FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 49

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NOTICE PAPER

Monday, 22 February, 2016

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

1. **Call on the Executive Arm of Government to Prepare Adequately for the Forthcoming Census: Hon. Mohammed Abdulkadir Mahmud:**

The House:

Notes that section 153 (1) and Part 1 of the Third Schedule for the 1999 Constitution empowers the National Population Commission to undertake the production of demographic, socio- economic and health data through the conduct of censuses, surveys, vital statistics (registration of births, deaths, migration, etc.) and other related researches;

Also notes that the United Nations Organization (UNO) recommended that censuses be conducted every ten years owing to its significance in providing useful data for socio- economic planning, allocation resources and opportunities, and for uncovering the housing and social needs of a given society;

Aware that the conduct of a modern population census is a very complex exercise, requiring sophisticated arrangements involving a whole range of scientifically tested and technically efficient methods as well as a robust planning that couldspan a maximum period of four years and a minimum of 17 months, just for the mapping of the entire country, identifying what technology to utilize, mobilizing and training legions of enumerators, conducting campaigns, canvassing households, collecting individual information, compiling millions of completed questionnaires, monitoring procedures and results, analyzing and disseminating data and responding promptly to emerging challenges;

Also aware that the proposed 2016 population and housing census is no longer feasible owing largely to challenges of funding and lack of political will which scuttled the proper implementation of the earlier scheduled pre-census activities;

Worried that only 15% of the funds required for preparation for the 2016 Census was appropriated by the National Assembly between 2012 and 2015, thus giving vent to the feeling that genuine quest for a census that will help ensure that policy decisions and monitoring efforts, which are rooted in sound information, will still be marred in view of the complexity and cost of censuses and their high political profile which put them in a different league from other exercises being carried out by any country;

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Conscious that the renewed regional and global concerns to reinvigorate the system of civic registration are the building blocks for establishing sustainable demographic databases that help in monitoring developments;

Also conscious that the international donor agencies can only offer assistance only when there is a Presidential proclamation for the take-off of the Census;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to issue a proclamation for a Census to hold in 2017; and

(*ii*) urge the National Population Commission to continue its exploits in technology utilization to reduce cases of irregularities and controversies to the barest minimum.

2. **Urgent Need for Completion of Kagara Dam in Niger State:**
Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu:

The House:

Notes that Kagara Dam was covering approximately 1000 hectares, initially conceived by the Government of Niger State and awarded to WRECA in 1982 with the aim for it to provide potable water and irrigation needs of the people of Kagara and its environs;

Also notes that owing to the importance of the project and concerned about the slow pace of its execution the Federal Government took it over in December 1992 and awarded it to Biwater Shellabear Nig. Ltd at the cost of One Hundred and Ninety-Nine Million, Two Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred and Ninety-Six Naira (₦199,222,596) only with a completion period of twenty-four (24)months;

Aware that the execution of the contract suffered so many abandonments because of lack of funds which necessitated its renegotiation in 2001 at the cost of Two Billion. Two Hundred and Nineteen Million, Seven Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Forty-Four Naira, Seventy-Five Kobo (₦2,219,746,244.75) only, and at the time, overall completion stage stood at 68% before the contractor stopped work in 2006;

Also aware that the current administration is planning on diversifying the economy from oil to agriculture, thus the need to avail the opportunity for irrigation that would encourage farming, hereby leading to export of Nigerian's agricultural products;

Concerned that the abandonment of the project at various times has created unnecessary cost implications for the Federal Government by reason of inflation and dilapidation of the work already done;

Also concerned that continued delay in the completion of the project will not only dim the hopes and aspirations of the people of the area but cast doubts on the sincerity and commitment of Government's policy of encouraging massive food production through irrigation, job and wealth creation and providing potable water for its citizens;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Water Resources to investigate the delay in the Completion of the project despite budgetary allocations over the years and report back to the House within 6 weeks, for further legislative action.

