



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14 June, 2017

1. The House met at 11.21 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, 13 June, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcement**

- (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Staff and Students of *Delight Brain Model Academy*, Masaka, Karu, Nasarawa State;
 - (ii) Members of *Nigeria Economics Student Association (NESA)*, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State;
 - (iii) Students of *Dorben Polytechnic*, Bwari, Abuja; and
 - (iv) Staff and Students of *New Ideas Montessori Academy* Bwari, Abuja.

- (b) **Bereavement**

By leave of the House, Hon. Lynda Chuba Ikpeazu (*Onitsha South/Onitsha North Federal Constituency*), announced the demise of Mr Odinigwe Onuora Nzekwu, a renowned writer, teacher, administrator, and author of the popular household literature book "*Eze Goes to School*", who died on 21 April, 2017, at the age of 89. She prayed the House to observe a minute silence in his honour.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

4. **Petition**

A petition from D. D. Pantu & Associates (Legal Practitioners and Property Consultants) on behalf of Vongfa Jonnah, on his abandonment in the hospital by his employer, African Steel Mill Limited, Lagos after sustaining industrial accident while working in the factory, was presented and laid by Hon. Edward Pwajok Gyang (*Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill, 2017 (HB. 1060).
- (2) Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1056).
- (3) Internship Regulatory Bill, 2017 (HB. 844).
- (4) Voluntary Income Declaration, Recovery and Amnesty Scheme Bill, 2017 (HB. 1061).

6. Presentation of Reports

(i) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Non-Academic Staff of Educational and Associated Institutions:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Non-Academic Staff of Educational and Associated Institutions against Dr J. C. Okonkwo, Executive Director National Root Crops Research Institute, Umudike over misappropriation of fund and abuse of office" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by S. P. Inuwa Ahmed (rtd):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by S. P. Inuwa Ahmed (rtd) over non-payment of Gratuity and Pension by the Nigerian Army/Nigeria Police" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Ita Oku Ita against Somotex Nigeria Limited:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ita Oku Ita against Somotex Nigeria Limited on the unjust termination of appointment and deprivation of entitlements" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (iv) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by China Africa Investment FZC Against Zhongfu International Investment (Nig.) FZE:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by China Africa Investment FZC against Zhongfu International Investment (NIG) FZE for unlawfully occupying and claiming ownership of Ogun Guangdong Free Trade Zone" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (v) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Diya Grace Ajibola:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Diya Grace Ajibola against the National Examinations Council (NECO) on termination of her appointment" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Hon. Macaulay I. Obia against the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC):
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Hon. Macaulay I. Obia against the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on its failure to settle his entitlement since his employment in 1992" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (vii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Professor Chibuike Uche:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Professor Chibuike Uche against his dismissal from University of Nigeria, Nsukka" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

- (viii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**
Report on the Petition by Kisha T. Alabura:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kisha T. Alabura against the National Youth Service Corps for unlawful termination of appointment" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ix) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Kareem Fatai Olaniran:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Kareem Fatai Olaniran against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on unlawful termination of his appointment" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(x) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Ude Abara Chika:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ude Abara Chika against the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on wrongful termination of his appointment, stoppage of salary and unfair hearing" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 381) — Third Reading.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 381) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Monguno Tahir Mohammed — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

8. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment and for Connected Purposes (HB. 702) — Third Reading.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment and for Connected Purposes (HB. 702) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Monguno Tahir Mohammed — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Directors of Nigeria to serve as a Regulatory Body for Persons serving as Directors in both Public and Private Sectors, to Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons seeking to become Directors, to make Provisions for continuous Training and Development of Directors, to ensure Professionalism and Promote Corporate Governance Values in Directors and for Other Related Matters (HB. 928) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

Question that the House do suspend Order Twelve, Rule 3 (1), to enable it take a Second Reading for a Bill for an Act to Amend the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board Act, Cap. M4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Reconstituting the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board for Effective Control of all Maritime Operations in Nigeria's Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone, Create the Maritime Security Fund, Establish Anti-Piracy Offences and for Related Matters (HB. 1056).

Agreed to.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board Act, Cap. M4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Reconstituting the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board for Effective Control of all Maritime Operations in Nigeria's Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone, Create the Maritime Security Fund, Establish Anti-Piracy Offences and for Related Matters (HB. 1056) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board Act, Cap. M4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 Reconstituting the Maritime Operations Co-ordinating Board for Effective Control of all Maritime Operations in Nigeria's Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone, Create the Maritime Security Fund, Establish Anti-Piracy Offences and for Related Matters (HB. 1056) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie — Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency and 38 others).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Communications Satellite Corporation Empowered to Engage in, Purchase and Otherwise Acquire or take over the Assets, Business, Company, Firm or Persons and act in Furtherance of all and any Business, Associated and or Relating to the Satellite Communications Industry and for Related Matters (HB. 644) — Second Reading**
- Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Communications Satellite Corporation Empowered to Engage in, Purchase and Otherwise Acquire or take over the Assets, Business, Company, Firm or Persons and act in Furtherance of all and any Business, Associated and or Relating to the Satellite Communications Industry and for Related Matters (HB. 644) be committed to the Committee of Whole, pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency).*

Agreed to.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Emergency Management Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act, Cap. N34, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to include Local Government Chairmen in the State Committee and for Related Matters (HB. 985) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Sheriffs and Civil Process Act, Cap. S6, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Service of Process through the Use of Modern Technology and for Related Matters (HB. 1026) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Provisions of the Sheriffs and Civil Process Act, Cap. S6, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Service of Process through the Use of Modern Technology and for Related Matters (HB. 1026) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Dozie F. Nwankwo — Anaocha/Njikoka/Dunukofia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Bill withdrawn by leave of the House.

14. **Receipt and Adoption of the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund Act, Cap. A11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to enhance the Capital Base, Expand the Coverage, Increase the size of the Loanable Fund, Give more Powers to the Board and for Related Matters**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund Act, Cap. A11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to enhance the Capital Base, Expand the Coverage, Increase the size of the Loanable Fund, Give more Powers to the Board and for Related Matters was passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives with differences;

Aware that a Conference Committee was constituted by both Chambers to harmonize the areas of differences in the Bill as passed;

Also aware that the Committee met in conference on Thursday, 19 January, 2017 and harmonized the two versions of the Bill;

In view of the importance of the Bill in providing guarantee for loans granted for Agricultural purposes by any Bank, encourage development of Agrobusinesses such as processing, storage and marketing in the country;

Resolves to:

Receive and Adopt the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund Act, Cap. A11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to enhance the Capital Base, Expand the Coverage, Increase the size of the Loanable Fund, Give more Powers to the Board and for Related Matters (*Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

15. **Need to Stem the Menace of Gully Erosion in Ugiri-Ike and Uzoagba Communities in Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency of Imo State**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

16. Call for Resuscitation of NNPC Floating Stations in Coastal Communities of the Niger-Delta:
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that petroleum products floating stations established by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) in the riverine coastal communities of the Niger-Delta was the only source of petroleum products supplies to those communities up till mid 2015;

Also notes that for reasons that were not explained to the affected communities, the products floating stations have since stopped functioning, thus making the operators of marine transport services to go in search of fuel in distant places in the hinterlands which consequently results in hike in the cost of marine transportation with its attendant ripple effect of escalation of the prices of goods and services;

Recalls that even when the floating petroleum stations were operational, there was never a time when petrol, diesel or kerosene did not sell at much higher price per litre than the official rates;

Aware that the sudden discontinuation of supplies of petroleum products to the floating stations about two years ago is inflicting hardship and impoverishing the inhabitants of the coastal towns and villages from where the very petroleum products that have seized to be delivered by the NNPC to the floating stations are drilled from;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation to resume the supply of petroleum products to the floating stations and ensure that the products are sold at the official rates;
- (ii) also urge the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) to regulate the supply and distribution of products to the floating stations; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to ensure implementation and report back within three (3) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Julius G. Pondi — Burutu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 02/2017).

Motion referred to the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream), and Petroleum Resources (Upstream) , pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

17. Call for Investigation of the Activities of Abuja Investment Company Limited on Non-Remittance of over 2 Billion Naira Proceeds to Federal Capital Territory
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that section 88 of the 1999 Constitution empowers the National Assembly to investigate any matter or thing with respect to which it has power to make laws, the conduct of affairs of any person or authority charged with the responsibility of administering laws and disbursing moneys appropriated by the National Assembly for the purpose of making or amending laws and exposing corruption, inefficiency or waste in the execution of laws;

Also aware that Abuja Investments Company Limited (AICL), as the investment arm of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) with a mandate to facilitate, encourage and attract investments into the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), was set up in October 2006 following the restructuring of Abuja Investment and Property Development Company Limited (AIPDC) which was incorporated in 1994;

Notes that with over \$100M currently under its management, the AICL has grown to become a world class investment firm with diversified subsidiaries and affiliates which include:

- Abuja Property Development Company Limited (APDC) with 100% share holding,
- Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited (AUMTCO) with 100% share holding,
- Abuja Market Management Limited (AMML) with 95% share holding,
- Abuja Technology Village Free Zone (ATVFZ) with 51% share holding,
- Abuja Film Village Ltd with 50% share holding,
- Gas Farm Project with 50% share holding,
- Abuja Leasing Company (ALC) with 20% share holding,
- Power North AICL Equipment Leasing Company with 20% share holding,
- American Hospital with 20% share holding,
- ASO Savings and Loans Plc with 10% share holding,
- Abuja Power Company Ltd with 10% share holding,
- Capital Hotels (Sheraton Hotels and Towers, Abuja) with 6.51% share holding, and
- Abuja Downtown Mall with 5% share holding;

Concerned that despite this rapid growth of investments, the company, which is wholly owned by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), is not remitting the required revenue to the FCT treasury;

Aware that over two (2) Billion Naira that has accrued as proceeds from the above listed subsidiaries over the years was allegedly diverted by the Management of the Company which led to the dissolution of the Management team by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory recently;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to investigate the activities of the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) with a view to exposing the alleged diversion of funds and inefficiency, and report back within three (3) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Nkole Uko Ndukwe — Arochukwu/Ohafia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

Also aware that the Port was abandoned when the military overthrew the regime of President Shagari in 1984 and that it was only in 2009 that the Government of President Umaru Yar'Adua rekindled interest in the abandoned Port and awarded a contract valued at ₦4.182 billion to rehabilitate the facility;

Notes that the regime of President Goodluck Jonathan completed rehabilitation of the Port and commissioned the facility in 2012 as a bonded wharf where Nigeria Customs Service and other Agencies would generate revenues through export and import of cargoes;

Also notes that in spite of the huge resources committed to the Port Complex, the facility is lying idle and fast deteriorating, while other Ports, notably the Lagos Ports are congested with goods largely imported by businesses situated close to Onitsha Port, and those goods are in turn conveyed by trucks to the South East at huge cost to the businesses, severe environmental hazards to Nigerians and unwarranted carnage and damage on the road, while the Onitsha Port is lying fallow, four years after it was commissioned;

Observes that the Nigeria Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) and the Federal Ministry of Transportation that ought to put the Port to gainful use are undecided on how best to utilize the facility, given their contradictory responses to enquiries as to why the Port was still under locks after huge sums of money had been invested in the project;

Concerned that the post-Shagari regime experience of abandonment of the Port is already playing out and determined that the Onitsha River Port should not join the inglorious list of abandoned projects across the length and breadth of the nation, assessed by experts at ₦13 trillion;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Transportation and the Nigerian Inland Waterways Authority to undertake the dredging of River Niger to facilitate passage of vessels and badges from the sea to the Onitsha Inland Port facility; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to investigate the lack of operational use of the Onitsha River Port, five years after the facility was commissioned and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 04/2017**).

19. Need to Appraise the Modalities of Implementation of the Social Investment Programmes (SIP) of the Federal Government

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Social Investment Programmes of the present Administration under the indefatigable President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR are laudable projects that have impacted positively on millions in some States in Nigeria;

Also notes that at the celebration of the regime's two years in Office, the Federal Government was "thumped up" on its dedication to the programmes in terms of time, resources and energy already invested on the Programmes;

Aware of the Federal Government's claim that the SIP is the largest Social Intervention effort anywhere in the world and it has also acknowledged that even though Nigeria recorded some growth level of about 7% in its economy due to rising oil prices, unemployment figure is still high, hence the direct Intervention through the SIP;

Cognizant that the SIP have four elements:

- (i) the Home Grown Schools Feeding Programme targeting 5.5 million primary school pupils in all the States of the Federation;
- (ii) the Job Creation Programme aimed at employing 500,000 graduates to be deployed in their communities to work as teachers, health support officers and agricultural officers, and participants are to be paid ₦30,000 each;
- (iii) the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) of ₦5,000 monthly to extremely poor and vulnerable persons in the society, targeted at one million (1,000,000) recipients for two years; and
- (iv) the Enterprises Promotion Programme which is a loan facility of between ₦10,000 to ₦100,000 to 1.66 million people;

Further notes that at the end of April 2017, the Federal Government claimed to have spent ₦41,714,293,000 across the thirty-six (36) States and the Federal Capital Territory in implementing different aspects of the four SIPs and that not less than 25 million meals have been served under the National Homegrown School Feeding Programme;

Also cognizant that the School Feeding Programme has only covered 7 States of the Federation and there are no credible statistics as to how far the other elements have gone among the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation;

Concerned that the schools and people of Owo/Ose Federal Constituency of Ondo State have not benefitted from any of the four (4) elements of the SIPs;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to implement one element of the Social Investment Programmes at a time and ensure that each of the elements, when implemented, should cover all the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation, in the spirit of fairness, equity and justice; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Poverty Alleviation, and Labour, Employment and Productivity to liaise with the Agency in charge of the SIPs to ensure that the Programmes are implemented in all Federal Constituencies in the country (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayers (i) and (ii) and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:

"mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity, and Poverty Alleviation, to investigate the Agency in charge of Social Investment Programmes (SIPs) on the disbursement of ₦4,714,293,000.00 and to ensure that the programmes are implemented in all Federal Constituencies in the country" (*Hon. Jones Onyereri — Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to

The House:

Aware that section 88 of the 1999 Constitution empowers the National Assembly to investigate any matter or thing with respect to which it has power to make laws, the conduct of affairs of any person or authority charged with the responsibility of administering laws and disbursing moneys appropriated by the National Assembly for the purpose of making or amending laws and exposing corruption, inefficiency or waste in the execution of laws:

Also aware that Abuja Investments Company Limited (AICL), as the investment arm of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) with a mandate to facilitate, encourage and attract investments into the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), was set up in October 2006 following the restructuring of Abuja Investment and Property Development Company Limited (AIPDC) which was incorporated in 1994;

Noted that with over \$100M currently under its management, the AICL has grown to become a world class investment firm with diversified subsidiaries and affiliates which include:

Abuja Property Development Company Limited (APDC) with 100% share holding,

Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited (AUMTCO) with 100% share holding,

Abuja Market Management Limited (AMML) with 95% share holding,

Abuja Technology Village Free Zone (ATVFZ) with 51% share holding,

Abuja Film Village Ltd with 50% share holding,

Gas Farm Project with 50% share holding,

Abuja Leasing Company (ALC) with 20% share holding,

Power North AICL Equipment Leasing Company with 20% share holding,

American Hospital with 20% share holding,

ASO Savings and Loans Plc with 10% share holding,

Abuja Power Company Ltd with 10% share holding,

Capital Hotels (Sheraton Hotels and Towers, Abuja) with 6.51% share holding, and

Abuja Downtown Mall with 5% share holding;

Concerned that despite this rapid growth of investments, the company, which is wholly owned by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), is not remitting the required revenue to the FCT treasury;

Aware that over two (2) Billion Naira that has accrued as proceeds from the above listed subsidiaries over the years was allegedly diverted by the Management of the Company which led to the dissolution of the Management team by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory recently;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to investigate the activities of the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) with a view to exposing the alleged diversion of funds and inefficiency, and report back within three (3) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 03/2017).

18. Call to Investigate the Abandonment of Onitsha Inland Port
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that Onitsha River Port was conceived during the regime of former President Shehu Shagari as a port of origin and final destination for cargoes to ease the perennial congestion of the Lagos ports with the attendant hardship to port users and huge loss to the economy;

Also aware that the Port was abandoned when the military overthrew the regime of President Shagari in 1984 and that it was only in 2009 that the Government of President Umaru Yar'Adua rekindled interest in the abandoned Port and awarded a contract valued at ₦4.182 billion to rehabilitate the facility;

Notes that the regime of President Goodluck Jonathan completed rehabilitation of the Port and commissioned the facility in 2012 as a bonded wharf where Nigeria Customs Service and other Agencies would generate revenues through export and import of cargoes;

Also notes that in spite of the huge resources committed to the Port Complex, the facility is lying idle and fast deteriorating, while other Ports, notably the Lagos Ports are congested with goods largely imported by businesses situated close to Onitsha Port, and those goods are in turn conveyed by trucks to the South East at huge cost to the businesses, severe environmental hazards to Nigerians and unwarranted carnage and damage on the road, while the Onitsha Port is lying fallow, four years after it was commissioned;

Observes that the Nigeria Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) and the Federal Ministry of Transportation that ought to put the Port to gainful use are undecided on how best to utilize the facility, given their contradictory responses to enquiries as to why the Port was still under locks after huge sums of money had been invested in the project;

Concerned that the post-Shagari regime experience of abandonment of the Port is already playing out and determined that the Onitsha River Port should not join the inglorious list of abandoned projects across the length and breadth of the nation, assessed by experts at ₦13 trillion;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Transportation and the Nigerian Inland Waterways Authority to undertake the dredging of River Niger to facilitate passage of vessels and badges from the sea to the Onitsha Inland Port facility; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways to investigate the lack of operational use of the Onitsha River Port, five years after the facility was commissioned and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Obinna Chidoka — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Onitsha River Port was conceived during the regime of former President Shehu Shagari as a port of origin and final destination for cargoes to ease the perennial congestion of the Lagos ports with the attendant hardship to port users and huge loss to the economy;

The House:

Noted that the Social Investment Programmes of the present Administration under the indefatigable President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR are laudable projects that have impacted positively on millions in some States in Nigeria;

Also noted that at the celebration of the regime's two years in Office, the Federal Government was "thumped up" on its dedication to the programmes in terms of time, resources and energy already invested on the Programmes;

Aware of the Federal Government's claim that the SIP is the largest Social Intervention effort anywhere in the world and it has also acknowledged that even though Nigeria recorded some growth level of about 7% in its economy due to rising oil prices, unemployment figure is still high, hence the direct Intervention through the SIP;

Cognizant that the SIP have four elements:

- (i) the Home Grown Schools Feeding Programme targeting 5.5 million primary school pupils in all the States of the Federation;
- (ii) the Job Creation Programme aimed at employing 500,000 graduates to be deployed in their communities to work as teachers, health support officers and agricultural officers, and participants are to be paid ₦30,000 each;
- (iii) the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) of ₦5,000 monthly to extremely poor and vulnerable persons in the society, targeted at one million (1,000,000) recipients for two years; and
- (iv) the Enterprises Promotion Programme which is a loan facility of between ₦10,000 to ₦100,000 to 1.66 million people;

Further noted that at the end of April 2017, the Federal Government claimed to have spent ₦41,714,293,000 across the thirty-six (36) States and the Federal Capital Territory in implementing different aspects of the four SIPs and that not less than 25 million meals have been served under the National Homegrown School Feeding Programme;

Also cognizant that the School Feeding Programme has only covered 7 States of the Federation and there are no credible statistics as to how far the other elements have gone among the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation;

Concerned that the schools and people of Owo/Ose Federal Constituency of Ondo State have not benefitted from any of the four (4) elements of the SIPs;

Resolved to:

mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity, and Poverty Alleviation, to investigate the Agency in charge of Social Investment Programmes (SIPs) on the disbursement of ₦4,714,293,000.00 and to ensure that the programmes are implemented in all Federal Constituencies in the country (HR. 05/2017).

20. Need to Intervene in the Recurring Communal Crisis of Over Forty Years between Umuebu and Amai Communities of Delta State

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Ukwuani Local Government Area of Delta State is made up of nine clans, namely; Akoku, Amai, Ebedei, Eziokpor, Ezionum, Obiaruku, Umuebu, Umukwata and Umutu, which are part of the Ukwuani Ethnic Nationality located in the western part of the Niger Delta.

Also notes that for over forty years, the Umuebu and Amai clans have been entangled in a very bitter, recurring and bloody communal crisis over encroachment of their respective farmlands which has defied all efforts at finding solutions, including interventions by the Delta State Government at different times and has now taken a new dimension of having spread to neighbouring communities of Obiaruku, Eziokpor and Ezionum.

Observes that arsonists have taken over the communities as properties worth millions of naira are often set ablaze and several innocent people have lost their lives in the age-long crisis that is being passed from generation to generation, with economic activities being negatively affected, particularly the only federal highway that passes through some of these communities.

Worried that the latest intelligence report has it that members of each community have concluded plans to infiltrate each other at night under the pretence of okada rider, with the plans of kidnapping their victims.

Cognizant that section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to beef up security in the affected communities to avoid further escalation of the crisis and ensure that peace is returned; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Special Duties, Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to liaise with the Inspector-General of Police to ensure implementation and report back within three (3) months for further legislative action (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Ukwuani Local Government Area of Delta State is made up of nine clans, namely; Akoku, Amai, Ebedei, Eziokpor, Ezionum, Obiaruku, Umuebu, Umukwata and Umutu, which are part of the Ukwuani Ethnic Nationality located in the western part of the Niger Delta.

Also noted that for over forty years, the Umuebu and Amai clans have been entangled in a very bitter, recurring and bloody communal crisis over encroachment of their respective farmlands which has defied all efforts at finding solutions, including interventions by the Delta State Government at different times and has now taken a new dimension of having spread to neighbouring communities of Obiaruku, Eziokpor and Ezionum.

Observed that arsonists have taken over the communities as properties worth millions of naira are often set ablaze and several innocent people have lost their lives in the age-long crisis that is being passed from generation to generation, with economic activities being negatively affected, particularly the only federal highway that passes through some of these communities.

Worried that the latest intelligence report has it that members of each community have concluded plans to infiltrate each other at night under the pretence of okada rider, with the plans of kidnaping their victims.

Cognizant that section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to beef up security in the affected communities to avoid further escalation of the crisis and ensure that peace is returned; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Special Duties, Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to liaise with the Inspector-General of Police to ensure implementation and report back within three (3) months for further legislative action (HR. 06/2017).

21. Alleged Infractions in the Operations and Activities of the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC), the Persisting Lack of Capacity and Attendant Revenue Losses to Nigeria
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC) was established in 1988 as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) with the mandate to participate in petroleum exploration and production activities, and currently owns and operates several oil and gas fields and infrastructure in the Niger Delta region;

Also aware that apart from creating an additional source of revenue for the country, the NPDC was established to also develop Nigeria's local capacity in the industry to enable sustainable development and profitability but allegations of unethical and questionable actions by the company appear to be hindering the attainment of those objectives;

Concerned that twenty nine (29) years after its establishment, the NPDC still appears to lack the capacity to compete favourably in the Oil and Gas industry and is reported to be consistently ceding its core activities to third party private entities without due procurement process in Strategic Alliance Agreements that involve the provision of funds by those entities to carry out exploration and production activities on almost all the company's oil fields, including the lifting of crude on behalf of the company, resulting in the NPDC's inability to reconcile the revenue generated and the amount of crude lifted, leading to speculations about a loss of over \$1.5 billion of revenue to the Federal Government;

Also concerned about allegations that most of those third-party entities are newly registered companies with little or no technical experience or financial capability to carry out or meet the terms of those Strategic Alliance Agreements but are owned by cronies of members of the Management of NPDC and other interested parties and are consequently allowed access to funds obtained by NPDC from government appropriation to their benefits;

Cognizant of other reports that the nation is losing billions of Naira daily from the outrageously inflated recurring expenditure on the operations of the NPDC with examples of areas like diesel (AGO) supply where the Management selects preferred suppliers and approves payment for quantities of diesel far more than the actual requirements and regular pipe supply contracts also awarded to preferred suppliers, all without due procurement process and also of possible evasion of statutory obligations by the NPDC with regard to royalties and tax required to be paid to the government;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate all aforementioned allegations against the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC), including other related issues, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Ahmed Abu — Edati/Lavun/Mokwa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, *leave out* the words "Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee" and *insert* the words "mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)" (*Hon. Onyema Chukwuka — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to

The House:

Aware that the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC) was established in 1988 as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) with the mandate to participate in petroleum exploration and production activities, and currently owns and operates several oil and gas fields and infrastructure in the Niger Delta region;

Also aware that apart from creating an additional source of revenue for the country, the NPDC was established to also develop Nigeria's local capacity in the industry to enable sustainable development and profitability but allegations of unethical and questionable actions by the company appear to be hindering the attainment of those objectives;

Concerned that twenty nine (29) years after its establishment, the NPDC still appears to lack the capacity to compete favourably in the Oil and Gas industry and is reported to be consistently ceding its core activities to third party private entities without due procurement process in Strategic Alliance Agreements that involve the provision of funds by those entities to carry out exploration and production activities on almost all the company's oil fields, including the lifting of crude on behalf of the company, resulting in the NPDC's inability to reconcile the revenue generated and the amount of crude lifted, leading to speculations about a loss of over \$1.5 billion of revenue to the Federal Government;

Also concerned about allegations that most of those third-party entities are newly registered companies with little or no technical experience or financial capability to carry out or meet the terms of those Strategic Alliance Agreements but are owned by cronies of members of the Management of NPDC and other interested parties and are consequently allowed access to funds obtained by NPDC from government appropriation to their benefits;

Cognizant of other reports that the nation is losing billions of Naira daily from the outrageously inflated recurring expenditure on the operations of the NPDC with examples of areas like diesel (AGO) supply where the Management selects preferred suppliers and approves payment for quantities of diesel far more than the actual requirements and regular pipe supply contracts also awarded to preferred suppliers, all without due procurement process and also of possible evasion of statutory obligations by the NPDC with regard to royalties and tax required to be paid to the government;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) to investigate all aforementioned allegations against the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC), including other related issues, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 07/2017**).

22. Need for Intervention in the Incessant Killing, Destruction of Property and Displacement of Communities by Rampaging Herdsmen

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the continuing and brazen attacks by herdsmen on communities in Benue and other States and the continuing loss of lives, destruction of property and means of livelihood and increasing displacement of thousands of hapless citizens;

Concerned that although herdsmen have globally been labelled as terrorists even by the United Nations and ranked as the fourth most dangerous terrorist group in the world after Boko Haram, ISIS and Al-Qaeda, have killed approximately 5,000 Nigerians between 2015 and 2017, have displaced over 1 million others from their ancestral homes, destroyed communities, prevented agricultural activities in mostly agrarian communities of the middle belt leading to an impending starvation, the Federal Government has still not declared those attacks as acts of terrorism, and along with her International Development partners, has not also displayed a fraction of the same attention and effort to enhance the security and wellbeing of the States affected by those attacks as has been displayed in other regions of the country;

Aware that the Federal Government had set up several agencies to address the causes and consequences of restiveness and terrorist activities in the country such as the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the Victims Support Fund (VSF), the Presidential Committee on the North-East Initiative (PCNI) and the proposed North-East Development Commission and those bodies primarily obtain funding from national budget, apart from donations from individuals, State Governments, international development partners and other donor agencies and foundations but expend those huge resources only in specific regions of the country and not even the VSF which clearly has the mandate for the support and transformation of victims of terrorism in Nigeria has intervened in the plight of Nigerians affected by the terrorist actions of herdsmen;

Also aware that apart from the resources available to those agencies, the Federal Government is also obtaining additional loans from the World Bank for required intervention in specific regions of the country;

Equally aware the United Nations, in collaboration with the Federal Government, some States and some European Union (EU) countries have pledged hundreds of millions of dollars for a region of the country in addition to donations from Bill Gates Foundation, Dangote Foundation, the European Union; DFID, UNDP, the UK and Japanese Governments in hundreds of millions of dollars to the same region and the Nigerian Recovery and Peace Building Assessment Agreement (RPBA) between the Federal Government, some States of the Federation and International Development Partners which also appears to focus only on one region of the country without paying attention to the burgeoning crisis of herdsmen attacks that are endangering the unity of the nation;

Concerned that the Federal Government has not set up any agency or initiated any campaign to obtain the much needed resources to redress the consequences of herdsmen attacks in the affected communities compared to its efforts in other regions of the country and has seemingly left Governments of the States to grapple with those overwhelming challenges that they are obviously unable to tackle with their limited resources;

Also concerned that International Development Partners and other donor agencies, perhaps borrowing a leaf from the Federal Government's lack luster attitude, have themselves ignored the prevailing herdsmen attacks, despite the intervention urgently required in the affected communities;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with relevant Ministries and Agencies of the Federal Government, the affected State Governments, International Development Partners, Donor Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the affected communities on the matter and also carry out a fact finding mission to the affected communities and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah — Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the continuing and brazen attacks by herdsmen on communities in Benue and other States and the continuing loss of lives, destruction of property and means of livelihood and increasing displacement of thousands of hapless citizens;

Concerned that although herdsmen have globally been labelled as terrorists even by the United Nations and ranked as the fourth most dangerous terrorist group in the world after Boko Haram, ISIS and Al-Qaeda, have killed approximately 5,000 Nigerians between 2015 and 2017, have displaced over 1 million others from their ancestral homes, destroyed communities, prevented agricultural activities in mostly agrarian communities of the middle belt leading to an impending starvation, the Federal Government has still not declared those attacks as acts of terrorism, and along with her International Development partners, has not also displayed a fraction of the same attention and effort to enhance the security and wellbeing of the States affected by those attacks as has been displayed in other regions of the country;

Aware that the Federal Government had set up several agencies to address the causes and consequences of restiveness and terrorist activities in the country such as the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the Victims Support Fund (VSF), the Presidential Committee on the North-East Initiative (PCNI) and the proposed North-East Development Commission and those bodies primarily obtain funding from national budget, apart from donations from individuals, State Governments, international development partners and other donor agencies and foundations but expend those huge resources only in specific regions of the country and not even the VSF which clearly has the mandate for the support and transformation of victims of terrorism in Nigeria has intervened in the plight of Nigerians affected by the terrorist actions of herdsmen;

Also aware that apart from the resources available to those agencies, the Federal Government is also obtaining additional loans from the World Bank for required intervention in specific regions of the country;

Equally aware the United Nations, in collaboration with the Federal Government, some States and some European Union (EU) countries have pledged hundreds of millions of dollars for a region of the country in addition to donations from Bill Gates Foundation, Dangote Foundation, the European Union, DFID, UNDP, the UK and Japanese Governments in hundreds of millions of dollars to the same region and the Nigerian Recovery and Peace Building Assessment Agreement (RPBA) between the Federal Government, some States of the Federation and International Development Partners which also appears to focus only on one region of the country without paying attention to the burgeoning crisis of herdsmen attacks that are endangering the unity of the nation;

Concerned that the Federal Government has not set up any agency or initiated any campaign to obtain the much needed resources to redress the consequences of herdsmen attacks in the affected communities compared to its efforts in other regions of the country and has seemingly left Governments of the States to grapple with those overwhelming challenges that they are obviously unable to tackle with their limited resources;

Also concerned that International Development Partners and other donor agencies, perhaps borrowing a leaf from the Federal Government's lack luster attitude, have themselves ignored the prevailing herdsmen attacks, despite the intervention urgently required in the affected communities;

Resolved to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to interface with relevant Ministries and Agencies of the Federal Government, the affected State Governments, International Development Partners, Donor Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the affected communities on the matter and also carry out a fact finding mission to the affected communities and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 08/2017).

23. Need to Arrest and Prosecute Suspected "Boko Haram" Members Parading as Herdsmen in Etsako Federal Constituency

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the growing state of insecurity in Etsako Federal Constituency leading to incidences of rape, killings and kidnaping by people purported to be herdsmen;

Also notes that these unfortunate incidences are more rampant around Auchi-Warake area; Fugar - Ekperi; and Okpella - Uluoke axis;

Further notes that on Friday, 9 June, 2017, Mr and Mrs Wilson of Elele community and their two (2) children while on their way from the farm, were accosted by men suspected to be herdsmen who killed the pregnant woman while the husband narrowly escaped with a deep machete cuts, which made it one of the several attacks suffered by the people;

Aware that these criminal activities have instilled fear in the people and adversely affected their socio-economic lives as they no longer go about their lawful engagements for fear of being attacked or kidnaped;

Cognizant that section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Inspector General of Police and the Chief of Army Staff to set up a joint task force to deal decisively with the situation before the people start resorting to self-help;
- (ii) also urge the Department of State Services (DSS) to be proactive in monitoring the area so as to prevent the scoundrels from further inflicting harm on the people;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Johnson Egwakhide Oghuma — Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the growing state of insecurity in Etsako Federal Constituency leading to incidences of rape, killings and kidnaping by people purported to be herdsmen;

Also noted that these unfortunate incidences are more rampant around Auchi-Warake area; Fugar - Ekperi; and Okpella - Uluoke axis;

Further noted that on Friday, 9 June, 2017, Mr and Mrs Wilson of Elele community and their two (2) children while on their way from the farm, were accosted by men suspected to be herdsmen who killed the pregnant woman while the husband narrowly escaped with a deep machete cuts, which made it one of the several attacks suffered by the people;

Aware that these criminal activities have instilled fear in the people and adversely affected their socio-economic lives as they no longer go about their lawful engagements for fear of being attacked or kidnaped;

Cognizant that section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Inspector General of Police and the Chief of Army Staff to set up a joint task force to deal decisively with the situation before the people start resorting to self-help;
- (ii) also urge the Department of State Services (DSS) to be proactive in monitoring the area so as to prevent the scoundrels from further inflicting harm on the people;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 09/2017**).

24. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 15 June, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Monguno Tahir Mohammed — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.57 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker