ijaw and Itsekiri areas (all of whom are naturally aquatic), to show interests in marine related disciplines; many of whom on graduation could move to any part of the world to practice their acquired skills and put Nigeria on the global map of manpower exporters in the marine related disciplines;

*Further conscious* that the Maritime University will be located in area where transnational oil corporations are operating, and will thus benefit from the usually sophisticated marine-related facilities and equipments usually in possession of these oil industries; and synergies between the University and the oil industries will expose students to such sophisticated and high calibre equipments; such that are not available in any currently existing marine related institutions in Nigeria;

*Perturbed* that the close proximity of the Maritime University to some of Nigeria's major oil installations and industries (for example, Chevron, Shell, Nigeria's National Petroleum Corporation, etc.) of which marine related movements and activities remain an integral aspect of the totality of their operations which as at now (i.e. marine activities) are majorly handled by foreign experts and sub-contracting marine companies; and thus resulting into capital flight and consequent economic haemorrhage experienced by the Nigerian State; and this will be reduced and finally obliterated with a well established Maritime University fulfilling its mandate;

*Also perturbed* that the presence of the Marine University will open the area to different forms of external influences and consequently expose the youths of the areas to different world views, knowledge, interpersonal/group relationships; and thus imbibing the ethos of fair competition, oneness of mankind and the desire to seek for peace so as to ensure the flourishing of the institution;

*Further perturbed* that the cartographic space of the Warri South Local Government Area remain the highest oil bearing and oil producing area in Nigeria and hosts to thousands of workers that are prospecting and producing crude oil, and neither the Federal Government, nor oil companies has considered stoppage oil prospecting and oil production simply because of the aquatic terrain;

*Apprised* that the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Niger Delta Development Commission is constructing a motorable road from Omadino in the Warri South Local Government Council Area through Okerenkoko to Ugborodo located in the Escravos estuary of the Atlantic Ocean whereby the Maritime University, Okerenkoko will in due course be accessible by road;

*Also apprised* that the non-accessibility by road has not prevented the establishment of the multi-billion dollars Liquefied Natural Gas Plant, Bonny which is host to experts from different parts of the world;

*Further apprised* that the current democratic dispensation, the reported 'cancellation' of the Nigerian Maritime University, Okerenkoko (if true), will be the first time such an action in terms of 'cancelling' a university already established by the Federal Government will be embarked upon;

*Worried* that a lot of public funds have so far been expanded since the announcement of the establishment of the Maritime University, Okerenkoko by the Federal Government and it behoves the Parliament to investigate the rationale behind such action which will result in the unnecessary wastage of public funds;

*Acquainted* with the fact that this Honourable House has the Constitutional and moral responsibility to investigate the reported cancellation of the Maritime University and possibly halt the cancellation;

*Resolved to*:

Mandate the Committees on Maritime Safety Education and Administration, and Education to investigate the circumstances surrounding the reported 'cancellation' of the Maritime University, Okerenkoko, Warri South LGA, Delta State; and report back to the House within two (2) weeks for further legislative action **(HR. 15/2016)**.

*Motion referred to the Committees on Maritime Safety and Administration, and Tertiary Education.*

(*ii*) ***A Call for Rehabilitation of Nsit Ibom - Etinan Express Road (Akwa Ibom State)*:** Hon. Samuel Ikon (*Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency*) introduced 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 — Agreed to.*

*Question that the House do suspend Order VIII, Rule* 46 (3) *to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

**A Call for Rehabilitation of Nsit Ibom-Etinan Express Road (Akwa Ibom):**

The House:

*Notes* that Nsit Ibom - Etinan road is an express way connecting the Local Government Headquarters of Etinan and Nsit Ibom;

*Also notes* that despite the socio economic importance of Nsit Ibom- Etinan express road to the people of Akwa Ibom (South- South) Zone, the total negligence on the issues faced by this road has resulted in geographical denudation and the highway is been replete with port-holes coupled with a collapsed bridge;

*Disturbed* that the deplorable state of these roads has resulted in several avoidable accidents, frequent robbery attacks resulting to large number of lives been lost over time. For instance, over 15 persons died at the spot on 25 December, 2015 due to a collapse of the Ikot Ekang Bridge located at a central point connecting both Local Government Areas;

*Aware* that rehabilitation of this road/bridge will definitely ease movement of people, farm produce and other social activity amongst communities around the said zone, noting also that this singular act will curb robbery attacks and reduce the high rate of accidents;

*Resolves to*:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to carry out an immediate/temporary rehabilitation of Ikot Ekang Bridge to enable fluidity of movement amongst the connecting communities;

(*ii*) also call on Federal Government through the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) for a proper rehabilitation of the express Road;

(*iii*) ensure that the relevant cost of construction of bridge/road is captured in the 2016 appropriation Bill; and

(*iv*) observe a minute silence in honour of the dead (*Hon. Samuel Ikon Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency*).

*Question agreed to.*

**(HR. 16/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), pursuant to Order VIII, Rule* 51 5).

*A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.*

10 **Adjournment.**

*That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 27 January, 2016 at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

*The House adjourned accordingly at* 4.04 *p.m.*

**Yakubu Dogara**
*Speaker*