FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
No. 65

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 24 February, 2016

1. The House met at 11.06 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, 23 February, 2016.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.

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

(*a*) Staff and Students of Bethel International School, Karu, Abuja;

(*b*) Members of National Association of Ogun State Students (NAOSS), University of Abuja Chapter;

(*c*) Members of National Association of Political Science Students (NAPSS), University of Abuja Chapter; and

(*d*) Staff and Students of Primecare Foundation School, Kubwa, Abuja.

(*ii*) ***Bereavement*:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Muhammed Ali Wudil (*Wudil/Garko Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of Hon. Surajo Muhammed Wudil, a former Member (*Wudil/Garko Federal Constituency,* 1999 - 2003), which occurred on Saturday, 20 February, 2016.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

4. **Petitions**
(*i*) A petition from Oyewole Ogundipe on the error in the computation of his monthly pension since 2011 by the Pension Office Abuja, was presented and laid by Hon. Adedapo Lam-Adesina (*Ibadan South East/Ibadan North East Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) A petition from Hagler S. O. & Co., on behalf of Chindu Temple on his dismissal from service by the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Prestige Ossy (*Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency*).

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Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(*i*) ***Urgent Need for the Sensitization, Awareness Campaign and Preventive Measures of the Zika Virus Outbreak from Entering Nigeria*:**

Hon. Emeka Anohu (*Ihiala 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 for the Sensitization, Awareness Campaign and Preventive Measures of the Zika Virus Outbreak from Entering Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that Zika virus which is transmitted by a daytime-active Aedes mosquitoes was first isolated in 1947 and was named after the Zika forest of Uganda where the first case was recorded;

Also notes that since the 1950s, it has been known to occur within a narrow equatorial belt from Africa to Asia. The virus spread eastwards across the Pacific Ocean between 2013 and 2014 to New Caledonia, the Cook Island, the Easter Island, and in 2015 to Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and many countries in South America where the Zika Virus outbreak has reached pandemic levels;

Aware that the outbreak of the Zika Virus has also given the global community serious concern which has compelled the World Health Organization (WHO) to declare a global health emergency on this regards, especially in this case where pregnant women are most vulnerable;

Worried that the poor state of the primary health care facilities in Nigeria which is already struggling to contain the recent outbreak of Lassa Fever will be stretched further with the added threat of this totally unfamiliar Zika Virus which cannot be prevented by drugs or vaccines;

Recognize that it is imperative for those responsible for the immigration of people into Nigeria, to undertake and initiate proactive measures to vet passengers coming into the country especially those coming in from countries where this deadly virus is already present, in order to protect the health, safety and security of Nigerians;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Information to commence a massive sensitization campaign through the media houses, as this will enable Nigerians get educated on the dangers posed by this deadly virus Zika

(*ii*) also urge the Ministry of Interior to make adequate provision for our immigration personnel at all entry points into the country with equipment and instant test kits to enable them prevent the incursion of this virus into our shores; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with the Federal Ministry of Health to start vigorous research on Zika virus with a final view of finding the cure of same and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Emeka Anohu — Ihiala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Zika virus which is transmitted by a daytime-active Aedes mosquitoes was first isolated in 1947 and was named after the Zika forest of Uganda where the first case was recorded;

Also noted that since the 1950s, it has been known to occur within a narrow equatorial belt from Africa to Asia. The virus spread eastwards across the Pacific Ocean between 2013 and 2014 to New Caledonia, the Cook Island, the Easter Island, and in 2015 to Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and many countries in South America where the Zika Virus outbreak has reached pandemic levels;

Aware that the outbreak of the Zika Virus has also given the global community serious concern which has compelled the World Health Organization (WHO) to declare a global health emergency on this regards, especially in this case where pregnant women are most vulnerable;

Worried that the poor state of the primary health care facilities in Nigeria which is already struggling to contain the recent outbreak of Lassa Fever will be stretched further with the added threat of this totally unfamiliar Zika Virus which cannot be prevented by drugs or vaccines;

Recognized that it is imperative for those responsible for the immigration of people into Nigeria, to undertake and initiate proactive measures to vet passengers coming into the country especially those coming in from countries where this deadly virus is already present, in order to protect the health, safety and security of Nigerians;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Information to commence a massive sensitization campaign through the media houses, as this will enable Nigerians get educated on the dangers posed by this deadly virus Zika

(*ii*) also urge the Ministry of Interior to make adequate provision for our immigration personnel at all entry points into the country with equipment and instant test kits to enable them prevent the incursion of this virus into our shores; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with the Federal Ministry of Health to start vigorous research on Zika virus with a final view of finding the cure of same and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 47/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

(*ii*) ***Boat Wreck that lead to the Death of many People along River Hadejia in Darai, Doro, Gunka and Kargo in Jahun Local Government Area of Jigawa State*:**
Hon. Saidu Yusuf Miga (*Jahu/Miga 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.*

Boat Wreck that Lead to the Death of Many People along River Hadejia in Darai, Doro, Gunka and Kargo in Jahun Local Government Area of Jigawa State:

The House:

Notes that the people of Darai, Doro, Gunka and Kargo in Jahun Local Government, have lost many people as a result of the boat wreck;

Informed that majority of the people are peasant farmers, and before they move their farm products to the markets they must cross the river, which has now become very risky and dangerous;

Recalls that the boat wreck resulted in the untimely death of 25-30 people, mostly of age bracket 20 - 35, comprising of both males and females;

Concerned that the areas involved in the boat wreck falls under Jahun Local Government, which is one of the two Local Government areas I am representing, further concerned that the problem is beyond the area I am representing alone, as many other communities located along the river from other places make use of it. For Example:

(1) Darai in Jahun Local Government to Gilima (n Taura Local Government;

(2) Gunka in Jahun Local Government to Daurawa in Taura Local Government;

(3) Gidan Sani to Van Dutse in Ringim Local Government;

(4) Tsungur to Ganjin Gebi in Ringim Local Government; and

(5) even Zarawa in Ajingi Local Government Area of Kano State to Dabi in Ringim Local Government Area of Jigawa State to mention but few;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works and other relevant Committees to look into the matter and report same to House;

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to construct standard bridge on the Hadejia River for smooth movement of the people in the area;

(*iii*) also urge NEMA to immediately provide standard boats for the people of the area prior to the construction of the bridge;

(*iv*) urge the House to set up a Committee to pay a condolence visit to the area, where a lot of people (numbering about 25 - 30) lost their lives; and

(*v*) invite the House for one minute silence for the deceased (*Hon. Saidu Yusuf Miga – Jahun/Miga Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the people of Darai, Doro, Gunka and Kargo in Jahun Local Government, have lost many people as a result of the boat wreck;

Informed that majority of the people are peasant farmers, and before they move their farm products to the markets they must cross the river, which has now become very risky and dangerous;

Recalled that the boat wreck resulted in the untimely death of 25-30 people, mostly of age bracket 20 - 35, comprising of both males and females;

Concerned that the areas involved in the boat wreck falls under Jahun Local Government, which is one of the two Local Government areas I am representing, further concerned that the problem is beyond the area I am representing alone, as many other communities located along the river from other places make use of it. For Example:

(1) Darai in Jahun Local Government to Gilima (n Taura Local Government;

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(4) Tsungur to Ganjin Gebi in Ringim Local Government; and

(5) even Zarawa in Ajingi Local Government Area of Kano State to Dabi in Ringim Local Government Area of Jigawa State to mention but few;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Works and other relevant Committees to look into the matter and report same to House;

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to construct standard bridge on the Hadejia River for smooth movement of the people in the area;

(*iii*) also urge NEMA to immediately provide standard boats for the people of the area prior to the construction of the bridge;

(*iv*) urge the House to set up a Committee to pay a condolence visit to the area, where a lot of people (numbering about 25 - 30) lost their lives; and

(*v*) invite the House for one minute silence for the deceased (**HR. 48/2016**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

Motion referred to the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness.

6. Presentation and First Reading of Bills

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

(1) Nigeria LNG (Fiscal Incentives, Guarantees and Assurances Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 397).

(2) Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 398).

(3) Defence Industry Corporation of Nigeria (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 399).

(4) Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones (Repeal and Re-Enactment)Bill, 2016 (HB. 400).

(5) Chartered Institute for Training and Development of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2016 (HB. 401).

(6) The Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (HB. 149).

7. Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly (Order XII, Rule 94) —

(*a*) *Anti-Torture Bill*, 2015 (HB. 120);

(*b*) *Senior Citizens Centre Bill*, 2015 (HB. 121):

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House

Notes that pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence were made or negatived, or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence were made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the aforementioned Bills were passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

Aware that the Bills have been re-gazetted as HB. 120 and HB. 121 respectively, and read the first time;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bills to the Committee of Whole for consideration (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Bills referred to the Committee of Whole, pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94.

8. Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly (Order XII, Rule 94) *Independent National Assembly Budget and Research Office Bill*, 2016 (HB. 377):
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence were made or negatived, or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence were made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the aforementioned Bill was passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

Aware that the Bill has been re-gazetted as HB. 377 and read the first time;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of Whole for consideration (*Hon. Timothy Golu — Paskshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency and Others*).

Question agreed to.

Bill referred to the Committee of Whole, pursuant to Order XII, Rule 94.

9. Non-Compliance with the Resolution of the House by the Public Complaints Commission:
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that on Thursday, 24 October, 2013, a petition by one Finidi Jahbless against Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) regarding contracts NGO 1001316 (A28) and NGO 1003128 (A29) was presented to the House by Hon. Warman Ogoriba and 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 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, by a letter of 29 September, 2014, conveyed the resolution of the House to the Public Complaints Commission;

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

Concerned that the Commission, either by omission or commission, failed or neglected to implement the resolution of the House;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to request 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 30 days of this resolution (*Hon. Agbedi Yeitiemone Frederick — Sagbama/Ekeremor Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Aware that on Thursday, 24 October, 2013, a petition by one Finidi Jahbless against Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) regarding contracts NGO 1001316 (A28) and NGO 1003128 (A29) was presented to the House by Hon. Warman Ogoriba and 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 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, by a letter of 29 September, 2014, conveyed the resolution of the House to the Public Complaints Commission;

Equally aware that section 5 (1) of the Public Complaints Commission Act, Cap. P37, LFN 2004 makes all Public Complaints Commissioners responsible to the National Assembly;

Concerned that the Commission, either by omission or commission, failed or neglected to implement the resolution of the House;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to request 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 30 days of this resolution (**HR. 49/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Legislative Compliance.

9. **Urgent Need to Complete the Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of Oba-Nnewi-Okigwe Road:** *Motion made and Question proposed*:

The House:

Notes that the 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, the Federal Ministry of Works, in 2007, awarded contracts for the reconstruction of the road in two sections to two firms - Section 1 to CCC Nig. Ltd and Section II to Bulletine Construction 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 such that 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 implementation (*Hon. Chukwukere Austine — Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency and 3 Others*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 50/2016).

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

11. Urgent Need for Completion of Kagara Dam in Niger State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Kagara Dam, which covers approximately 1000 hectares, was conceived by the Government of Niger State and awarded to WRECA in 1982 with the aim of providing 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 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 stood at 68%, before the contractor stopped work in 2006;

Also aware that the current administration is planning to diversify the economy from oil to agriculture, thus the need to avail the opportunity for irrigation that would encourage farming, thereby leading to export of Nigeria'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 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 (*Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 51/2016).

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

12. **Devastating Erosion in Mikang, Quaan-Pan and Shendam Federal Constituency of Plateau State**

Motion made and Question proposed:

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 which left a trail of destruction of houses, farmlands, bridges, roads and displacement of people;

Also recalls that a high powered 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 the Shendam bye pass, Nbet- Piapung Bridge; and Doemak-Bwall box culvert were not addressed, thus making it difficult for residents of those areas to link up with other parts of the country;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge 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 work out modalities to ensure rehabilitation of the affected communities and report back to the House within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Johnbull T. Shekarau — Shendam/Mikang/Qua'an/Pan Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 52/2016).

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

13. Need to Investigate the $260 Million Contract Awarded by the National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS)

Motion made and Question proposed:

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 Deep water Project for the sum of $260 million without a tendering process;

Also notes that NAPIMS had through three memoranda dated October 13, 2014, February 10, 2015 and April 16, 2015, nominated four companies 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 (*Hon. Babatunde Gabriel Kolawole — Akoko South West/Akoko South East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the word "(Upstream)", *insert* the words "and Public Procurement" (*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 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 Deep water Project for the sum of $260 million without a tendering process;

Also noted that NAPIMS had through three memoranda dated October 13, 2014, February 10, 2015 and April 16, 2015, nominated four companies 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);

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Public Procurement to investigate the $260 million contract awarded by NAPIMS and report back to the House within 4 Weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 53/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Public Procurement.

14. Need to Ensure Integrity in the Issuance of Driver's License to Reduce Accidents on the Highways

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Federal Road Safety Commission and the Vehicle Inspection Office, which are the two agencies involved in the issuance of driver's license do not seem to follow the laid down rules and due process in the issuance of driver's license, thereby compromising the integrity of the Nigerian Driver's 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 driver's license;

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

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

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission to investigate the lack of integrity in the issuance of driver's license and the measures being put in place to reverse the trend, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Philip Shaibu — Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Road Safety Commission and the Vehicle Inspection Office, which are the two agencies involved in the issuance of driver's license do not seem to follow the laid down rules and due process in the issuance of driver's license, thereby compromising the integrity of the Nigerian Driver's 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 driver's license;

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

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

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission to investigate the lack of integrity in the issuance of driver's license and the measures being put in place to reverse the trend, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 54/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission.

15. Urgent Need to Address the Problems of Cross Border Communal Clashes in Itongeji Island, Ogun State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that on Friday, November 20, 2015, residents of a small fishing village in Itongeji Island of Ogun State woke up to the sounds of gunshots from rival fishermen from Otho village in Republic of Benin over fishing and waterways rights;

Also notes that as a deliberate and strategic show of Government's presence in an area, Otho village is home to a Police station, Immigration, Customs and Military formations, while on the Nigerian side, there is no single Security Agency;

Acknowledges that due to the developments, the Government of Ogun State set up a Committee to determine the immediate and remote causes of the clashes, and it found out that there have been series of requests to the Federal Government to provide a long term strategic plan for the island

Aware of huge deposits of oil and gas in commercial quantities at Itongeji island basin;

Concerned that given the economic resources and potentials of the island, it is important for the Government to establish physical presence to secure the island and end the regular communal unrests and foreign encroachment on the island

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Special Duties, and Navy to undertake an oversight visit to Itongeji Island with a view to 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 (*Hon. Adekunle Abdulkabir Akinlade — Egbado South/Ipokia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on Friday, November 20, 2015, residents of a small fishing village in Itongeji Island of Ogun State woke up to the sounds of gunshots from rival fishermen from Otho village in Republic of Benin over fishing and waterways rights;

Also noted that as a deliberate and strategic show of Government's presence in an area, Otho village is home to a Police station, Immigration, Customs and Military formations, while on the Nigerian side, there is no single Security Agency;

Acknowledged that due to the developments, the Government of Ogun State set up a Committee to determine the immediate and remote causes of the clashes, and it found out that there have been series of requests to the Federal Government to provide a long term strategic plan for the island

Aware of huge deposits of oil and gas in commercial quantities at Itongeji island basin;

Concerned that given the economic resources and potentials of the island, it is important for the Government to establish physical presence to secure the island and end the regular communal unrests and foreign encroachment on the island

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Special Duties, and Navy to undertake an oversight visit to Itongeji Island with a view to 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 (**HR. 55/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Special Duties, and Navy.

16. Call for Lifting of Embargo on Foreign Training and International Travels by Public Servants
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the directive 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 from January 2014; opting rather for such training to be held in the country;

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 nations 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 boost 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 Public Service Matters, Special Duties, 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 is lifted (*Hon. Nasiru Sule Garo — Gwarzo/Ikabo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out the Prayer and *insert* the following instead thereof:
"Mandate the Committees on Public Service Matters, Special Duties, and Finance to collaborate with relevant government agencies to find out why the embargo was placed and report back to the House within two weeks" (*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 the directive 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 from January 2014; opting rather for such training to be held in the country;

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 nations 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 boost 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;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Public Service Matters, Special Duties, and Finance to collaborate with relevant government agencies to find out why the embargo was placed and report back to the House within two weeks (**HR. 56/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Public Service Matters, Special Duties, and Finance.

17. **Collapse of the Education Sector in Bama, Ngala, Kala, Balge, Federal Constituency of Borno State and the Entire North East Zone**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Bama, Ngala, Kala, Balde Federal Constituency which was the gateway to international trade during the Trans Saharan Trade has 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, have been kidnaped 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 poses 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 revive the education sector in Bama, Ngala, Kala Balge, Federal constituency of Borno State and the Northeast zone in general; and

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to move children from vulnerable areas to more secured locations and establish schools in the internally displaced persons' camps (*Hon. Mohammed Nur Sheriff — Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out Prayers (*i*) and (*ii*) and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to adopt emergency measures to provide educational services in "SAFE HAVENS", pending the complete liberation of these villages and towns in the area from Boko Haram terrorists" (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Abdu — Alkaleri/Kurfi Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Bama, Ngala, Kala, Balde Federal Constituency which was the gateway to international trade during the Trans Saharan Trade has 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, have been kidnaped 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 poses 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;

Resolved to:

Urge the Federal Government to adopt emergency measures to provide educational services in "SAFE HAVENS", pending the complete liberation of these villages and towns in the area from Boko Haram terrorists (**HR. 58/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Basic Education and Service, and Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees and Initiatives on the North-East Zone (IDPs).

18. Adjournment:

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 25 February, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Jubril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.45 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

CORRIGENDA

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 23 February, 2016, pages 895 - 896:

(*i*) Under the sub-headings: "Clause 1", "Clause 2", "Clause 3", and "Long Title", *leave out* the words "Hon. Emmanuel Yisa Oker-Jev — Buruku Federal Constituency" and *insert* "Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader".

(*ii*) In Clause 2, *leave out* the words "Question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill".

(*iii*) In amendment to Clause 2, immediately after the words "Question Agreed to", *insert* the following words "Question that Clause 2 as amended stand part of the Bill — Agreed to".