3. **Devastating Erosion in Mikang, Quaan-Pan, and Shendam Federal Constituency of Plateau State:**
Hon. Johnbull T. Shekarau:

The House:

Recalls that on August 8, 2012, the Southern Zone of Plateau State comprising Langtang North, Langtang South, Mikang, Quaan-Pan, Shendam and Wase witnessed torrential rain storm lasting for 8hrs which left a trail of destruction of houses, farmlands, bridges, roads and displacement of people;

Also recalls that a high powered government delegation led by the then Vice President, Arc. Namadi Sambo, visited the areas, as a result of which the Federal and State Governments and organizations such as the National Emergency Management Agency, (NEMA) Federal Road Maintenance Agency, (FERMA) and other individuals provided one form of intervention or the other; including the rehabilitation of the Shendam-Longvel and Total Shendam Road which was washed away by the erosion;

Concerned that other roads and bridges that were also affected, such as:

(*a*) Shendam bye pass,

(*b*) Nbet - Piapung Bridge,

(*c*) Doemak -Bwall box culvert,

were not addressed, thus making it difficult for the people living along these areas to link up with other parts of the country;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Ecological Fund Office to reconstruct the damaged culverts and bridges in the areas;

(*ii*) urge the National Emergency Management Agency to provide relief materials to the affected families that have been trying to relocate back to their communities and to complete the construction of the refugee camp in Shendam; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committees on Environment and Habitat, and Legislative Compliance to ensure adherence.

4. **Need to investigate the $260 Million contract awarded by the National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS):**
Hon. Babatunde Gabriel kolawole:

The House:

Notes a report that the National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS), a subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), granted approval for Esso Exploration and Production Nigeria Limited, a subsidiary of ExxonMobil to award four single source contracts for projects in ExxonMobil's Usan Deepwater Project for the sum of $260 million without a tendering process;

Also notes that NAPIMS had through threememoranda dated October 13, 2014, February 10, 2015 and April 16, 2015, nominated fourcompanies to execute the Contracts, in violation of due process and without approval from both the Board of the NNPC and its Group Executive Committee (GEC);

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to investigate the $260 million contract awarded by NAPIMS and report back to the House within 4 Weeks, for further legislative action.

5. **Urgent Need to Address the Problems of Cross Border Communal Clashes in Itongeji Island, Ogun State:**
Hon. Adekunle Abdulkabir Akinlade:

The House:

Notes the communal disturbances at Itongeji Island (in Ipokia Local Government of Ogun State) which shares land and water boundaries with Benin Republic and also the protests by the people of Okuta district of Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State on the issue of cross border disturbances from their neighbours in Benin Republic, thus raising concerns about cross border disturbances;

Informed that the government of Ogun State set-up a fact finding Committee which found out that the internal problems bedeviling Itongeji Island was as a result of series of petitions and litigations, and therefore called for a long-term strategic plan for the Island;

Aware of the confirmation of the availability of oil and gas deposits at Itongeji basin area;

Concerned that the efforts of the Government of Ogun State to have the Federal Government establish a naval base on the island have not yielded the desired results;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Navy to undertake an oversight visit to Itongeji Island with a view toand recommending ways to secure it in order to protect Nigerian citizens living there who are facing the risk of annexation by the neighbouring Benin Republic; and

(*ii*) urge the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation to review the resource potentials and develop the oil wells already identified in the Itongeji Island basin.

6. **Need to Investigate the Alleged Non Transparent Sale of Power Assets by Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE):**
Hon. Chike John Okafor:

The House:

Notes the disengagement of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) from generation, distribution and transmission of electricity in line with the privatization policy in the power sector;

Also notes that in line with the proposal to private the Federal Government's interests in the PHCN, the Bureau of Public Enterprises set the process for the sale of the Power Assets in Nigeria and eventually awarded the Assets to 11 Distribution and 12 Generation companies;

Further notes that the processes leading to the sale of those assets appeared to have fallen short of the prescribed criteria for the sale set down by the law guiding the activities of the BPE in the privatization process and also did not comply with international best practices;

Aware that the privatization policy in the power sector was geared towards improving efficiency and performance, ensure transparent management, eliminate government's involvement in utility management, encourage private investment in generation in order to address the inadequate supply of power and ensure level playing field for all investors;

Also aware that the privatization of the PHCN would put an end to the continued provision of subsidies to PHCN, and such gains will be channeled to other sectors like agriculture, health and other critical social services;

Concerned that all the gains expected from the privatization exercise were lost through alleged underhand deals, manipulation of rules of corruption and abandonment of known laws that are the hall mark of business transactions;

Also concerned that the sale of power distribution and transmission utilities, was marked by lack of transparency in the bid awards in the three sectors of generation, transmission and distribution as it was alleged that the selected preferred bidders had low capacity, lacked technical knowledge in the sector and had little or no financial and managerial know how to run power companies;

Further concerned that the lofty goals of privatization was marred by the sale of the assets to preferred bidders that could not pay the bid value on sale, instead the BPE encouraged the deferment of payment and restructuring of payment terms in contravention of the bidding rules to the disadvantage of other bidders;

Worried about an apparent lack of due process in the alleged payment of 23 million dollars on contract awarded to Manitoba Hydro International (MHI) of Canada to manage the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) for three years;

Conscious of the need to ensure that the sale of power assets was done in accordance with Privatization Rules and in such a manner as to benefit the Nigerian people;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Privatization and Commercialization to investigate the process and sale of the Power Assets by the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and determine if there were malpractices in the process and also whether appropriate value for money was obtained; and

(*ii*) recommend any changes in the process of sale of government assets and any changes in existing laws, if any, in order to protect the interests of the Nigerian people.

7. **Need for the Lifting of the Embargo on Foreign Training and International Travels by Public Servants:**
Hon. Nasiru Garo:

The House:

Notes the directives in circulars issued by both the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation placing embargo on foreign training and international travels by Public Servants in Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government; opting rather for such training to be held in the country from January 2014 with any exception;

Concerned that as a developing economy, the wholesale application of the directive will impact negatively on capacity building and manpower development of government personnel, thereby reducing productivity and ultimately compromising competence;

Also concerned that the directive is capable of turning Nigeria into a pariah nation as friendly nation's that hitherto collaborated with Nigeria in offering such highly skilled training facilities will look elsewhere, thus denying the country the benefits derivable from such desirable international collaborations.

Convinced that an immediate reversal of the directive will have direct positive impact on the nation's quest for technological advancement and consequently boosting the economy, regardless of the cost to the Government.

Also convinced that the importance of training, capacity building and skills acquisition by personnel cannot be overemphasized and restricting its acquisition only on account of cost will not augur well for the country, given the limitations and challenges confronting the country as a developing economy;

Resolves to:

Urge the Committees on Special Duty, Public Service, Finance and Legislative Compliance to collaborate with a view to ensuring that the embargo placed on foreign training and international travels by the Federal Government islifted.

8. **Urgent Need to Complete the Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of Oba-Nnewi-Okigwe Road: Hon. Chris Azubogu Hon. Eucharia Azodo Hon. Austin Chukwukere Hon. Obinna Onwubuariri:**

The House:

Notes that Oba-Nnewi-Okigwe Road, a Federal Highway that connects Anambra- Imo and Abia States and other South-South States, has been in a very deplorable condition for many years now;

Aware that in recognition of the deplorable state of the road and the desire to ameliorate the hardships of motorists, Federal Ministry of Works in, 2007 awarded contracts for the reconstruction of the road in two sections to two firms- Section I to CCC Nig. Ltd and Section II to BulletineConstruction Ltd. both of which mobilised to site;

Concerned that the Construction Companies which have collectively not done up to 50% of the construction work have since abandoned the project due to lack of funding, thereby rendering the road completely impassable whereby in certain situations, motorists are compelled to spend lengthy hours for a journey that should ordinarily last for about an hour;

Worried that if nothing is done to arrest the situation, it could result in the crippling of economic activities, not only in Nnewi industrial/commercial town, but also in the whole of Anambra, Abia, and Imo States with its multiplier effects on the Nigerian Economy;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to, as an interim measure; rehabilitate the road to make it motorable.

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to make provision in 2016 Budget for the completion of the reconstruction work; and

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

9. **Need for Process Integrity in the Issuance of Drivers License to Reduce Accidents on the Highways:**
Hon. Philip Shaibu:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Road Safety Commission and the Vehicle Inspection Officer, which are the two agencies involved in the issuance of drivers license do not seem to follow the laid down rules and due process in the issuance of drivers license thereby compromising the Integrity of the Nigerian drivers License, and endangering the lives and property of millions of Nigerian road users;

Aware that going by the rules, only licensed Driving Schools should train intending drivers who thereafter should pass a Driving test conducted by an Agency of Government, in addition to a properly conducted eye test before Issuance of driverslicense;

Also aware that due process before issuance of driver's license is routinely breached so much so that a Drivers License can be obtained by proxy;

Concerned that there is a direct correlation between the high number of road accidents recorded in the country yearly and the capability of drivers plying the highways;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission to investigate issue of lack of Integrity in the issuance of drivers' license and the measures put in place to reverse the trend, and report back to the House within four weeks, for further legislative actions.

10. **Non Compliance with the Resolution of the House by the Public Complaints Commission:**
Hon. Agbedi Yeitiemone Frederick:

The House:

Aware that on Thursday, 24 October, 2013 a petition by one FinidiJahblessagainst Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) regarding contracts NGO 1001316 (A28) and NGO 1003128 (A29) was presented to the House by Hon. Warman Ogoriba and the petition was referred to the Committee on Public Petitions;

Also aware that the Public Petitions Committee, after duly examining the petition presented its report to the House on Wednesday, 26 March, 2014; and on Thursday, 23 September, 2014 the House considered the report of the Committee and resolved to request the Public Complaints Commission to further investigate the matter and report back to the House within eight weeks;

Further aware that the Clerk to the National Assembly through a letter reference No. NASS/CAN/105NoL.20/273 of 29 September, 2014 conveyed the resolution of House to the Public Complaints Commission;

Equally aware that section 5 (1) of the Public Complaints Commission Act, Cap. P.37, LFN 2004makes all Public Complaints Commissioners responsible to the National Assembly;

Concerned that the Commission, either by omission or commission, failed or neglected to give effect to the resolution;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to require the Public Complaints Commission to:

(*i*) explain within 14 days why the Order of Reference as contained in the Resolution was not complied with; and

(*ii*) give effect to the Resolution of the House as contained in the Votes and Proceedings of Thursday, 23 September, 2014 within 30days of this resolution.

11. **Need to Urgently Check the Collapse of the Education Sector in Bama, Ngala, Kala, Balge,Federal Constituency of Borno State and the Entire North East Zone:**
Hon. Mohammed Nur Sheriff:

The House:

Notes that Bama, Ngala, Kala, Balde Federal Constituency which was the gateway to international trade during the Trans Saharan Trade had been turned into a battleground owing to insurgency, which has crippled commerce and human activities which hitherto, thrived between the people of Nigeria, Chad, Cameroun, Central African Republic and Niger who used to come to the area for trading and other social activities;

Concerned that the entire villages, hamlets and towns in the area are now deserted as people, especially young girls and able-bodied men, had been kidnapped and conscripted into the heinous Boko Haram sect, a situation that has led to separation of families and crippling of commercial activities ;

Also concerned that children of school age are no longer in schools due to the lack of schools in the internally displaced persons camps and some of the towns recaptured from the Boko Haram terrorists;

Conscious that the situation possess serious social and security challenges for the people, and if drastic and urgent actions are not taken to address the menace, the area would explode with very adverse consequences on the entire nation;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to adopt urgent measures to rescue the education sector in Bama, Ngala, Kala Balge, Federal constituency of Borno State and the North East zone in general; and

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to move children from areas that are vulnerable to areas that have security and to establish schools in the internally displaced persons' camp for the education of the children in those camps.