FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 68

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 2 March, 2016

1. The House met at 11.23 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, 1 March, 2016.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

3. **Oaths of Allegiance and Membership**
A Member-elect, Hosea Danasabe Charles (*Gashaka/Kurmi/Sardauna Federal Constituency*) took and subscribed the Oaths of Allegiance, and Membership.

4. **Announcement**

(*i*) ***Visitors in the Gallery*:**
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

(*a*) Staff and Students of Gifted and Talented Academy, Mararaba, Nasarawa State; and

(*b*) Staff and Students of JIP Heritage Academy, Jikwoyi, Abuja.

(*ii*) ***Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Act, 2015 (Amendment Bill)*:**
Mr Speaker named the Membership of the above Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Herman Hembe	—	*Chairman*
(2)	Hon. Bassey Ewa	—	*Member*
(3)	Hon. Tijjani Jobe	—	*Member*
(4)	Hon. Ezekiel Adaji	—	*Member*
(5)	Hon. Nkole Ndukwe	—	*Member*
(6)	Hon. Agboola Kehinde	—	*Member*
(7)	Hon. Shiddi Danjuma	—	*Member*

5. **Petitions**

(*i*) A petition from the Association of Trainees of Model Skill Training Centre, Maitama, Abuja, on their ill treatment by the Industrial Training Funds, was presented and laid by Hon. Omosede Igbinedion Gabriella (*Ovia Northeast/Ovia Southwest Federal Constituency*)

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(*ii*) A petition from Sanni Olusegun Jimmy on his disengagement from service and non-payment of disengagement grants by Ecobank Nigeria Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Babatunde Kolawole (*Akoko Southwest/Akoko East Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(*i*) ***Need to Seek the Release of Abducted Female Students of Babington Macaulay Junior Seminary School (BMJS) in Ikorodu, Lagos State:***

Hon. Babajimi Benson (*Ikorodu 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 Seek the Release of Abducted Female Students of Babington Macaulay Junior Seminary School (BMJS) in Ikorodu:

The House:

Notes that on Monday, February 29, 2016, heavily armed men scaled the school fence of Babington Macaulay Junior Seminary School (BMJS) in Ikorodu Federal Constituency and abducted three school girls around 8.00 p.m.;

Also notes that the school owned by Anglican Communion, Lagos Diocese is located at Agunfoye-Lugbusi town, Ikorodu;

Alarmed that more than 24 hours after the sad incidence, the Nigeria Police Force and other concerned agencies of government have not been able to reunite the abducted girls with their parents;

Worried that incidence of insecurity in Ikorodu Federal Constituency is becoming worrisome as the security agencies of government are finding it difficult to protect lives and properties in Ikorodu Federal Constituency;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Condemn in its entirety the callous and grossly inhuman action of the abductors under whatever guise as it is against the tenet of seeking qualitative education for the girl-child;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police and the Nigeria Police Force to intensify efforts to ensure the prompt and safe release of the abducted girls and the apprehension of the perpetrators; and

(*iii*) also urge the Police and other security agencies to step up strict surveillance in Ikorodu and all schools in the State to avoid similar occurrence or any breach of security in the future (*Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Insert a new Prayer (*iv*) as follows:
"Mandate the House to send a 10-man delegation to the school, the parents, and Lagos State Police Command and report back to the House" (*Hon. Adekunle Akinlade — Egbado South/Ipokia Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Monday, February 29, 2016, heavily armed men scaled the school fence of Babington Macaulay Junior Seminary School (BMJS) in Ikorodu Federal Constituency and abducted three school girls around 8.00 p.m.;

Also noted that the school owned by Anglican Communion, Lagos Diocese is located at Agunfoye-Lugbusi town, Ikorodu;

Alarmed that more than 24 hours after the sad incidence, the Nigeria Police Force and other concerned agencies of government have not been able to reunite the abducted girls with their parents;

Worried that incidence of insecurity in Ikorodu Federal Constituency is becoming worrisome as the security agencies of government are finding it difficult to protect lives and properties in Ikorodu Federal Constituency;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Condemn in its entirety the callous and grossly inhuman action of the abductors under whatever guise as it is against the tenet of seeking qualitative education for the girl-child;

(*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police and the Nigeria Police Force to intensify efforts to ensure the prompt and safe release of the abducted girls and the apprehension of the perpetrators;

(*iii*) also urge the Police and other security agencies to step up strict surveillance in Ikorodu and all schools in the State to avoid similar occurrence or any breach of security in the future; and

(*iv*) mandate the House to send a 10-man delegation to the school, the parents, and Lagos State Police Command and report back to the House (**HR. 71/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Basic Education Services, Police Affairs, and National Intelligence and Public Safety.

Mr Speaker ordered that the 3 *Committees should liaise and agree on the membership of the* 10-*man delegation to Lagos State.*

(*ii*) ***Demise of a former Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Chief Sunday Adedayo Adewusi:*** Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun Dokun (*Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere 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 Negatived.

7. Matter Requiring the attention of the House — Passage of a former Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Chief Sunday Adedayo Adewusi:

By leave of the House, Hon. Odebunmi Olusegun Dokun (*Ogo Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to the passage of a former Inspector-General of Police, Chief Sunday Adedayo Adewusi on Friday 26 January, 2016, at the age of 79 years. He urged the House to observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased and commiserate with his family, the Nigeria Police, the people of Ogbomoso, and the government of Oyo State.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

8. Presentation and First Reading of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time* by the Clerk:

(1) Insurance Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 402).

(2) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2016 (HB. 403).

(3) FCT Resettlement, Compensation and Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2016 (HB. 404).

(4) National Postgraduate College of Medical Laboratory Science Bill, 2016 (HB. 405).

(5) Communications (Reducing Incidence of Unsolicited Phone Calls and Texts) Bill, 2016 (HB. 406).

(6) Central Bank of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 407).

(7) Private Person Criminal Prosecution (Authorization) Bill, 2016 (HB. 408).

(8) Complementary and Alternative Medicine (Establishment and Development) Commission Bill, 2016 (HB. 409).

(9) Money Laundry (Prohibition) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 410).

9. Calling Attention to the Deplorable State of Ekpoma - Ukpenu - Emuhi - Igor - Ugianmen - Ugbiyiokho - Uhi- Ehor Road

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Ekpoma-Ukpenu-Emuhi - Igor road linking Ugianmen - Ugbiyiokho- Uhi-Ehor in Edo State is a Federal road which has been in a deplorable condition for many years now, especially during harvest time and rainy season;

Also notes the importance of the road to the economy of the affected communities, as it is the route through which farmers transport their agricultural produce, especially perishable fruits and vegetables in season, to the markets;.

Concerned that the state of the road is causing untold hardships and bringing about high costs in commuting for residents;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to include money for the reconstruction of the road in the 2016 Appropriation Bill (*Hon. Joseph Edionwele — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency and one other*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 72/2016).

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

10. Urgent Need to Check the Spate of Bombings by Controlling Access to Explosives

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. Need to Check the Incidence of Drug Abuse among the Youth

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. Need to Address the Excruciating Hunger, Hardships and Depreciating Welfare of the Masses of Nigerian People

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the excruciating hunger, hardships and the sharply nose-diving purchasing power of the average Nigerian in the recent time;

Also notes that since 2015, oil prices have been falling and are now at an all-time low and are predicted to even fall below the current rate, thereby impacting negatively on the Naira which is now exchanging for ₦310 to S1 in the parallel foreign exchange market;

Aware of the pressures on the Government by various economic analysts to further devalue the Naira since the Central Bank of Nigeria cannot continue to protect the currency in the face of the nation's depleting foreign reserves;

Also aware of advantages of devaluation which include increase in volume of export and reduction of balance of trade deficit, but these advantages usually accrue more to export driven nations rather than import based ones, such as Nigeria, which trade imports currently stand at a whopping S43 billion;

Acknowledges the deleterious effects of corruption and looting of public funds that have contributed in no small measure to the impoverishment of the Nation, but believes that the Government needs to be more multi-tasking in its approach to governance and developmental issues by continuing some of the economic recovery policies of the last administration, such as the National Automobile Policy, which culminated into an Agreement that was signed with foreign investors to assemble/manufacture cars in Nigeria;

Cognizant that the desired change in the national economy cannot be achieved overnight, therefore, all hands must be on deck to ensure that the nation's economy is put back on the path of recovery;

Observes that the catalyst for economic recovery remains reduction of imports, development of small and medium scale enterprises and diversification from an oil based to an agriculture based economy, hence the requirement for the Nigerian Customs Service to be more proactive in the enforcement of the import prohibition list in order to reduce balance of payment deficit, in this regard, developmental policies like financing the small and medium scale enterprises should be prioritized by the Central Bank of Nigeria while the agricultural sector must be accorded its well-deserved attention;

Also acknowledges that establishment of strong Commodities and Exchange Agency will increase earnings from agriculture, reduce volatility in prices, ensure standardized and quality output and boost exports from Agriculture;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to strictly enforce the statutory requirement of 10 percent of Banks' profits to be channeled into financing and lending to the manufacturing sector;

(*ii*) also urge for cooperation between the National Assembly and the Executive Arm of Government in reducing the cost of governance with effect from the 2016 Appropriation Bill;

(*iii*) call for the establishment of a Commodities and Exchange Commission and Farm Produce Boards in order to provide a veritable platform for marketing agricultural products, reduce price volatility and boost exports of agricultural products;

(*iv*) further urge the National Orientation Agency to commence campaign on the need for Nigerians to embrace locally made products and eschew patronage of foreign goods; and

(*v*) implore State Governments to enter into strategic alliances that will boost agricultural development of their States (*Hon. Karimi S. Sunday — Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned.

13. Need to Prohibit the use of Public Funds for Medical Trips Abroad by Public Officers

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. Call on the Federal Ministry of Finance to Pay Allowances of Interns/Trainees Engaged under the scrapped Subsidy Re-Investment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P)
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that the Federal Government, in a bid to reduce the rate of unemployment, caused the now scrapped Subsidy Re-investment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P), which was set up in October 2012 as a social safety net, to employ many unemployed Nigerians;

Also recalls that the Federal Ministry of Finance absorbed about seven thousand (7,000), out of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand (170,000) registered Nigerian graduates under the Graduate Internship Scheme (GIS) with the aim of paying the interns/trainees thirty thousand Naira (₦30,000) only, monthly for a period of one year from the time of commencement of the programme by each of them;

Realizes that the monthly payments to many interns matched to organizations and firms have not been made, despite interns' performance reports generated and submitted to the Federal Ministry of Finance on its request, on monthly basis;

Aware that the Federal Ministry of Finance matched the interns/trainees with firms and organizations according to the interns/trainees' propensity to fit into the organization, be able to add value and take out practical experiences if not retained at the end of the programme, as a means of reducing poverty in Nigeria;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Ministry of Finance to release the outstanding monthly allowances of all the interns/trainees engaged by the now scrapped SURE-P; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Finance, and Appropriations to ensure implementation and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chime Oji Agu — Enugu North/Enugu South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that the Federal Government, in a bid to reduce the rate of unemployment, caused the now scrapped Subsidy Re-investment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P), which was set up in October 2012 as a social safety net, to employ many unemployed Nigerians;

Also recalled that the Federal Ministry of Finance absorbed about seven thousand (7,000), out of One Hundred and Seventy Thousand (170,000) registered Nigerian graduates under the Graduate Internship Scheme (GIS) with the aim of paying the interns/trainees thirty thousand Naira (₦30,000) only, monthly for a period of one year from the time of commencement of the programme by each of them;

Realized that the monthly payments to many interns matched to organizations and firms have not been made, despite interns' performance reports generated and submitted to the Federal Ministry of Finance on its request, on monthly basis;

Aware that the Federal Ministry of Finance matched the interns/trainees with firms and organizations according to the interns/trainees' propensity to fit into the organization, be able to add value and take out practical experiences if not retained at the end of the programme, as a means of reducing poverty in Nigeria;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Call on the Federal Ministry of Finance to release the outstanding monthly allowances of all the interns/trainees engaged by the now scrapped SURE-P; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Finance, and Appropriations to ensure implementation and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 73/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Finance, and Appropriations.

15. Need for Comprehensive Audit of all Sources of Revenue in Nigeria
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria has been portrayed as essentially a mono commodity economy whose source of revenue is crude oil despite the country being blessed with sundry natural resources capable of boosting its revenue baseline, thereby enhancing its economic fortunes and reducing the rate of poverty which has perennially plagued it;

Concerned that little regard had been paid to other veritable sources of revenue, thus diverting the attention of the appropriate institutions and agencies of government from focusing on these other sources;

Also concerned that current trend in global economies suggest a downward slide in the price of crude oil, thus necessitating the urgent need to look inwards with a view to exploring other viable means of revenue generation to enable government meet its huge financial obligations;

Convinced that if an effective audit of the various sources of revenue generation is done, it would assist the Federal Government to explore and exploit those other sources and also enable the National Assembly to track those sources for the purpose of making appropriate budgetary decisions;

Resolves to:

Urge the Executive arm of Government to undertake an inventory of all the sources of revenue generation for the country; their current potentials and physical state, and submit a report to the National Assembly within 90 days for further legislative action (*Hon. Sergius Ose Ogun — Esan North East/Esan South East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Nigeria has been portrayed as essentially a mono commodity economy whose source of revenue is crude oil despite the country being blessed with sundry natural resources capable of boosting its revenue baseline, thereby enhancing its economic fortunes and reducing the rate of poverty which has perennially plagued it;

Concerned that little regard had been paid to other veritable sources of revenue, thus diverting the attention of the appropriate institutions and agencies of government from focusing on these other sources;

Also concerned that current trend in global economies suggest a downward slide in the price of crude oil, thus necessitating the urgent need to look inwards with a view to exploring other viable means of revenue generation to enable government meet its huge financial obligations;

Convinced that if an effective audit of the various sources of revenue generation is done, it would assist the Federal Government to explore and exploit those other sources and also enable the National Assembly to track those sources for the purpose of making appropriate budgetary decisions;

Resolved to:

Urge the Executive arm of Government to undertake an inventory of all the sources of revenue generation for the country; their current potentials and physical state, and submit a report to the National Assembly within 90 days for further legislative action (**HR. 74/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

16. Need for the Ibadan Dry Port to commence Operation to Save it from going Moribund

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that in 2006, the Federal Government approved the setting up of five Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and three Container Freight Stations (CFS) and while the ICDs were located in Oyo, Abia, Plateau, Bauchi and Kano States, the three Container Freight Stations were sited in Katsina, Borno and Gombe States;

Also notes that the Oyo State Government, with 35% stake in Catamaran Logistics Limited, the concessionaires of the Ibadan Dry Port, had earlier sought and obtained approval for re-designation of the ICD status in Ibadan to Inland Dry Port (IDP);

Aware that the IDP as against ICD, has the status of Port of origin and destination, so that it can serve consigned cargos;

Also aware that commencement of operation by Ibadan Dry Port would boost the revenues of the surrounding States, attract investors, improve economic activities of the people and create employment for the youth;

Worried that despite the heavy financial investments in the project since 2006 and completion of all necessary infrastructure since 2014 for its takeoff, the project is still not operational;

Also worried that the infrastructure in place, like roads, office buildings and equipment are either deteriorating or liable to vandalisation, if the project is allowed to remain idle;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Ports, Harbours and Waterways and Industry to liaise with officials of the Ministries of Commerce and Industry with a view to determining the current status of the project and facilitate its commencement of operation, and report to the House within four weeks; and

(*ii*) urge the Inspector General of Police to, in the interim, provide adequate security for the buildings and other infrastructure in the Ibadan Dry Port, Erunmu, Egbeda Local Government Area of Oyo State to prevent their vandalisation pending its inauguration (*Hon. Akintola Taiwo Michael — Egbeda/Ona-Ara Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 75/2016).

Motion referred to the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

17. Call for Commendation of the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters for their Assistance to the Military in Engaging the Boko Haram Sect and to urge the Federal Government to Transform them into a Paramilitary Force

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters comprise indigenes and residents of the areas that were subjected to attacks by the Boko Haram Sect in the North East of the country;

Aware that they decided to come together to assist the Military in the battle against the Boko Haram sect since, being indigenes, they have a good knowledge of the terrain and therefore were able to put this to the advantage of the military in the course of the fighting;

Also aware that in assisting the military, they put their lives on the line and indeed many were killed by the insurgents, therefore, it is believed that this conscious decision marked them as patriots and defenders of their people; as they put common interests above their own personal interests;

Recognizing that it could have been difficult for the Military to contain the Boko Haram Insurgents without assistance from the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters, it is therefore apt to recognize the efforts put into the fight by them;

Also recognizing that the military cannot be stationed permanently in all the nooks and crannies of the North East zone after the defeat of the Boko Haram insurgents, as they are specifically trained to defend the nation from external attacks, it is therefore apposite that the Civilian Joint Task Force and the local hunters be transformed into a paramilitary force to confront insurgency and terrorism, if they reoccur, just like the Civil Defence Corp was packaged into a paramilitary force to protect oil pipelines;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Commend the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters for their roles in the fight against the Boko Haram Sect;

(*ii*) urge the Federal and State Governments to provide them with logistics such as security vests, motorcycles, vehicles, funds and other items needed for their operations;

(*iii*) also urge the Federal Government to consider transforming the Civilian Joint Task Force and local hunters into a paramilitary force specially trained in counter insurgency and terrorism, to take care of a post Boko Haram era in the North East zone; and

(*iv*) observe a minute silence in memory of the fallen Civilian Joint Task Force members and Local Hunters in the battle against the Boko Haram Sect in the North East zone (*Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub —Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

(*i*) *Leave out* Prayer (*iii*) and *insert* the a new prayer (*iii*) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to consider to transform the Civilian Joint Task Force and other Vigilantees groups across the country into a paramilitary force such as the Civil Defence Corps" (*Hon. Musa Sarkin Adar — Gada/Goronyo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

(*ii*) *Insert* a new Prayer (*v*) as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to pay compensation and take care of the children of all those that lost their lives during the insurgency" (*Hon. Aishatu J. Dukku — Dukku/Nafada Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(*iii*) *Leave* out Prayer (*iii*) (*Hon. Orkev-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters comprise indigenes and residents of the areas that were subjected to attacks by the Boko Haram Sect in the North East of the Country;

Aware that they decided to come together to assist the Military in the battle against the Boko Haram sect since, being indigenes, they have a good knowledge of the terrain and therefore were able to put this to the advantage of the military in the course of the fighting;

Also aware that in assisting the military, they put their lives on the line and indeed many were killed by the insurgents, therefore, it is believed that this conscious decision marked them as patriots and defenders of their people; as they put common interests above their own personal interests;

Recognized that it could have been difficult for the Military to contain the Boko Haram Insurgents without assistance from the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters, it is therefore apt to recognize the efforts put into the fight by them;

Also recognized that the military cannot be stationed permanently in all the nooks and crannies of the North East zone after the defeat of the Boko Haram insurgents, as they are specifically trained to defend the nation from external attacks, it is therefore apposite that the Civilian Joint Task Force and the local hunters be transformed into a paramilitary force to confront insurgency and terrorism, if they reoccur, just like the Civil Defence Corp was packaged into a paramilitary force to protect oil pipelines;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Commend the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters for their roles in the fight against the Boko Haram Sect;

(*ii*) urge the Federal and State Governments to provide them with logistics such as security vests, motorcycles, vehicles, funds and other items needed for their operations;

(*iii*) observe a minute silence in memory of the fallen Civilian Joint Task Force members and Local Hunters in the battle against the Boko Haram Sect in the North East zone; and

(*iv*) also urge the Federal Government to pay compensation and take care of the children of all those that lost their lives during the insurgency (**HR. 76/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

A minute silence observed in memory of the fallen members of the Civilian Joint Task Force and Local Hunters in the battle against the Boko Haram Sect in the North East zone.

18. Calling Attention to the High Cost of Rent in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware of the universally acknowledged fact that shelter is a basic human necessity and a pre-requisite for survival, in addition to food and water, and it is the responsibility of every government to provide shelter for its citizens;

Notes with concern the outrageous rent regime on residential and commercial buildings in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and its negative effects on the social and economic lives of residents of the city;

Also notes that at a time when many Nigerians do not have access to anything close to a decent accommodation, the number of completed, but unoccupied structures litter the nation's capital in the prime areas of Maitama, Asokoro, Wuse and Garki, thereby forcing many people to live in the outskirts of the city;

Also aware that from statistics, the housing deficit in Nigeria is about 17 million, with the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja accounting for 10% of this deficit;

Recalls that in the past, the Government took the lead in constructing residential houses for the citizenry but worried about the Federal Government's current policy thrust that recognizes only the private sector as the main solution to the housing deficit in the country, thereby giving room for indiscriminate charges being placed on rent by private developers;

Concerned that if this abnormal situation is not addressed, the middle and low income earners residing in the Federal Capital Territory will continue to suffer;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to put in place a policy that would regulate house rents and impose taxes/rates on unoccupied houses that have remained so for a specified period of time; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Housing to review all existing Housing Policies with a view to evolving a legislative framework for a comprehensive and integrated housing Policy (*Hon. Segun Alexander Adekola —Ekiti Southwest/Ikere/Ise/Orun Federal Constituency*).

Order deferred by leave of the House; the Committee on Rules and Business was mandated to verify whether the House had taken action on a similar motion within the current Session.

19. Consideration of Reports

(*i*) **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Public Management of Nigeria to Provide for the Control of its Membership and to promote the Practice of Public Management in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 78).**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by Nwachukwu Loretta Chinwe and 4 Others:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Nwachukwu Loretta Chinwe and four (4) others against the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) and approve the recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)
(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation*:**
"Urge the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) to re-instate the Officers, Nwachukwu Lorretta Chinwe, Omali Pauline Peter, Ewoh Obiefuna Nkechi A., Osagie Blessing Otaigboria and Oyekanmi Isaac Ayodele and pay each of those officers their entitlements from the date of their disengagement to date" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Nwachukwu Loretta Chinwe and four (4) others against the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) and approved the only Recommendation of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(*iii*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by Moses Ebi and Seventy-Eight Others:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Moses Ebi and Seventy-Eight (78) Others on their alleged wrongful disengagement from the service of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) through the Subsidy Re-Investment Programme (Sure-P) and approve the recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)
(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation*:**
"Urge the House to discountenance the petition for lack of merit" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Moses Ebi and Seventy-Eight (78) Others on their alleged wrongful disengagement from the service of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) through the Subsidy Re-Investment Programme (Sure-P) and approved the only Recommendation of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(*iv*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by L/CPLC OlayiolaLatilo:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by L/CPLC Olayiola Latilo against the Nigerian Army on denial of his benefits and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)
(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation* (*i*):**
"Urge the Nigerian Army to accelerate action on the verification and reconciliation efforts on the matter, with a view to expeditiously settling the claims of the Petitioner" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*ii*):**
"Report back to the House via the Committee on Public Petitions, the final resolution and the packages thereof for the Petitioner" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by L/CPLC Olayiola Latilo against the Nigerian Army on denial of his benefits and approved Recommendations (*i*) and (*ii*) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

(*v*) ***Committee on Public Petitions*:**
Report on the Petition by Kaine & Co. for Mrs Mary Yusuf:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Kaine & Co. on behalf of Mrs Mary Yusuf on the non-payment of death benefits and other entitlements of her late husband, former Chief of Army Staff, Lt-Gen. L. N. Yusuf and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)
(*Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair*)

***Recommendation* (*i*):**
"Urge the Nigerian Army to treat the matter with the urgency it requires with a view to assuaging frayed nerves and ameliorating the discomfort and pains being suffered by the bereaved" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*ii*):**
"Report back to the House via the Committee on Public Petitions the final resolution and the packages thereof for the family of late Lt-Gen. L. N. Yusuf" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Kaine & Co. on behalf of Mrs Mary Yusuf on the non-payment of death benefits and other entitlements of her late husband, former Chief of Army Staff, Lt-Gen. L. N. Yusuf and approved Recommendations (*i*) and (*ii*) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

20. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 3 March, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Herman Hembe — Konshisha/Vandekiya Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.08 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker