



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 October, 2017

1. The House met at 11.43 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, 3 October, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Ya'u Malam Yakubu, on his demotion by the Nigeria Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), was presented and laid by Hon. Mohammed Sani Zorro (Gumel/Maigatari/S/Tankar/Gagarawa Federal Constituency);
- (ii) A petition from Tony Okeke C. And 3 others, on behalf of Winners of Nigeria Centenary Lottery Mega Promo on alleged fraud and non-payment of their workers by the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation and 7 others, was presented and laid by Hon. Rita Orji (Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency);
- (iii) A petition from NOCI Agwuocha Chukwukadibia & Co. (Barristers, Solicitors, Maritime Consultants & Arbitrators), on behalf of Ofekata III Autonomous Community, Oru East Local Government Area, Imo State, on the refusal by ADDAX Petroleum (Nig) Limited to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the host community, was presented and laid by Hon. Goodluck Opiah (Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency); and
- (iv) A petition from Kennedy Tonjo West and 6 others, on behalf of the Niger Delta Non-Violence Youth Leaders Assembly, on the need to caution the Acting Chairman of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Ibrahim Magu to desist from further harassment and intimidation of Dame Patience Jonathan, was presented and laid by Hon. Henry Ofongo (Southern Ijaw Federal Constituency).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
Need to Curtail the Prevalence of Malaria Epidemic in Kano and the Country in General:
Hon. Danburam Abubakar Nuhu (Kano Municipal Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (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 Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Curtail the Prevalence of Malaria Epidemic in Kano and the Country in General:

The House:

Notes the prevalence of malaria epidemic in Kano Municipal Federal Constituency and some parts of the country;

Also notes that Kano State recorded 22,000 deaths by malaria in 2015, and according to the Kano State Ministry of Health, the State also witnessed unprecedented malaria epidemic in October, 2016;

Further notes the widespread of malaria in the State despite all efforts to bring the epidemic under control through the provision of mosquito nets and administration of drugs;

Observes that one of the challenges that face the people of Kano Municipal Federal Constituency and the State at large is the inadequate provision and distribution of mosquito nets which protect the people against malaria infection;

Also observes that the outbreak of malaria usually occurs during the raining season; therefore, there is need for a proactive measure by public health personnel in the fight against malaria outbreak in the State;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Health to assist in controlling the persistence malaria epidemic outbreak in Kano State and the country at large and report back within three (3) weeks; and
- (ii) urge the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) to be proactive in order to be better prepared and bring the emergency situation such as this under control (*Hon. Danburam Abubakar Nuhu — Kano Municipal Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Amendment proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“Urge the Kano State Government to take proactive steps in clearing refuse dumps and fumigating the environment in Kano Municipality to forestall further spread of the deadly disease” (*Hon. Aminu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the prevalence of malaria epidemic in Kano Municipal Federal Constituency and some parts of the country;

Also noted that Kano State recorded 22,000 deaths by malaria in 2015, and according to the Kano State Ministry of Health, the State also witnessed unprecedented malaria epidemic in October, 2016;

Further noted the widespread of malaria in the State despite all efforts to bring the epidemic under control through the provision of mosquito nets and administration of drugs;

Observed that one of the challenges that face the people of Kano Municipal Federal Constituency and the State at large is the inadequate provision and distribution of mosquito nets which protect the people against malaria infection;

Also observed that the outbreak of malaria usually occurs during the raining season; therefore, there is need for a proactive measure by public health personnel in the fight against malaria outbreak in the State;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Health to assist in controlling the persistence malaria epidemic outbreak in Kano State and the country at large and report back within three (3) weeks;
- (ii) urge the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) to be proactive in order to be better prepared and bring the emergency situation such as this under control; and
- (iii) also urge the Kano State Government to take proactive steps in clearing refuse dumps and fumigating the environment in Kano Municipality to forestall further spread of the deadly disease (HR. 83/2017).

5. **Presentation of Report**
Committees on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness:
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness on the Tour of Destroyed Communities and Government Properties in Yobe State" (Hon. Muhammed Sani Zoro — Gumel/Maigatari/S/Tankar/Gagarawa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

6. **A Bill for an Act to Establish and Regulate the Nigerian Assets Management Agency charged with the Responsibility of Managing all Government Assets, including those Seized, Forfeited or Taken over by Federal Security Bodies such as the EFCC, the ICPC, the Police, the Customs, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps among others; and for Related Matters (HB. 1088) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish and Regulate the Nigerian Assets Management Agency charged with the Responsibility of Managing all Government Assets, including those Seized, Forfeited or Taken over by Federal Security Bodies such as the EFCC, the ICPC, the Police, the Customs, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps among others; and for Related Matters (HB. 1088) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Jones Chukwudi Onyereri — Nkwere/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

7. **Call to Investigate the Abandonment of the Remodelling of Port Harcourt International Airport**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

8. **Need for a Critical Assessment of Books Recommended for Junior Secondary Schools and Prospective Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) Candidates in Nigeria**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that Education is a vehicle for the advancement of human potentials, opportunities and molding of desirable values and attitudes in order to promote patriotism, hard work and integrity, among other national ideals;

Also notes that one of the key issues of national importance emphasized in the National Policy on Education is the inculcation of the right type of values and attitudes for the survival of the individual and the Nigerian society;

Further notes that indiscipline and corruption are major obstacles hindering the nation's socio-economic and political development;

Aware of the need to extend the present administration's war on corruption to the educational institutions which serve as vehicles for character molding;

Also aware that the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) was established to, among other functions, assess and certify books for schools;

Concerned that the National Examination Council (NECO) and the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) recommend books which fall short of ethical values and standards stipulated by the National Policy on Education;

Also concerned that books such as *"The Precious Child"*, *"The Tears of A Bride"* and *"In Dependence"* expose young students to behaviours and practices that promote social vices and corrupt moral values;

Worried that the regular use of obscene language in the description of events and characters in the books make them unsuitable for use in schools as they are capable of eroding the right type of values, attitudes and national ideals that the country needs to develop;

Cognizant that the use of such books in schools resulted essentially, from the failure of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, JAMB, NECO as well as the Federal Ministry of Education to perform their statutory functions;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to sanction the staff of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, the Federal Ministry of Education, JAMB and NECO who approved the recommendation and circulation of inappropriate books in order to forestall such actions in the future;

- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Education, the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, JAMB and NECO to immediately withdraw the books from their curriculum;
- (iii) call on the Federal Ministry of Education to carry out a comprehensive review of existing books recommended for use in the secondary schools with a view to determining whether their contents adhere to stipulated standards; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to invite the Registrars of JAMB and NECO, the Executive Secretary of NERDC as well as the Minister of Education to explain the circumstances behind the recommendation of the books for use by Junior and Senior Secondary Schools in Nigeria and report back within twelve (12) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Mohammed Abubakar Mahmud — Agaie/Lapai Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Education is a vehicle for the advancement of human potentials, opportunities and molding of desirable values and attitudes in order to promote patriotism, hard work and integrity, among other national ideals;

Also noted that one of the key issues of national importance emphasized in the National Policy on Education is the inculcation of the right type of values and attitudes for the survival of the individual and the Nigerian society;

Further noted that indiscipline and corruption are major obstacles hindering the nation's socio-economic and political development;

Aware of the need to extend the present administration's war on corruption to the educational institutions which serve as vehicles for character molding;

Also aware that the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) was established to, among other functions, assess and certify books for schools;

Concerned that the National Examination Council (NECO) and the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) recommend books which fall short of ethical values and standards stipulated by the National Policy on Education;

Also concerned that books such as "*The Precious Child*", "*The Tears of A Bride*" and "*In Dependence*" expose young students to behaviours and practices that promote social vices and corrupt moral values;

Worried that the regular use of obscene language in the description of events and characters in the books make them unsuitable for use in schools as they are capable of eroding the right type of values, attitudes and national ideals that the country needs to develop;

Cognizant that the use of such books in schools resulted, essentially from the failure of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, JAMB, NECO as well as the Federal Ministry of Education to perform their statutory functions;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to sanction the staff of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, the Federal Ministry of Education, JAMB and NECO who approved the recommendation and circulation of inappropriate books in order to forestall such actions in the future;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Education, the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, JAMB and NECO to immediately withdraw the books from their curriculum;
- (iii) call on the Federal Ministry of Education to carry out a comprehensive review of existing books recommended for use in the secondary schools with a view to determining whether their contents adhere to stipulated standards; and
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to invite the Registrars of JAMB and NECO, the Executive Secretary of NERDC as well as the Minister of Education to explain the circumstances behind the recommendation of the books for use by Junior and Senior Secondary Schools in Nigeria and report back within twelve (12) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 84/2017**).

9. Need to Intervene in the Leadership Crises in the Nigeria Basketball Federation

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

10. Rescission of the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Assembly Budget and Research Office which shall provide the National Assembly with Objective, Timely and Non-Partisan Analysis needed for Economic and Budget Decisions and for Related Matters, 2015, pursuant to Order One, Rule 1 (2) and Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives:

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Assembly Budget and Research Office which shall provide the National Assembly with Objective, Timely and Non - Partisan Analysis needed for Economic and Budget Decisions and for Related matters was adopted by both the Senate and the House of Representatives;

Aware that Clause 5 (2) (i) of the Conference Committee Report as adopted did not reflect what was agreed at the Conference Committee meeting;

Recalls that the Conference Committee adopted the House version of the Bill in Clause 5 (2) (i) which is to the effect that: "(i) The President of the Senate as Chairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives as alternate Chairman.....";

Resolves to:

- (i) rescind its decision in adopting Clause 5 (2) (i) of the Conference Committee Report for not being consistent with what was agreed to at the Conference Committee meeting;

- (ii) adopt the House version on the Conference Committee Report on clause 5 (2) (i) to wit: "The President of the Senate as Chairman and the Speaker of the House of Representatives as alternate Chairman and six members from the Senate and six members from the House of Representatives representing each geopolitical zone", as being consistent with what was agreed to at the meeting (*Hon. Timothy Golu — Paskshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

11. Consideration of Reports

(i) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Dr David Olusegun Agbaje:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Dr David Olusegun Agbaje against the Nigeria Customs Service on his premature retirement from the Service and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

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 Dr David Olusegun Agbaje should be restored to office as an Assistant Controller General of the Nigeria Customs Service" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That he should be promoted to the Rank of Deputy Controller General of the Nigeria Customs Service to be at par with his colleagues in the Service" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That he should be paid all the arrears of salaries, benefits and entitlements with effect from July 2013 when he was compulsorily retired from Service" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iv):

"That he should be properly retired from the Service on 14 October 2017 when he will be due for retirement" (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 Dr David Olusegun Agbaje against the Nigeria Customs Service on his premature retirement from the Service and approved Recommendations (i) - (iv) of the Report.

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

(ii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Mr Hegeh Tarhemba Titus:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Hegeh Tarhemba Titus against the Nigeria Customs Service for denial and non-restoration of his salary since December 1992 and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

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 Nigeria Customs Service should re-absorb Mr Hegeh Tarhemba Titus into the Service with effect from the time he applied to be re-absorbed into the Service" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That the Nigeria Customs Service should retire Mr. Titus with effect from the date when he ought to have completed 35 years in Service, without loss of promotion and rank" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Recommendation (ii), line 2, immediately after the word "Service", *leave out* the words "without loss of promotion and rank" and *insert* "and assess him for promotion in accordance with the Customs Service guidelines" (*Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde — Chikun/Kajuru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that Recommendation (ii) amended, stand part of the Report — 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 Hegeh Tarhemba Titus against the Nigeria Customs Service for denial and non-restoration of his salary since December 1992 and approved Recommendation (i), and approved Recommendation (ii) as amended.

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 Merienge Lovelyn Samari:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Merienge Lovelyn Samari over non-payment of her termination benefits by the Bank of Agriculture and approve the recommendation therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

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 Bank of Agriculture to pay Merienge Lovelyn Samari salary arrears of 20 months on compassionate ground" (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 Merienge Lovelyn Samari over non-payment of her termination benefits by the Bank of Agriculture and approved the 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 Nasiru Aliyu:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Nasiru Aliyu against the Nigeria Police Force on alleged unlawful killing of Ibrahim Badamasi by the Kano State Police Command and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).

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 matter should be referred to the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria for medical negligence" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Recommendations (i) and (ii) and Insert a new Recommendation as follows:

"That the matter should be referred to the Attorney-General of the Federation for proper investigation and prosecution" (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question that the new Recommendation, stands part of the Report — 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 Nasiru Aliyu against the Nigeria Police Force on alleged unlawful killing of Ibrahim Badamasi by the Kano State Police Command and rejected Recommendations (i) - (ii), and approved a new Recommendation.

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 Stephen Nwadiogbu:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Stephen Nwadiogbu against the Department of State Service on the unlawful termination of his appointment and approve the recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá West Federal Constituency*).

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:

"That the House do discountenance the petition for lack of merit as Mr Stephen Nwadiogbu was duly retired because his services were no longer needed" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwá East/Ukwá 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 Stephen Nwadiogbu against the Department of State Service on the unlawful termination of his appointment and approved the 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 Fredrick A. Itaro:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Fredrick A. Itaro against the Managing Director of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) on alleged unlawful termination of his appointment and approve the recommendation therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

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:

"That the House do discountenance the petition for lack of merit" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Fredrick A. Itaro against the Managing Director of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) on alleged unlawful termination of his appointment and approved the Recommendation of the Report.

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

12. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 5 October, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.55 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker