FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 60

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 27 January, 2016

1. The House met at 11.08 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 Tuesday, 26 January, 2016.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Message**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

26th January, 2016

Right Honnourable Yakubu Dogara,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Right Hon. Speaker,

***THE MONEY LAUNDERING (PREVENTION AND PROHIBITION) BILL*, 2016 *AND THE MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL*, 2016**

I hereby introduce for formal consideration and enactment into law by the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria: The Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition), Bill, 2016 *and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill*, 2016.

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I. ***THE MONEY LAUNDERING (PREVENTION AND PROHIBITION) BILL, 2016***
This Bill provides for the repeal of the Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act, 2011 as amended in 2012 to make comprehensive provisions to prohibit the laundering of the criminal activities, expand the scope of money laundering offences, provide protection for employees of various institutions, bodies and professions who may discover money laundering, enhance customer due diligence, provide appropriate penalties and expand the scope of supervisory bodies whilst recognizing the role of certain self-regulatory organizations to address the challenges faced in the implementation of comprehensive anti-money laundering regime in Nigeria.

II. ***THE MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL, 2016***
This Bill seeks to facilitate the provision and obtaining by Nigeria of International assistance in criminal matters, including the provision and obtaining of evidence and things, the making of arrangements for persons to give evidence or assist in criminal investigations, the recovery, forfeiture or confiscation of property in respect of offences, the restraining of dealings in property or the freezing of assets that may be recovered, forfeited or confiscated in respect of offences, the execution of requests for search and seizure, the location and identification of witnesses and suspects, the service of documents and other matters connected therewith.

2. *While I hope that the Bills will receive the usual expeditious attention of the Honourable Members, please accept, Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

4. Petitions

(*i*) A petition from Maurice Ikyarkyase and one hundred and four others, on the refusal of Nigerian Breweries Plc to pay their entitlements in compliance with the court order of 18 March, 2015, was presented and laid by Hon. Sunday M. Katung (*Zango Kataf/Jaba Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) A Petition from P. C. Dike & Associates (Legal Practitioners, Notary Public & Real Property Consultants) on behalf of Izunwanne Felicia Ngozi, on the omission of her name from the monthly pension pay roll since 2012 till date by the office of the Head of Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Tajudeen Adekunle Obasa (*Ojo Federal Constituency*);

(*iii*) A petition from DSC Abubakar Suleiman Jatau on the discontinuance of his salary by the Nigeria Customs Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Suleiman Samaila (*Kaduna North Federal Constituency*);

(*iv*) A Petition from the Public Compliant Commission on behalf of Eddy Onyenweuzo on the unauthorized withdrawal of funds from his account by United Bank for Africa Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Obinna Chidoka (*Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Presentation and First Reading of Bills
The following Bills were read the *First Time* by the Clerk:

(1) Nigerian Petroleum Industry Bill, 2015 (HB. 336).

(2) National Programme on Immunization Act (Repeal) Bill, 2016 (HB. 362).

(3) Pre-Shipment Inspection of Export Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 363).

(4) Pharmacists Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 364).

(5) Casino Taxation Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 365).

(6) Survey Co-ordination Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 366).

(7) Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 367).

(8) Trade Malpractices Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 368).

(9) Harmful Waste (Special Criminal Provisions, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 369).

(10) Teachers Registration Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 370).

(11) Sales of Goods Act (Repeal) Bill, 2016 (HB. 371).

(12) National Postgraduate College of Physiotherapy (Establishment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 372).

(13) Examination Malpractices Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 373).

(14) Electronic Transactions Bill, 2016 (HB. 374).

(15) Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of Nigeria Bill, 2016 (HB. 375).

(16) Federal Capital Territory Education Resources Center Bill, 2016 (HB. 376).

(17) National Assembly Budget and Research Office (Establishment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 377).

(18) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (HB. 378).

(19) Explosives Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 379).

(20) Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 380).

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

(*i*) *Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) Scholarship Students Idle at Home*:

Hon. Fred Y. Agbedi (*Sagbama/Ekeremor 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.*

NIMASA Scholarship Students Idle at Home:

The House:

Aware that Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) sponsored a number of students on scholarship for studies in higher institutions overseas;

Informed that a number of these students had successfully completed the first phase of their studies, returned to the country and reported to NIMASA administration for further instructions and/or briefing;

Also informed also that the students were told that they would each undergo a one-year industrial attachment before furthering their studies and were asked to go and wait in their homes;

Worried that since the students went to their homes, there had been no further communication to them from NIMASA on the industrial attachment and they are staying without any stipend;

Concerned that the students staying idle at home had been exposed to a number of social ills and, as the saying goes, idleness may make them willing tools in the devil's workshop;

Further informed further that due to NIMASA's neglect to meet its bursary obligations to some of the higher institutions overseas, the concerned institutions have threatened to send back the students to Nigeria without the students completing their course of studies by the end (30th) of January, 2016;

Also worried further that if the students are back-loaded to Nigeria, the students will not be employable and such an action will permanently dent the international image of this country;

Resolves to:

Direct the Committee on Marine Safety, Education and Administration to —

(*i*) investigate the reasons and causes of the —

(*a*) delay in placing the students on Industrial Training programme,

(*b*) difficulty of NIMASA in discharging its bursary obligations to the institutions; and

(*ii*) report its findings and recommendations to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Fred Y. Agbedi — Sagbama/Ekeremor Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) sponsored a number of students on scholarship for studies in higher institutions overseas;

Informed that a number of these students had successfully completed the first phase of their studies, returned to the country and reported to NIMASA administration for further instructions and/or briefing;

Also informed also that the students were told that they would each undergo a one-year industrial attachment before furthering their studies and were asked to go and wait in their homes;

Worried that since the students went to their homes, there had been no further communication to them from NIMASA on the industrial attachment and they are staying without any stipend;

Concerned that the students staying idle at home had been exposed to a number of social ills and, as the saying goes, idleness may make them willing tools in the devil's workshop;

Further informed further that due to NIMASA's neglect to meet its bursary obligations to some of the higher institutions overseas, the concerned institutions have threatened to send back the students to Nigeria without the students completing their course of studies by the end (30th) of January, 2016;

Also worried further that if the students are back-loaded to Nigeria, the students will not be employable and such an action will permanently dent the international image of this country;

Resolved to:

Direct the Committee on Marine Safety, Education and Administration to —

(*i*) investigate the reasons and causes of the —

(*a*) delay in placing the students on Industrial Training programme,

(*b*) difficulty of NIMASA in discharging its bursary obligations to the institutions; and

(*ii*) report its findings and recommendations to the House within two weeks (**HR. 17/2016**).

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

(*ii*) ***Urgent Need to Pay the Six Area Councils of Federal Capital Territory, Three Months Salaries to Avoid Strike and Negative Impact*:**
Hon. Abubakar Yunusa Ahmad (*Yamaltu/Deba 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 Pay the Six Area Councils of Federal Capital Territory, Three Months Salaries to Avoid Strike and Negative Impact:

The House:

Notes that the staff of the six Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), have not been paid salaries since November 2015 to date;

Also notes that the delay in payment of their salaries is causing hardship to the staff as transportation to their various places of work has become difficult;

Further notes that the situation has resulted in many being sick without adequate fund for medical expenses ;

Aware that the staff are ready to embark on strike by first week of February, 2016;

Further aware that the strike could lead to breakdown of law and order as well as affect economic situation in the area;

Worried that non-payment of salaries of these staff would have negative impact on the society at large.

Resolves to:

Urge the Minister of Federal Capital Territory to consider and pay the salaries of the staff in order to avert the impending strike action (*Hon. Abubakar Yunusa Ahmad — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 18/2016).

Motion referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters.

7. Call for Rehabilitation of Rumukwurushi/Igboh Etche/Chokoche/Uzuzu Road

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

8. Call for Reconstruction of Nsukka-Adani-Onitsha Federal Road

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

9. Urgent Need for Construction of a Dual Carriageway along Aba-Ikot Ekpene-Calabar Road
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Aba-Ikot Ekpene-Calabar Road links Abia, Akwa Ibom and Cross River States, which are part of the commercial nerve centre of the nation;

Also notes that the Ikot Ekpene-Calabar axis has heavy vehicular movements as granites, stone dust and rocks are moved from bases in Cross River State through the road to different locations in the country;

Concerned that this major road network is still a single lane road and is in a very deplorable state, as a result of neglect by successive Administrations;

Also concerned about the hardships being experienced by commuters and entrepreneurs on the road which have grave negative effects on the economic lives of the people;

Disturbed by the loss of lives on the road as a result of high rate of accidents coupled with the incessant attacks on commuters by armed robbers;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works to include the dualization of the road in the 2016 Budget in order to ameliorate the sufferings of the people and enhance the economies of the States; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Emmanuel S. Akpan — Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 19/2016).

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

10. Urgent Need for the Completion of the Okeagbe 2 x 60 MVA, 132/33Kv Substation with 2 x 132Kv Line Bays Extension at Obajana

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the immense hardships being experienced by the people of Okeagbe-Akoko and other communities across Akoko in Ondo, Kogi and Ekiti States, who have been living in darkness for years owing to perennial outage;

Also notes that the overloaded 33KV feeder Station from Okene is the only source of electricity supply to the four Local Government Areas of Akoko North-East, North-West, South-East and South-West of Ondo State with a population of over 700,000 people;

Further notes that the overloading of the feeder station is the major reason for the constant outage owing to frequent breakdowns which have adversely affected the socio-economic activities of the areas as people now wholly depend on generators to run their businesses and homes at exorbitant costs;

Aware that the Transmission Company of Nigeria, in December 2011, awarded a contract to Power Company and Appliances Limited for the sum of US$5,612,652.66 (₦483,563,307.70) for the construction of 2 x 60 MVA, 132/33KV substation at Okeagbe with 2 x 132KV line Bays extension at Obajana and then construction work commenced on 15th of March, 2012;

Also aware that the total amount paid to date in respect of the project is US$5,612,652.66 (₦110,875,019.10) with just ₦327,200,524.90 as outstanding balance to be paid for a contract that was scheduled to be completed within twenty four months;

Further aware that the project is 70% completed and its final completion would provide stable electricity to more than fifty (50) communities spread across Ondo, Ekiti and Kogi States;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Works, Power and Housing to direct the Contractor (Power Company and Appliances Limited) to return to site and complete the project in accordance with the terms of the contract; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Power, and Appropriations to include money for the completion of the project in the 2016 Appropriations proposals (*Hon. Stephen Friday Olemija — Akoko North East/Akoko West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 20/2016).

Motion referred to the Committees on Power, and Appropriations, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

11. Need for Completion of the Rehabilitation/Expansion Work on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. Need to Ensure the Completion of the Contract for the Dredging of Calabar Port Channel
Motion made and Question proposed:

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 $56,000,000 (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 hub for West and Central African countries;

Worried that due to the non-completion of the dredging contract for about two decades now, the zones that it was designed to serve have continued to be denied the benefits while 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 Waterways 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 six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Daniel Effiong Asuquo — Akamkpa/Biase Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
In the Prayer, line 1, immediately after the word "Waterways", *insert* the words "Public Procurement" (*Hon. Chukwuka Onyema — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House;

Noted 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 $56,000,000 (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 hub for West and Central African countries;

Worried that due to the non-completion of the dredging contract for about two decades now, the zones that it was designed to serve have continued to be denied the benefits while 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;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Ports, Habours and Waterways, and Public Procurement 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 six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 21/2016**).

13. **Call for Caution in the Implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) Between the European Union (EU) and Nigeria**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the trade volume between Nigeria and the European Union as at 2014 stood at 40 billion Euros with the size of the European Union foreign direct investments growing from 25 billion Euros in 2011 to 30 billion Euros in 2013;

Aware that Nigeria is not only the most populous nation in Africa, but also its biggest economy, thus necessitating the current drive by the European Union to do business with Nigeria;

Also notes that a recent push by the European Union to further expand the frontiers of its economic relations with Nigeria through the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) is being resisted by the real sector operators of the Nigerian economy, particularly the manufacturers;

Also aware that under the Agreement, the European Union would offer the 15 members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) full access to its markets in return for which Members of ECOWAS would open up 75% of their markets, with over 300 million consumers, to Europe, over a 20 year period;

Further aware that Nigeria has a weak manufacturing base occasioned by infrastructural deficit and environmental factors, and thus is not on the same economic pedestal with any European Country to warrant such a reciprocal trade relationship as envisaged in the trade Agreement;

Concerned that a full implementation of the Agreement may amount to economic suicide on the part of Nigeria as many industries will close down while locally made products would not be able to compete with goods from Europe and other developed economies;

Also concerned that the Agreement would lead to stunting of the growth of industries in West Africa, with serious economic and employment consequences for Nigeria which controls 60% share of the regional market;

Cognizant of the fact that the Economic Partnership Agreement will, in the long run, confine Nigeria's economy to a mere extension of the markets of the European Union;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to exercise caution in the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union (EU) until Nigeria has adequately industrialized to be able to trade competitively in finished products; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Commerce, and Industry to ascertain the true nature of the Agreement, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Segun Adekola — Ekiti South West/Ikere/Ise/Orun Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in Prayer (*i*) (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the trade volume between Nigeria and the European Union as at 2014 stood at 40 billion Euros with the size of the European Union foreign direct investments growing from 25 billion Euros in 2011 to 30 billion Euros in 2013;

Aware that Nigeria is not only the most populous nation in Africa, but also its biggest economy, thus necessitating the current drive by the European Union to do business with Nigeria;

Also noted that a recent push by the European Union to further expand the frontiers of its economic relations with Nigeria through the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) is being resisted by the real sector operators of the Nigerian economy, particularly the manufacturers;

Also aware that under the Agreement, the European Union would offer the 15 members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) full access to its markets in return for which Members of ECOWAS would open up 75% of their markets, with over 300 million consumers, to Europe, over a 20 year period;

Further aware that Nigeria has a weak manufacturing base occasioned by infrastructural deficit and environmental factors, and thus is not on the same economic pedestal with any European Country to warrant such a reciprocal trade relationship as envisaged in the trade Agreement;

Concerned that a full implementation of the Agreement may amount to economic suicide on the part of Nigeria as many industries will close down while locally made products would not be able to compete with goods from Europe and other developed economies;

Also concerned that the Agreement would lead to stunting of the growth of industries in West Africa, with serious economic and employment consequences for Nigeria which controls 60% share of the regional market;

Cognizant of the fact that the Economic Partnership Agreement will, in the long run, confine Nigeria's economy to a mere extension of the markets of the European Union;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Commerce, Industry, and Cooperation and Integration in Africa to ascertain the true nature of the Agreement, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks. **(HR. 22/2016)**.

14. Call for Establishment of a Pacifist Nigerian Civil War Memorial in Gakem, Cross River State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that the first gun shot that heralded the Nigerian Civil War which started on 6 July, 1967, was fired in Gakem in the present day Bekwarra Local Government Area of Cross River State;

Notes that the war marked the darkest years in Nigeria's 55 years of existence where a total of about 2million people lost their lives but today, Gakem has no monument to show for the bruises inflicted on it by the Civil War;

Recognizes that the Soviet War Memorial in Berlin which opened on May 8, 1949 was built to commemorate about 5,000 of the over 80,000 Soviet soldiers who fell in the Battle of Berlin between April-May 1945 and is now a major tourist destination;

Also recognizes that the World War II Memorial which was commissioned in 1993 acknowledges Americans who served in the War, honors those who fell and commemorates the Allied victory that restored freedom and ended tyranny around the globe;

Further recognizes that the Japanese War Memorial in China which was opened on 7 July, 1987, on the 50th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Second Sino-Japanese War, is a museum and memorial about the Sino-Japanese War;

Conscious of the need to build a Pacifist Civil War Memorial in Gakem which will not only commemorate the nation's fallen heroes but also serve as a reminder of the ills and destructive effects of War;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government to establish a Pacifist War Memorial in Gakem, Cross River State (*Hon. Idagbo Ochiglegor — Obanliku/Obudu/Bekwarra Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that the first gun shot that heralded the Nigerian Civil War which started on 6 July, 1967, was fired in Gakem in the present day Bekwarra Local Government Area of Cross River State;

Noted that the war marked the darkest years in Nigeria's 55 years of existence where a total of about 2 million people lost their lives but today, Gakem has no monument to show for the bruises inflicted on it by the Civil War;

Recognized that the Soviet War Memorial in Berlin which opened on May 8, 1949 was built to commemorate about 5,000 of the over 80,000 Soviet soldiers who fell in the Battle of Berlin between April-May 1945 and is now a major tourist destination;

Also recognized that the World War II Memorial which was commissioned in 1993 acknowledges Americans who served in the War, honors those who fell and commemorates the Allied victory that restored freedom and ended tyranny around the globe;

Further recognized that the Japanese War Memorial in China which was opened on 7 July, 1987, on the 50th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Second Sino-Japanese War, is a museum and memorial about the Sino-Japanese War;

Conscious of the need to build a Pacifist Civil War Memorial in Gakem which will not only commemorate the nation's fallen heroes but also serve as a reminder of the ills and destructive effects of War;

Resolved to:

Urge the Federal Government to establish a Pacifist War Memorial in Gakem, Cross River State **(HR. 23/2016)**.

Motion referred to the Committee on Culture and Tourism.

15. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 28 January, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Iriase Pally Isumafe — Deputy Chief Whip).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.24 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker