FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 72

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 10 March, 2016

1. The House met at 11.15 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 Wednesday, 9 March, 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:

(*i*) Staff and Students of Empreal International Academy, Kuje, Abuja;

(*ii*) Staff and Students of Handmaids Girls Secondary School, Kuje, Abuja;

(*iii*) Staff and Students of Emmanuel Kiddies Academy, Gwagwalada, Abuja.

4. **Petitions**

(*i*) A Petition from Chukwuemeka Obijaku & Co. (Legal Practitioners & Consultants), on behalf of Ulunwa Chigozie Justice on the pollution caused by the activities of Walter Smith Oil Petroman Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Opiah Goodluck Nanah (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) A Petition from House of Justice on behalf of Hon. Danladi Angulu Kwasu on the murder of Cadet El-shadai Dzishindung Kwasu at the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), was presented and laid by Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung (*Jaba/Zangon Kataaf Federal Constituency*);

(*iii*) A Petition from Quadri Tairu on the injustice done to him by the Ikeja Electricity Distribution Company (IKEDC), was presented and laid by Hon. Tasir Olawole Raji (*Epe Federal Constituency*);

(*iv*) A Petition from O. L. Itiekhao & Co. (Solicitors and Advocates) on behalf of Monday Okosodo and six others on their unjust dismissal by the Edo State Police Command of the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Philip Shaibu (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*).

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46)
***Raising Awareness on Glaucoma and Calling for Urgent Screening to Prevent Irreversible Blindness*:**
Hon. Obinna Chidoka (*Idemili North/Idemili South 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.*

Raising Awareness on Glaucoma and Calling for Urgent Screening to Prevent Irreversible Blindness:

The House:

Aware that glaucoma, also known as "thief of sight" or "silent blinding disease" is a group of eye diseases that cause progressive damage of the optic nerve and that these diseases affects millions of people around the world, of all age groups, including infants, children, and the elderly, with people of the African descent at greater risk;

Also aware that the World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies glaucoma as the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the world with about 4.5 million people already blinded due to glaucoma, and that this number will rise to over 11.2 million by the year 2020;

Further aware that 90% of cases of glaucoma are preventable, while 50% of the affected persons in the developed world and a staggering 90% of patients in the developing world including Nigeria, are unaware they have the disease and receive no treatment;

Notes that the most common type of glaucoma, primary open-angle glaucoma, is hereditary, and that the immediate family members of glaucoma patients are at a much higher risk than the rest of the population;

Also notes that glaucoma is incurable and that early detection is essential to limiting visual impairment and preventing the progression towards severe visual handicap or blindness;

Further notes that awareness is crucial to early detection of glaucoma and that it is only through awareness that people could be informed and persuaded about the importance of regular screening, early diagnosis, and appropriate treatment of the disease;

Acknowledges that the World Glaucoma Week that would be observed from March 6 to 12, 2016 provides a platform to draw attention to the devastating effects of glaucoma, raise awareness and educate our people about the disease;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies as well as Federal Capital Territory and its Administrative Councils to come up with initiatives and use the World Glaucoma Week to raise awareness and educate Nigerians about the dangers of glaucoma and encourage regular screening, early diagnosis, and appropriate treatment of the disease to prevent severe visual impairment or blindness;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies as well as the Federal Capital Territory and its Administrative Councils to maintain a register of fresh diagnosis of glaucoma and come up with treatment initiatives to decrease the incidences of undiagnosed and untreated glaucoma; and

(*iii*) further urge Nigerians to undertake regular screening as early detection is essential to limiting visual impairment and preventing the progression towards severe visual handicap or blindness (*Hon. Obinna Chidoka — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Aware that glaucoma, also known as "thief of sight" or "silent blinding disease" is a group of eye diseases that cause progressive damage of the optic nerve and that these diseases affects millions of people around the world, of all age groups, including infants, children, and the elderly, with people of the African descent at greater risk;

Also aware that the World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies glaucoma as the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the world with about 4.5 million people already blinded due to glaucoma, and that this number will rise to over 11.2 million by the year 2020;

Further aware that 90% of cases of glaucoma are preventable, while 50% of the affected persons in the developed world and a staggering 90% of patients in the developing world including Nigeria, are unaware they have the disease and receive no treatment;

Noted that the most common type of glaucoma, primary open-angle glaucoma, is hereditary, and that the immediate family members of glaucoma patients are at a much higher risk than the rest of the population;

Also noted that glaucoma is incurable and that early detection is essential to limiting visual impairment and preventing the progression towards severe visual handicap or blindness;

Further noted that awareness is crucial to early detection of glaucoma and that it is only through awareness that people could be informed and persuaded about the importance of regular screening, early diagnosis, and appropriate treatment of the disease;

Acknowledged that the World Glaucoma Week that would be observed from March 6 to 12, 2016 provides a platform to draw attention to the devastating effects of glaucoma, raise awareness and educate our people about the disease;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies as well as Federal Capital Territory and its Administrative Councils to come up with initiatives and use the World Glaucoma Week to raise awareness and educate Nigerians about the dangers of glaucoma and encourage regular screening, early diagnosis, and appropriate treatment of the disease to prevent severe visual impairment or blindness;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its Agencies as well as the Federal Capital Territory and its Administrative Councils to maintain a register of fresh diagnosis of glaucoma and come up with treatment initiatives to decrease the incidences of undiagnosed and untreated glaucoma; and

(*iii*) further urge Nigerians to undertake regular screening as early detection is essential to limiting visual impairment and preventing the progression towards severe visual handicap or blindness (**HR. 93/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Healthcare Services.

6. Consolidation of Bills

(*i*) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act, and to provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria; Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 64); a Bill for an Act to Amend the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act, Cap. O5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 with a view to providing for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Sub-Zones in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 332); and a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act to provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria, Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 400) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(*ii*) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make the Appointments of Service Chiefs subject to confirmation by the National Assembly; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 70); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide for the Appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 149) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(*iii*) *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act, Cap. E1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 326); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act, Cap. E1, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for quick Recovery Procedures for Stolen Assets, Implement active pursuit of cases, Build Capacity and improve Trust and Co-operation with Foreign Counterparts; ensure adequate funding of the Commission; Establish the Economic and Financial Crimes Courts; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 393) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

7. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Companies and Allied Matters Act, Cap. C20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to among others, facilitate the process of incorporation; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB 151) — *Second Reading*.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Companies and Allied Matters Act, Cap. C20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to among others, facilitate the process of incorporation; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB 151) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim — Fufore/Song Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Reduce the Incidence of Unsolicited Telephone Calls and Text Messages being Received by Consumers; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 406) — *Second Reading.***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Reduce the Incidence of Unsolicited Telephone Calls and Text Messages being Received by Consumers; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 406) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki — Dala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Telecommunications.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Authorize Private Persons to initiate or conduct a Criminal Proceeding against another person who is alleged to have committed a crime or contravened any Act; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 408) — *Second Reading.***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorize Private Persons to initiate or conduct a Criminal Proceeding against another person who is alleged to have committed a crime or contravened any Act; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 408) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Oni Olamide Johnson — Ijero/Ekiti West/Efon Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Negatived.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, Cap M 8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to among others, make Provisions for Compensation for Medical Malpractice and Negligence and review upwards practising fees and penalties; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HBs. 141 and 351) — *Second Reading.***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, Cap M 8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to among others, make Provisions for Compensation for Medical Malpractice and Negligence and review upwards practising fees and penalties; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HBs. 141 and 351) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Kingsley Obinna Onwubuariri — Onuimo/Okigwe/Isiala Mbano Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine (Establishment and Development) Commission to encourage, Promote and Co-ordinate Traditional Medicine Practice in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 409) — *Second Reading.***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Pre-Shipment Inspection of Export Act, Cap. P25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide that a person acting for a body corporate is equally guilty alongside the body corporate for an offence committed by it; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 363) — *Second Reading*.**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Pre-Shipment Inspection of Export Act, Cap. P25, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to provide that a person acting for a body corporate is equally guilty alongside the body corporate for an offence committed by it; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 363) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Abdullahi Umar Faruk — Bunza/Birnin Kebbi/Kalgo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

13. **Code of Conduct of Honourable Members**

The Chairman Committee on Ethics and Privileges, Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai, recalled that on Wednesday, 18 November, 2015 the House mandated the Committee to produce copies of the approved Code of Conduct for Honourable Members. He disclosed that copies of the document were ready for circulation.

Mr Speaker ordered the Clerk to circulate copies of the Code of Conduct to Members.

14. **Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly; Order XII, Rule 94**
***Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Efurrum Bill*, 2016 (HB. 381):**
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. 381 and read the first time on Wednesday, 17 February, 2016;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Evelyn Oboro —Okpe/Sapele/Uvwie Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

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

15. **Call on the Federal Government to Constitute the National Council on Public Procurement**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that eight (8) years after the enactment of the Public Procurement Act, successive Federal Governments have failed to constitute the National Council on Public Procurement as required by Section 1 of the Public Procurement Act;

Also notes that section 7 (1) of the Act provides for a Director General for the Bureau of Public Procurement who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Council, after a competitive selection process;

Aware that all the previous Directors-General of the Bureau had been appointed even though the Council has never been constituted, hence it could not have recommended them, as a result of which, the appointments were in breach of the Act;

Further notes that the Public Procurement Act has the capacity to ensure efficient and transparent public procurement process if implemented judiciously;

Concerned that all the functions of the Council provided for in section 2 of the Act that would have led to effective administration of the Bureau are not being carried out owing to the continued failure to constitute the Council;

Worried that corruption, conflicts of interests, fraud, irregularities, under-pricing, bribery, faking of technical and financial capacities by bidders, leading to compromise in quality delivery, have tainted public procurement process and these have retarded national development and economic growth;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government to constitute the National Council on Public Procurement without further delay (*Hon. Ochiglegor Idagbo — Obaniku/Obudu/Bekwarra Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that eight (8) years after the enactment of the Public Procurement Act, successive Federal Governments have failed to constitute the National Council on Public Procurement as required by Section 1 of the Public Procurement Act;

Also noted that section 7 (1) of the Act provides for a Director General for the Bureau of Public Procurement who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Council, after a competitive selection process;

Aware that all the previous Directors-General of the Bureau had been appointed even though the Council has never been constituted, hence it could not have recommended them, as a result of which, the appointments were in breach of the Act;

Further noted that the Public Procurement Act has the capacity to ensure efficient and transparent public procurement process if implemented judiciously;

Concerned that all the functions of the Council provided for in section 2 of the Act that would have led to effective administration of the Bureau are not being carried out owing to the continued failure to constitute the Council;

Worried that corruption, conflicts of interests, fraud, irregularities, under-pricing, bribery, faking of technical and financial capacities by bidders, leading to compromise in quality delivery, have tainted public procurement process and these have retarded national development and economic growth;

Resolved to:

Urge the Federal Government to constitute the National Council on Public Procurement without further delay (**HR. 94/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Public Procurement, and Legislative Compliance.

16. Need to Intensify Efforts to Check Illegal Possession of Firearms Across the Country
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that arms, ammunitions and explosives are item number two (2) on the Exclusive Legislative List in the Second Schedule, Part 1 of the 1999 Constitution and are clearly defined in Section 2 of the Firearms Act, Cap. F28, LFN, 2004;

Concerned about the proliferation and the high rate of illegal possession of firearms by individuals and groups in violation of Sections 3, 4, 8, 11 and 12 of the Fire Arms Act, a situation that substantially contributes to the high rate of insecurity and crime in the country;

Recalls that several publicized efforts at recovering those firearms from people possessing them illegally had yielded little or no results as they were either abandoned or the firearms later found their ways back into the hands of those from whom they were recovered;

Cognizant of the urgent need to recover those illegal firearms from the public in order to guarantee security of lives and properties;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence and Police Affairs to liaise with the relevant Security Agencies and other Stakeholders to device a means of curbing illegal possession of firearms in the country, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Odebunmi Oluesegun Dokun — Ogo-Oluwa/Surulere Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that arms, ammunitions and explosives are item number two (2) on the Exclusive Legislative List in the Second Schedule, Part 1 of the 1999 Constitution and are clearly defined in Section 2 of the Firearms Act, Cap. F28, LFN, 2004;

Concerned about the proliferation and the high rate of illegal possession of firearms by individuals and groups in violation of Sections 3, 4, 8, 11 and 12 of the Fire Arms Act, a situation that substantially contributes to the high rate of insecurity and crime in the country;

Recalled that several publicized efforts at recovering those firearms from people possessing them illegally had yielded little or no results as they were either abandoned or the firearms later found their ways back into the hands of those from whom they were recovered;

Cognizant of the urgent need to recover those illegal firearms from the public in order to guarantee security of lives and properties:

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence and Police Affairs to liaise with the relevant Security Agencies and other Stakeholders to device a means of curbing illegal possession of firearms in the country, and report back to the House within four weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 95/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Public Safety and Intelligence, and Police Affairs.

17. Urgent Need to Investigate the Lukewarm Attitude of States Defaulting on UBEC Funds

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

18. Consideration of Reports

(*i*) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation, Provide for Additional Powers and Functions to the Office, Establish the Federal Audit Service Commission; Repeal the Audit Act of* 1956, *the Public Accounts Committees Act, Cap.* P35, LFN, 2004 *and Re-enact the Federal Audit Service Bill*, 2015; *and for Other Matters Related Thereto* (HB. 107) (*Committee of the While*) (*Hon. Orkev-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*)(*Adjourned consideration*:09/03/2016).**

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)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL FOR THE FEDERATION, PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO THE OFFICE; ESTABLISH THE FEDERAL AUDIT SERVICE COMMISSION; REPEAL THE AUDIT ACT, 1956, THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES ACT, CAP. P35, LFN, 2004, AND ENACT THE FEDERAL AUDIT SERVICE BILL, 2016; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

Clause 21: Performance Audit.

(1) The Auditor-General shall, for the purpose of enhancing economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the operations of any Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions in respect of which appropriation, or other accounts are required to be prepared under any Act of the National Assembly or the Constitution, enquire into, examine, investigate or undertake performance audits and report as he considers necessary on:

(*a*) the expenditure of public moneys and the use of public resources by Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions:

(*b*) the conduct of, and performance of their functions by:

(*i*) accounting officers,

(*ii*) heads of Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

(*iii*) other public entities, and international institutions;

(*c*) the extent to which Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions established by an Act of the National Assembly, is carrying out its activities economically, efficiently and effectively;

(*d*) any act of omission of Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions to determine whether waste has resulted or may have resulted or may result;

(*e*) any act showing or appearing to show a lack of probity or financial prudence by a Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions or any of its members, office holders and employees; and

(*f*) any other activity undertaken by the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions.

(2) Any report prepared by the Auditor-General as a result of an examination, enquiry or investigation under this section shall be laid before the National Assembly (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 21 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 22: Special audits and investigations.
The Auditor-General may carry out special audits, investigations or any other audit considered necessary by him (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 22 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 23: Submissions of annual financial statements.
(1) The financial statements of the Federal Government shall be submitted to the Auditor-General not later than the 30th June of the following financial year.

(2) The Accounting Officers of all Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies and public institutions shall submit their financial statements to the Accountant-General not later than 90 days following the end of the financial year.

(3) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Accounting Officers of all statutory corporations, parastatals, authorities, commissions, agencies, including all persons and bodies established by an Act of the National Assembly shall submit their auditedfinancial statements to the Auditor-General for audit not later than 90 days following the end of financial year.

(4) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section commits an offence and on conviction shall be personally liable to a fine of not less than ₦500,000.00

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (4) of this section, any Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions that contravene the provisions of subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section shall be caused to make a representation to the National Assembly (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 23 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 24: **Submission of audited annual financial statements to the National Assembly.**

(1) Subject to the Constitution, the Auditor-General shall within 90 days of receipt of the Accountant-General's financial statement, submit his reports under this section to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each House shall cause the reports to be considered by a committee of the House of the National Assembly responsible for public accounts.

(2) After the reports have been examined by the Committee responsible for Public Accounts, it shall be presented in the plenary sessions of the two Houses.

(3) National Assembly shall publish its findings on the Auditor-General's report on the Accountant-General's financial statement mentioned therein, within 120 days of receiving such report.

(4) The report under this section may include any information and recommendation(s) that the Auditor-General thinks fit:

(*a*) for the more effective and efficient management of public resources; and

(*b*) for the keeping of proper accounts and records of the transactions relating to public resources (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 24 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 25: **Publication of audit reports.**

(1) All reports issued by the Auditor-General shall be considered public documents after the reports are presented to the National Assembly.

(2) The Auditor-General may provide copies of his published reports to:

(*a*) the National Archives; and

(*b*) the website of the Federal Government, Government pressand approved print and electronic media.

(3) No person shall, without the written consent of the Auditor-General, publish or disclose information obtained in the course of an audit to any person (other than in the course of his duties or when lawfully required to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction).

(4) It is only the Auditor-General, after giving due consideration to the public interest and an auditor's professional obligations with regards to confidentiality of information, may determine what information, beyond the publicly available report, can appropriately be disclosed (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 25 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 26: Public accounts committee review of all audit reports.

(1) The committee responsible for the Public Accounts may consider each report from the Auditor-General which is tabled in the National Assembly.

(2) The Committee responsible for Public Accounts shall make recommendations on the basis of this consideration and shall monitor their implementation; after it has been approved by the House at the plenary sessions (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 26 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 27: Estimates of revenue and expenditure.

The office of the Auditor-General shall prepare and submit to the National Assembly 6 months to the endof every financial year, the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure of the office for the following financial year, which shall be included in the appropriation Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 27 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 28: Expenses of the Office of the Auditor-General.

(1) All monies approved by the National Assembly to defray the expenses that may be incurred in the discharge of the functions of the Office of the Auditor-General or in carrying out the purposes of this bill shall be a first line charge on the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation.

(2) Any amount standing to the credit of the Office of the Auditor-General in the annual budget shall be paid directly to the Auditor-General for management and disbursement as approved by National Assembly (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 28 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 29: Annual Report of the Auditor-General.

(1) The Auditor-General shall prepare and submit the following reports to the National Assembly in accordance with section 15 and 16 of this Bill:

(*a*) annual financial statements of his office prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, pursuant to section 33 of this Bill;

(*b*) list of Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions whose financial statements were audited by the Auditor-General;

(*c*) list of Federal Ministries,, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions that fail to comply with section 15 of this Bill;

(*d*) annual reports in accordance with section 11 and 15 of this Bill.

(*e*) performance audit report on Programme, projects; and

(*f*) annual audit report on taxes and other revenue collections.

(2) The reports mentioned in subsection (1) (*a*) and (*b*) of this section shall be submitted to the National Assembly along with other reports in accordance with section 23 of this Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 29 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 30: Protection from litigation.

(1) The Auditor-General or an employee of the Office or a person acting on the authorities of Auditor-General shall not be personally liable for any action or omission committed in good faith in the performance of the functions or exercising the powers of the office:

(2) All reports and documents presented by the Auditor-General to the National Assembly shall be deemed to be National Assembly reports or documents and shall be accorded the same rights and privileges enjoyed by the reports and other documentary evidence emanating from or presented to the National Assembly by the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act.

(3) Subject to sub-section (1) of this section, no civil or criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Auditor-General on the basis of any actions or omissions committed by him or any report submitted to the National Assembly (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 30 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 31: Power to appoint private auditors.

(1) The Auditor-General may appoint, subject to the Public Procurement Act, private auditors to assist him in the performance of his functions under this Bill.

(2) An auditor appointed under this section shall be supervised by the Auditor-General

(3) The Auditor-General may, in the performance of his functions under this Bill, engage the services of or work in consultation with professionals or technical experts or consultants to enhance the performance of the Office of the Auditor-General (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 31 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 32: Independent Auditor for the Auditor-General's Office.

(1) The accounts of the Office of the Auditor-General shall, in each financial year, be audited and reported upon by an independent auditor appointed, subject to the Public Procurement Act by the National Assembly.

(2) The Independent Auditor appointed under this section shall serve for a maximum period of three years.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a person is qualified for appointment as Independent Auditor to the Office where:

(*a*) he holds a valid practicing license whether within or outside the country for at least a period of ten years before such appointment;

(*b*) has proven track records of performance and integrity;

(*c*) is not involved or has not audited the Audit Commission or any Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions which is subject to audit by the Office for at least a period of three years before such appointment;

(*d*) has not been a consultant to the Office or Audit Commission for at least a period of three years before such appointment.

(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any law, the Office of the Auditor-General shall, within three months after the end of its financial year, prepare and submit to the auditor appointed under subsection (1), financial statements of the performance and integrity.

(5) The auditor shall have access to all books of accounts, vouchers and other records of the Office of the Auditor-General and is entitled to any information and explanation required in relation to those records (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 32 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 33: Oath/Affirmation of Office, Secrecy.

(1) No person shall assume office as Auditor-General unless the person takes the oath or affirmation specified in Part A of the schedule to this Bill.

(2) Every person appointed to the services of the Office of the Auditor-General shall before assuming duty take the Oath or affirmation of secrecy specified inPart B of Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 33 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 34: Offences and penalties.

(1) It shall be an offence under this Bill if a person:

(*a*) without lawful justification or excuse, wilfully obstructs, hinders or resists the Auditor-General or any person authorized by the Auditor-General in the performance of his functions;

(*b*) without lawful justification, refuses or fails to comply with any lawful request, order or directives of the Auditor-General or any person authorized by the Auditor-Gencral;

(*c*) without any lawful justification, refuses or fails to give to the Auditor-General or any person authorized by the Auditor-General, access to any property, books, records, returns or other documents, information referred to in section 10; or

(*d*) knowingly presents to the Auditor-General or any person authorized by the Auditor-General, a false or fabricated document or makes a false statement with intent to deceive or mislead the Auditor-General or any person authorized by the Auditor-General;

(*e*) presents himself directly as having authority under this Bill without such lawful authority.

(2) A person commits an offence while, working in the Office of the Auditor-General if he:

(*a*) misuses any information obtained while performing his official function or exercising his official power;

(*b*) colludes with any Accounting officer or internal auditor or other public officers in the conduct of his functions or exercising his power, omit or commit any act; where such omission or commission leads to loss of public funds.

(3) Any person who commits an offence under subsection (1) of this section shall on conviction be liable:

(*a*) in the case of an individual, to a fine of not less than ₦300,000; or a term of imprisonment of not less than three years or both;

(*b*) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not less than ₦5,000,000.

(4) Any person who commits an offence under subsection (2) of this section shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not less than ₦300,000; or a term of imprisonment of not less than three years or both.

(5) Except otherwise provided by this Bill, where the Bill provides for an offence and no penalty is prescribed for the offence, any person who contravenes any of the provisions of those sections, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ₦200,000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 2 years or both (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa – Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 34 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

PART B — ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERAL AUDIT SERVICE COMMISSION

Clause 35: Establishment of Federal Audit Service Commission.

(1) There is established a body known as the Federal Audit Service Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Audit Commission").

(2) The Audit Commission shall be a corporate body —

(*a*) with a common seal and perpetual succession, and

(*b*) shall sue and be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 35 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 36: Composition of the Audit Commission.

(1) The Audit Commission shall consist of:

(*a*) a Chairman who shall be the Auditor-General;

(*b*) six (6) persons known as Commissioners, one each from the six (6) geopolitical zones of the Federation, and each of who shall be a member from any recognized professional accounting body with not less than 15 years standing,

(*c*) a representative of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation not below the rank of a Director;

(*d*) two persons who retired from the service of the Office of the Auditor-General and who must have attained at least Deputy Auditor-General.

(*e*) two persons appointed to represent the two professional accounting bodies in Nigeria.

(2) Except the ex-officio members, other members of the Commission shall be appointed by the President subject to confirmation by the Senate.

(3) Membership shall be on a part-time basis.

(4) A serving member of any Board or its equivalent of parastatal, Commission, or any other agency of government cannot be appointed as member of the commission in subsection (1) of this section (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 36 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 37: **Secretary and Staff of the Audit Commission.**

(1) There shall be a Secretary to the Audit Commission and such other staff as may be determined by the Audit Commission.

(2) The Secretary, who shall be on same rank with a Director-General or its equivalent in public service shall be the accounting officer of the Audit Commission and shall be responsible to Chairman for the daily running of the Audit Commission.

(3) The Secretary shall serve for a term of 4 years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for another term of 4 years and no more (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 37 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 38: **Removal from Office of a Member of the Commission.**

Except for *ex-officio* members, a member of the Audit Commission may be removed from the office by the President, subject to approval of the Senate for inability to perform the functions of his office, arising from physical infirmity or infirmity of mind or for misconduct (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 38 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 39: **Functions of the Commission.**

(1) The Audit Commission shall:

(*a*) determine on the recommendation of the Auditor-General, the administrative structure of the Office of the Auditor-General;

(*b*) except for the Office of the Auditor-General, appoint persons to offices in the Office of the Auditor-General and the Audit Commission;

(*c*) handle all matters of recruitment, promotion and discipline of members of staff of the office and the Audit Commission;

(*d*) determine in consultation with relevant government agencies the salaries and other conditions of service of members of staff of the Office and the Audit Commission; and

(*e*) make rules and regulations, which shall not be inconsistent with the intendment of this Bill, in order to realize the objectives of this Bill.

(2) The Audit Commission shall have authority under this section to delegate its powers under this section to the Auditor-General or any other person in the service of the Office of the Auditor-General or the Audit Commission (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 39 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 40: Length of service of staff of the Office of the Auditor-General and the Audit Commission.

(1) Notwithstanding the provision of any Act, a staff of the Office of the Auditor General other than the Audit Commission shall retire from service when he attains the age of 65 years or has served for 35 years in the public service of the Federation depending on which comes first.

(2) Notwithstanding the provision of this Bill and any other Act, any staff of the Office of the Auditor-General who has served for 8 cumulative years as a Director or Deputy Auditors-General shall retire from the service.

(3) Notwithstanding the provision of any Act, a staff of the Audit Commission shall retire from service in accordance with general retirement guidelines in the public service of the Federation (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 40 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 41: Oath of Secrecy of the staff of the Commission.

The staff of the Audit Commission shall swear to an oath of secrecy in the performance of their duties as in Part B of Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 41 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 42: Tenure of Members of the Commission.

Except for the ex-officio members, other members of the Audit Commission shall serve for a term of four years and may be re-appointed for another term of four years and no more (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 42 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 43: Resignation of members of the Audit Commission.

(1) Where a member of the Audit Commission resigns, dies or is removed from office for whatever reason, the Chairman shall inform the President in writing, and the President shall appoint another person to hold office for the unexpired period of the term, subject to the approval of the Senate.

(2) A member of the Audit Commission may at any time resign his office in writing, addressed to the President through the Chairman of the Audit Commission (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 43 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 44: **Meetings of the Audit Commission.**

(1) The Audit Commission shall meet ordinarily for the transaction of business at such time and place as it may fix at least once in a quarter.

(2) A special meeting of the Audit Commission shall be convened upon written request of the Chairman or by a majority decision of members addressed to the Secretary of the Audit Commission.

(3) The Chairman shall preside at any meeting of the Commission but in his absence members may appoint one of their own to preside in a meeting.

(4) Decisions shall be determined by a simple majority of members present and voting; where there is equality of votes, the presiding officer shall have a casting vote.

(5) The quorum at a meeting shall be one-third of the total members including the Chairman.

(6) The Audit Commission may co-opt any person to attend its meeting but such person shall not vote on any matter affecting the decision of the Audit Commission.

(7) Except for the *ex-officio* members, a member who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Audit Commission without written consent of the Chairman ceases to be a member.

(8) Except otherwise provided by this Bill, the Audit Commission shall regulate its own proceedings (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 44 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 45: **Declaration of Interest on Matters before the Audit Commission.**

(1) Any member of the Audit Commission with interest in any matter before the Audit Commission for consideration shall disclose in writing the nature of his interest.

(2) Such a person should be disqualified from participation in any deliberation in respect of the matter.

(3) A member who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be removed from the Audit Commission and may face prosecution (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 45 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 46: **Appointment of Committees.**

(1) The Audit Commission may appoint committees consisting of its members and non-members to exercise any of its functions.

(2) The Chairman of a committee of the Audit Commission shall be appointed from within the membership of the Audit Commission or the Committee.

(3) A Committee of the Audit Commission may co-opt such person(s) as it may determine at its meetings and shall abide by the terms of reference given to it by the Audit Commission (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 46 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 47: Engagement of Consultants.

(1) The Audit Commission may engage, subject to the Public Procurement Act the services of such consultants and experts, as it may consider desirable for the efficient discharge of its functions.

(2) In addition to the provisions of subsection (1), the Consultants and experts shall be engaged on such terms and conditions as the Audit Commission may determine.

(3) Nothing in this section or any other provision of this Bill shall be construed as empowering the Audit Commission to interfere in the operations of the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation or engage any consultant or any other body or person to act in that regard (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 47 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 48: Independent Auditors for the Audit Commission.

(1) The National Assembly may appoint, subject to the Public Procurement Act, an Independent Auditor to audit the accounts of the Audit Commission for each financial year.

(2) The independent Auditor appointed under this section (1) shall serve for a maximum period of three years.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a person is qualified for appointment as Independent Auditor to the Audit Commission where:

(*a*) he holds a valid practicing license whether within or outside the country for at least a period of ten years before such appointment;

(*b*) has proven track of performance and integrity;

(*c*) is not involved or has not audited the Office of the Auditor-General or any Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies or other public entities, and international institutions which is subject to audit by the Office for at least a period of three years before such appointment;

(*d*) has not been a consultant to the Office or the Audit Commission for at least a period of three years before such appointment (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 48 *stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.*

Clause 49: Submission of statements of accounts and annual reports.

(1) The Audit Commission shall prepare its statement of accounts and a report of its performance in the previous year, and submit to the National Assembly not later than six months after the end of the financial year.

(2) The independent auditor appointed by the National Assembly, in pursuance of this section and section 53 of this Bill shall submit their audited accounts to the National Assembly (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 49 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 50: Transition and Savings.

(1) The appointment of the Auditor General and the existing staff of the Office of the Auditor-General shall remain valid upon coming into force of this Bill.

(2) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (1) of this section, the existing staff of the Office of Auditor General shall be subject to terms and conditions of service of the Audit Commission from the commencement of this Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 50 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 51: Repeal.

The following Acts are hereby repealed:

(*a*) The Audit Ordinance Act of 1958;

(*b*) The Public Account Committee Act, Cap. P35, LFN 2004 (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 51 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 52: Interpretation.

In this Bill, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Auditor-General of the Federation" includes persons authorized by him (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Auditor-General of the Federation" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"the office" means the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation established by and under section 1 of this Bill (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "the office" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"appropriate authorities" means the accounting officers of the public institutions being audited (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "appropriate authorities" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"MDAs" means Ministries, Departments and Agencies (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the abbreviation "MDAs" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"Body" means public entities (i.e. parastatals, commissions, etc.) (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Body" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Constitution" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"Cognate experience" means working experience as Auditors (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Cognate experience" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"Members" include Chairman (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Members" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"National Assembly" means the Senate and House of Representatives (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "National Assembly" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"police" includes other Law enforcement agencies (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "police" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"presiding officer" means Chairman of the Commission or his delegate (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "presiding officer" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "President" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"the Commission" means the Federal Audit Service Commission (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "the Commission" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

"Surcharge" means make somebody responsible for repayment or extra payment (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Surcharge" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill, put and agreed to.

Question that Clause 52 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 53: Short Title.
This Bill may be cited as the Federal Audit Service Commission Bill, 2016 (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 53 stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

SCHEDULE

PART A: OATH OF OFFICE OF AUDITOR-GENERAL

I ..... having been appointed Auditor-General, do solemnly swear(affirm) in the name of the Almighty God /Allah that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that as the Auditor-General for the Federation, I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Act; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my official conduct or my official decisions, that I will abide by the Code of Conduct contained in the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that in all circumstances, I will do right to all manner of people, according to law, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; that I will not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any unauthorized person, any matter which shall be brought under my consideration or shall become known to me as the Auditor-General for the Federation, except as may be required for the due discharge of my duties as the Auditor-General for the Federation; that I will devote myself to the service of the Nation.

So help me God/Allah.

PART B: OATH OF OFFICE OF MEMBER OF STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

I, ... do solemnly swear (affirm) in the name of the Almighty God/Allah that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and that I will discharge my duties and perform my functions honestly to the best of my ability and faithfully in accordance with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Law.

So help me God/Allah.

PART C: OATH OF A EVIDENCE/WITNESS

I ..... do solemnly swear (affirm) before the Auditor-General/this Honourable assembly, that the evidence I shall give here shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

So help me God/Allah.

PART D: OATH OF SECRECY FOR MEMBER OF STAFF

I ..... do solemnly swear (affirm) that as officer/employee in the Office of the Auditor-General, I will not directly or indirectly, while in service or after retirement from service reveal to any unauthorized person, any matter, document, communication or information that comes to my knowledge in the discharge of my duties.

So help me God/Allah (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the provisions of the Schedule stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Long Title:
A Bill for an Act to Establish the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation, Provide for Additional Powers and Functions to the Office; Establish the Federal Audit Service Commission; Repeal the Audit Act, 1956, the Public Accounts Committees Act, Cap. P35, LFN, 2004, and Enact the Federal Audit Service Bill, 2016; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Question that the Long Title stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole resumed consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Office of the Auditor-General for the Federation, Provide for Additional Powers and Functions to the Office, Establish the Federal Audit Service Commission; Repeal the Audit Act of 1956, the Public Accounts Committees Act, Cap. P35, LFN, 2004 and Re-enact the Federal Audit Service Bill, 2016; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 107) and approved Clauses 21 - 53, the Schedules, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

(*ii*) ***Committees on Telecommunications, and Privatization and Commercialization*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Telecommunications, and Privatization and Commercialization on the Liquidation and Takeover of Nigerian Telecommunications Plc (NITEL) and Nigerian Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTEL) by NATCOM and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Saheed Akinlade Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest 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*):**
"That the Committee commends the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) in enforcing due process, transparency and adopting procedure in line with international best practice during the entire sale process and recommend that the enterprise should adopt and apply such procedure in future Privatisation exercises" (*Hon. Saheed Akinlade Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):
"That the Federal Government should encourage NATCOM Consortium, owners of NITEL and MTEL by creating an enabling environment that will make the two entities compete favourably with other Telecom Companies. This is because, NATCOM Consortium is an indigenous Company with great potentials of creating employment opportunities, reduce the huge amount of capital flight that is currently being experienced in the telecoms sector and foster strategic competition that is capable of further reducing the cost of communications in Nigeria" (*Hon. Saheed Akinlade Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):
"That the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) meet its obligations and commitments to the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the core investor (NATCOM) in line with the Presidential approval on licenses and spectrum for the effective take-off of NITEL and MTEL" (*Hon. Saheed Akinlade Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):
"That the Bureau of Public Enterprises, in its post-acquisition functions, should be done in line with efficacy and efficiency, to encourage the core investor (NATCOM) as a local company" (*Hon. Saheed Akinlade Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest 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 Committees on Telecommunications, and Privatization and Commercialization on the Liquidation and Takeover of Nigerian Telecommunications Plc (NITEL) and Nigerian Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTEL) by NATCOM and approved Recommendations (*i*) - (*iv*) 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 George Temidara Akinfolarin:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by George Temidara Akinfolarin against the Nigerian Ports Authority .on wrongful disengagement from service 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*:**
"Uphold the prayer of the petitioner, George TemidaraAkinfolarin, for reinstatement and payment of all entitlements accruing to him from the day the alleged dismissal took effect" (*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 George Temidara Akinfolarin against the Nigerian Ports Authority on wrongful disengagement from service 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 Usaini Garba Yakassi:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Usaini Garba Yakassi against the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) 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 Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) to compute the entitlements of Usaini Garba Yakassi and pay him within a reasonable time" (*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 Usaini Garba Yakassi against the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and approved the only Recommendation 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 Mr Lawal Ayodele:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mr Lawal Ayodele against the Federal Road Safety Commission for unlawful termination of his appointment without 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 Federal Road Safety Commission to pay all his entitlements" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

***Recommendation* (*ii*):**
"The petitioner should apply formally to the Federal Road Safety Commission for the computation of his pension and gratuity and other entitlements" (*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 Mr Lawal Ayodele against the Federal Road Safety Commission for unlawful termination of his appointment without 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.

19. Adjournment
That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 15 *March*, 2016 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.33 *p.m.*

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker