HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 21 June, 2016

1. The House met at 11.36 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 Thursday, 16 June, 2016.

*The **Votes and Proceedings** was adopted by unanimous consent.*

3. **Message**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

20 *June*, 201 ›

Right Honourable Yakubu Dogara
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Rt. Hon. Y. Dogara,

RESUMPTION OF OFFICE

In compliance with Section 145 *of the* 1999 *Constitution (as amended), I write to intimate the House that I have resumed my functions as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with effect from Monday, June* 20, 2016, *after my short vacation.*

2. *Please accept as always, assurances of my esteemed consideration.*

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Yours Sincerely,

(*Signed*)

Muhammadu Buhari

4. Announcement

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

(*i*) Staff and Students of School for the Gifted, Gwagwalada, Abuja;

(*ii*) Members of Student Representative Council (SRC), Students' Union, Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Ibadan, Oyo State;

(*iii*) Students of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, Ondo State;

(*iv*) Members of Department of Political Science and Administration, Adamawa State University, Mubi; and

(*v*) Staff and Students of Kingdom Heritage Model Schools, Kubwa, Abuja.

5. Petitions

(*i*) A petition from M. N. Elumor & Associates on behalf of the Arewa Community in Asaba and Onitsha on the wanton killing of their members by the Indegenous People of Biafra (IPOB), was presented and laid by Hon. Sani Mohammed Zorro (*Gumel/Gagarawa/S/Ankar/Maigatari Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Razaq Atunwa Olatunde (*Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) Enyinnah Ephraim Osinachi against the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) on the denial of ₦5,000,000 (five million naira only) grant award;

(*b*) Col. M. U. Yabo and 16 others against the Nigerian Army on career sabotage and wrongful retirement from the Nigerian Army;

(*c*) the Board of Trustees of Games Village Residents Association, Abuja against the Development Control, Abuja, on the proposed construction of Lebanese Community Church in Games Village;

(*d*) Prince Obiora Odono and 30 others against the Ebonyi State Government on their wrongful disengagement from the service of Ebonyi Broadcasting Corporation;

(*iii*) A petition from Fagbemi Samuel Akanbi against the Federal Civil Service Pension Department on the non-payment of his gratuity and pension, was presented and laid by Hon. Elijah Oluwatayo Adewale (*Ifako/Ijaye Federal Constituency*);

(*iv*) A petition from Sgt Muraina Rasaki against the Nigeria Police on the non implementation of the House Resolution of 2007 to re-instate him into the service, was presented and laid by Hon. Mukaila Olayiwola Kazzim (*Abeokuta North/Obafemi-Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

Condemns the continuing disregard of the constitutionally binding decisions of the House, including the Resolution of the House in relation to taking over of the functions of the Kogi House of Assembly. After exhaustive consideration, the House validly exercised its constitutional powers to take over the functions of that Assembly, only for the Attorney-General of the Federation to unilaterally countermand that Resolution. He was aided in that illegality by the Inspector-General of Police who used police personnel to open the Assembly. The result is that just five members constitute and make laws for Kogi State;

Decries the constant and regular disregard of the House by the Executive in pursuit of its constitutional powers of oversight. It is now commonplace that Ministers and Heads of parastatals ignore invitations by Standing Committees and *Ad-hoc* Committees at will. The House Committees have therefore been rendered toothless because no consequences attach to such wanton refusal of Ministers to attend;

Denounces the recent move by the Executive to cripple the National Assembly by filing charges and seeking to arraign the Presiding Officers of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in relation to matters that are wholly the intemal affairs of the Senate;

Recalls that the Federal High Court in Abuja issued a Ruling on 27 July, 2015 and another one on 4 August, 2015 to the effect that even the allegation of "forgery" of the Standing Order is an internal affair of the National Assembly which should not be pried into by the Inspector General of Police or the Attorney-General of the Federation or even the Judiciary. The Court expressed being "wary that a dangerous precedent is being set for the 8th National Assembly to have its internal proceedings being regulated, perhaps supervised, by other arms of government";

Concerned that this is a deliberate and concerted attack on the National Assembly so as to render it useless in the eyes of the general public;

Worried that if this ugly trend continues unabated, it will be detrimental to good governance and highly damaging to our democracy;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Strongly urge Mr President who has sworn to an Oath to defend and protect the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to prevail on the members of the Executive Council to desist from taking steps that will cripple the National Assembly, including prosecuting the Presiding Officers of the Senate, over alleged "forgery" of Senate Rules, which a competent Court of Law has also recognised as strictly the "internal affairs of the National Assembly" and which judgment has not been set aside by any Superior Court; and

(*ii*) also urge the Executive to abide by the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in all respects (*Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen — Kabba-Bunu/Ijumu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that this fourth Republic has endured uninterrupted since 1999 with five general elections having been held since then;

6. Privilege (Order VI, Rule 20)

Hon. Gbillah Mark Terseer (*Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*) drew the attention of the House to a recent media frenzy on the allegations of sexual misconduct against him and two other Members of the House by the United States Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr James F. Entwistle, while attending the International Visitors' Leadership Program in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, from 7 - 13 April, 2016. He stated that the allegations were very grave, malicious, unfounded and unsubstantiated. He viewed the allegations as a breach of his privilege and calculated attempt to tarnish his image and that of the House. He called on the USA Ambassador to provide verifiable evidence to substantiate the allegations. He therefore urged the House to refer the matter to its relevant Committees with a view to conducting a hearing and giving fair hearing to the accused Members.

Mr Speaker noted that the allegations of sexual misconduct against the Hon. Members are very serious, and therefore referred the matter to the Committees on Ethics and Privileges, and Foreign Affairs for investigation. He however advised the Press and other commentators particularly in the social media to exercise cautions on their comments on the matter, since under the law an accused person is innocent until proven guilty.

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

(*i*) ***Need to Safeguard the Nation's Democracy and Protect the Integrity and Independence of the National Assembly*:**

Hon. Yusuf Ayo Tajudeen (*Kabba-Bunu/Ijumu 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 VIII, Rules 46 (3) and 49 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, Rules 46 (3) *and* 49 *to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

Urgent Need to Safeguard the Nation's Democracy and Protect the Integrity and Independence of the National Assembly:

The House:

Notes that this fourth Republic has endured uninterrupted since 1999 with five general elections having been held since then;

Aware that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides for three arms of Government, namely, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. These three arms of government operate under the principle of separation of powers;

Also notes that the 1999 Constitution guarantees the independence of the Legislature with powers to regulate its own proceedings;

Observes with a grave concern that the independence of the National Assembly is under unprecedented, severe, and sustained attack by the Executive arm of Government;

Aware that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides for three arms of Government, namely, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. These three arms of government operate under the principle of separation of powers;

Also noted that the 1999 Constitution guarantees the independence of the Legislature with powers to regulate its own proceedings;

Observed with a grave concern that the independence of the National Assembly is under unprecedented, severe, and sustained attack by the Executive arm of Government;

Condemned the continuing disregard of the constitutionally binding decisions of the House, including the Resolution of the House in relation to taking over of the functions of the Kogi House of Assembly. After exhaustive consideration, the House validly exercised its constitutional powers to take over the functions of that Assembly, only for the Attorney-General of the Federation to unilaterally countermand that Resolution. He was aided in that illegality by the Inspector-General of Police who used police personnel to open the Assembly. The result is that just five members constitute and make laws for Kogi State;

Decries the constant and regular disregard of the House by the Executive in pursuit of its constitutional powers of oversight. It is now commonplace that Ministers and Heads of parastatals ignore invitations by Standing Committees and *Ad-hoc* Committees at will. The House Committees have therefore been rendered toothless because no consequences attach to such wanton refusal of Ministers to attend;

Denounced the recent move by the Executive to cripple the National Assembly by filing charges and seeking to arraign the Presiding Officers of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in relation to matters that are wholly the internal affairs of the Senate;

Recalled that the Federal High Court in Abuja issued a Ruling on 27 July, 2015 and another one on 4 August, 2015 to the effect that even the allegation of "forgery" of the Standing Order is an internal affair of the National Assembly which should not be pried into by the Inspector General of Police or the Attorney-General of the Federation or even the Judiciary. The Court expressed being "wary that a dangerous precedent is being set for the 8th National Assembly to have its internal proceedings being regulated, perhaps supervised, by other arms of government";

Concerned that this is a deliberate and concerted attack on the National Assembly so as to render it useless in the eyes of the general public;

Worried that if this ugly trend continues unabated, it will be detrimental to good governance and highly damaging to our democracy;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Strongly urge Mr President who has sworn to an Oath to defend and protect the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to prevail on the members of the Executive Council to desist from taking steps that will cripple the National Assembly, including prosecuting the Presiding Officers of the Senate, over alleged "forgery" of Senate Rules, which a competent Court of Law has also recognised as strictly the "internal affairs of the National Assembly" and which judgment has not been set aside by any Superior Court; and

(*ii*) also urge the Executive to abide by the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in all respects (**HR. 16/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Justice, and Legislative Compliance.

(*ii*) ***Illegal Mining Activities at Dabah Settlement in Rimi Village, Buruku District, Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State*:**
Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde (*Chikun/Kajuru 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 VIII, Rules 46 (3) and 49 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, Rules 46 (3) *and* 49 *to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.*

Illegal Mining Activities at Dabah Settlement in Rimi Village, Buruku District, Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State:

The House:

Notes that sometime in February 2016 some youths reported the activities of illegal expatriate and local miners improperly mining Lead contaminated Gold-Ore in Taidna River across Dabbah settlement in Rimi Village of Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State to the Village Head of the community;

Aware of the grave environmental devastation and health hazards associated with artisanal mining;

Worried about the influx of illegal miners from across our national borders and from within to the area with its attendant security implications;

Recognizing the need for coordinated and proper harnessing of national natural resources;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Call on the Minister for Environment, Minister for Solid Minerals and the Inspector General of Police to immediately take steps to secure already identified sites with a view halting illegal mining activities that may cause devastating environmental and health hazards; and

(*ii*) also call on the Minister for Solid Minerals to carry out detailed studies of the site and its environs to determine the commercial availability and viability of Gold-Ore prospecting in the area (*Hon. Yakubu Umar Barde — Chikun/Kajuru Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that sometime in February 2016 some youths reported the activities of illegal expatriate and local miners improperly mining Lead contaminated Gold-Ore in Taidna River across Dabbah settlement in Rimi Village of Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State to the Village Head of the community;

Aware of the grave environmental devastation and health hazards associated with artisanal mining;

Worried about the influx of illegal miners from across our national borders and from within to the area with its attendant security implications;

Recognizing the need for coordinated and proper harnessing of national natural resources;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Call on the Minister for Environment, Minister for Solid Minerals and the Inspector General of Police to immediately take steps to secure already identified sites with a view halting illegal mining activities that may cause devastating environmental and health hazards; and

(*ii*) also call on the Minister for Solid Minerals to carry out detailed studies of the site and its environs to determine the commercial availability and viability of Gold-Ore prospecting in the area (**HR. 17/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Solid Minerals.

8. Presentation of Reports

(*i*) ***Committee on Environment and Habitat*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Environment and Habitat on a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria Act, 1973 and Re-enact the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria Bill, 2015; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 41)" (*Hon. Obinna Chidoka — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Federal Capital Territory*:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Capital Territory on the Investigation of Alleged Malpractices Associated with the Land Swap Programme in the Federal Capital Territory" (*Hon. Herman Hembe — Konshisha/Vandekiya Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration for the Implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 482) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration for the Implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 482) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Oluwole Oke — Obokun/Oriade 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 Niger Delta Ministry.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Incorporate the Investments and Securities Tribunal (Renamed Investments and Securities Court) as a Superior Court of Record; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 577) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Incorporate the Investments and Securities Tribunal (Renamed Investments and Securities Court) as a Superior Court of Record; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 577) 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.

Bill referred to the Special Ad-hoc Committee on the Review of the 1999 *Constitution.*

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission Meter Reading, Billing, Cash Collection and Credit Management for Electricity Supplies Regulations No. 42 of 2007, Cap. E7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Address Matters Relating to Outstanding Liability of Electricity Bills in Rented Apartments; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 510) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission Meter Reading, Billing, Cash Collection and Credit Management for Electricity Supplies Regulations No. 42 of 2007, Cap. E7, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Address Matters Relating to Outstanding Liability of Electricity Bills in Rented Apartments; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 510) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Lovette E. Idisi — Ethiope East/Ethiope West 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 Power.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Provide Federal Contracting References and Measures aimed at Promoting and Encouraging Nigerian Patriot Corporations; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 553) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide Federal Contracting References and Measures aimed at Promoting and Encouraging Nigerian Patriot Corporations; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 553) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo — Afikpo North/Afikpo South 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 Public Procurement.

13. Need to Avert a Possible Breakdown of Law and Order in Okekura, Ilorin Due to the Incessant Harassment of Indigenes by Soldiers and Prison Officials Protecting the Okekura Prison
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the existence of the Okekura Prison in Ilorin, which was built to house approximately 120 prisoners and was located at the outskirt of the town at the time of construction; but is currently being surrounded by a fully developed Okekura Community, whose inhabitants wake up daily as neighbours to the jail house;

Also notes that more recently, the Madalla Medium Prison was constructed with better facilities to complement the age-long Okekura Prison;

Aware from reliable sources that Okekura Prison currently houses over 500 prisoners, including 50 condemned criminals, which makes the jail an eyesore and exposes the community to danger;

Concerned that the need to ensure maximum security for a prison which does not have the capacity to house condemned criminals is causing the intermittent blockade and restriction of people living within the area from accessing the major thoroughfare that connects to a mosque and other places, as well as subjecting them to daily harassment by military and prison personnel;

Also concerned about reports from the area indicating an impending breakdown of law and order by residents who are frustrated with the incessant harassment, restriction of their movements as well as the obvious risks associated with an over populated prison housing over 50 condemned prisoners;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Army, and Interior to interface with the Nigerian Army and the Nigerian Prisons Service to ensure that soldiers and prison personnel on security duty at the prison desist from harassing or molesting people and also blocking the thoroughfare at intermittent periods, and to conduct their activities without encroaching on the rights of innocent people using the road; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Interior to work towards ensuring the immediate relocation of condemned inmates to maximum security prisons as well as seeking ways of decongesting the Okekura Prison to ease the threat it poses to inhabitants due to its location (*Hon. Abubakar Amuda-Kannike G. — Ilorin East/Ilorin South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Notes the existence of the Okekura Prison in Ilorin, which was built to house approximately 120 prisoners and was located at the outskirt of the town at the time of construction; but is currently being surrounded by a fully developed Okekura Community, whose inhabitants wake up daily as neighbours to the jail house;

Also notes that more recently, the Madalla Medium Prison was constructed with better facilities to complement the age-long Okekura Prison;

Aware from reliable sources that Okekura Prison currently houses over 500 prisoners, including 50 condemned criminals, which makes the jail an eyesore and exposes the community to danger;

Concerned that the need to ensure maximum security for a prison which does not have the capacity to house condemned criminals is causing the intermittent blockade and restriction of people living within the area from accessing the major thoroughfare that connects to a mosque and other places, as well as subjecting them to daily harassment by military and prison personnel;

Also concerned about reports from the area indicating an impending breakdown of law and order by residents who are frustrated with the incessant harassment, restriction of their movements as well as the obvious risks associated with an over populated prison housing over 50 condemned prisoners;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committees on Army, and Interior to interface with the Nigerian Army and the Nigerian Prisons Service to ensure that soldiers and prison personnel on security duty at the prison desist from harassing or molesting people and also blocking the thoroughfare at intermittent periods, and to conduct their activities without encroaching on the rights of innocent people using the road; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Interior to work towards ensuring the immediate relocation of condemned inmates to maximum security prisons as well as seeking ways of decongesting the Okekura Prison to ease the threat it poses to inhabitants due to its location (**HR. 18/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Army, and Interior.

14. Call for Ban on the Hawking of Drugs in Market Places, Motor Parks, and other Prohibited Areas

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls the Report, sometime in June, 2015, that the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) banned the hawking of Drugs in Benue State;

Notes the existence of an illegal Medicine Sellers Association which confers some form of protection to the hawkers, and it is entirely different from the registered Medicine Sellers Association of Nigeria;

Worried that these hawkers who abound in parks, bars, markets and other areas do not have pharmaceutical or medical qualifications and even go as far as prescribing drugs to ignorant and unsuspecting Nigerians who buy them because of their cheapness and availability;

Worried that most of the drugs being dispensed by these hawkers are either fake or have expired and people who have innocently purchased them end up in critical conditions or ultimately die;

Disturbed that despite the ban on illegal sale of drugs, this practice of hawking has continued to thrive, aided in part by the patronage of the public who have indirectly continued to sustain the practice;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) to sensitize the public on the dangers of hawking drugs and patronizing the hawkers; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to liaise with the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and other relevant agencies to work out modalities on how to eradicate this menace, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed — Gwale Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
In paragraph 1, *leave out* the words "Benue State", and *insert* the word "Nigeria" (*Hon. Oluwarotimi Agunsoye — Kosofe Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled the Report, sometime in June, 2015, that the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) banned the hawking of Drugs in Nigeria;

Noted the existence of an illegal Medicine Sellers Association which confers some form of protection to the hawkers, and it is entirely different from the registered Medicine Sellers Association of Nigeria;

Worried that these hawkers who abound in parks, bars, markets and other areas do not have pharmaceutical or medical qualifications and even go as far as prescribing drugs to ignorant and unsuspecting Nigerians who buy them because of their cheapness and availability;

Worried that most of the drugs being dispensed by these hawkers are either fake or have expired and people who have innocently purchased them end up in critical conditions or ultimately die;

Disturbed that despite the ban on illegal sale of drugs, this practice of hawking has continued to thrive, aided in part by the patronage of the public who have indirectly continued to sustain the practice;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) to sensitize the public on the dangers of hawking drugs and patronizing the hawkers; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to liaise with the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and other relevant agencies to work out modalities on how to eradicate this menace, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 19/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

15. Urgent Need to Develop a National Plan on Sickle Cell
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Sickle Cell (disease) is a disorder of the blood caused by an inherited abnormal hemoglobin (the oxygen-carrying protein within the red blood cells) with Nigeria reportedly having five million Sickle Cell patients;

Also notes that the disease is mostly common in the developing and under- developed countries across the world as most developed countries do not have any case of the disease;

Concerned that in Nigeria with high rate of illiteracy, especially in the rural communities, little is known about the disease, and this has resulted in the numbers of sickle cell anaemia patients in the country, and in other African countries;

Aware that in Lagos State, there is a Sickle Cell Foundation of Nigeria which was established for the purpose of educating the public on the disease and assisting patients where necessary, however, scarcity of fund has hindered its operations;

Also aware that a successful treatment of the disease was carried out at the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan through bone marrow transplant and the process was said to be less risky;

Mindful of the fact that more still need to be done in terms of educating and orientating the public on the disease and in the area of subsidizing the cost of treatment as some families could not afford the money;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with relevant Government Agencies to engage in continuous campaigns and education of the public on the disease; and

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to introduce a policy for subsidizing the costs of treating patients with Sickle Cell anaemia (*Hon. Saheed Akinade-Fijabi — Ibadan Southwest/Ibadan Northwest Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Sickle Cell (disease) is a disorder of the blood caused by an inherited abnormal hemoglobin (the oxygen-carrying protein within the red blood cells) with Nigeria reportedly having five million Sickle Cell patients;

Also noted that the disease is mostly common in the developing and under- developed countries across the world as most developed countries do not have any case of the disease;

Concerned that in Nigeria with high rate of illiteracy, especially in the rural communities, little is known about the disease, and this has resulted in the numbers of sickle cell anaemia patients in the country, and in other African countries;

Aware that in Lagos State, there is a Sickle Cell Foundation of Nigeria which was established for the purpose of educating the public on the disease and assisting patients where necessary, however, scarcity of fund has hindered its operations;

Also aware that a successful treatment of the disease was carried out at the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan through bone marrow transplant and the process was said to be less risky;

Mindful of the fact that more still need to be done in terms of educating and orientating the public on the disease and in the area of subsidizing the cost of treatment as some families could not afford the money;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to interface with relevant Government Agencies to engage in continuous campaigns and education of the public on the disease; and

(*ii*) urge the Federal Government to introduce a policy for subsidizing the costs of treating patients with Sickle Cell anaemia (**HR. 20/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

16. Urgent Need to Arrest the Escalating Tension and Possible Breakdown of Law and Order Arising from Boundary Dispute Between Umuagbedo-AguAmachalla Community in Igbo-Eze North Local Government Areaof Enugu State and Igu-Orokam In Ogbadibo Local Government Area of Benue State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that a piece of land, approximately 25 hectares, in the border of Enugu and Benue States within Umuagbedo-AguAmachalla community, Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area of Enugu State and Igu-Orokam, Ogbadibo Local Government Area of Benue State, has been a subject of dispute between the two communities;

Aware that a fact finding mission in 2005, comprising the National Boundary Commission and interested parties from all sides, had traced the land through a root title (Nigerian Constitution, Order in Council, 1954), as belonging to Enugu State;

Also notes that the dispute resurfaced in 2007 during which the Deputy Governors of the two States, together with the National Boundary Commission resolved, as an interim measure, to designate the disputed area a "buffer zone" and the two communities were asked to steer clear of the zone while the Commission sought a lasting solution to the dispute on its ownership;

Concerned that the Igu-Orokam community had recently entered the land and started cutting down economic trees, thereby provoking tension among the people of Amachalla community in Enugu State;

Further notes the allegation that the Igu-Orokam community had sold the disputed land or part of it to some investors who were sighted in the place, following which Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area alerted the police, and put the Governments of both States on notice, and prevailed on Amachalla community to maintain the peace;

Also concerned that this state of uneasy calm may not last long, as the tension may degenerate into breakdown of law and order, leading even to exchange of avoidable hostilities, if the situation is not effectively addressed, and the dispute resolved;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Inspector General of Police to enforce peace in the area so as to avoid any escalation of hostilities;

(*ii*) also urge the Government of Benue State to direct the people of Igu-Orakam community to strictly observe the "buffer zone" arrangement pending the final resolution of the dispute; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to interface with the National Boundary Commission to ensure an urgent resolution of the boundary dispute, and report back to the House within three months for further legislative action (*Hon. Dennis Nnamdi Agbo — Igbo-Etiti/Uzo-Uwani Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that a piece of land, approximately 25 hectares, in the border of Enugu and Benue States within Umuagbedo-AguAmachalla community, Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area of Enugu State and Igu-Orokam, Ogbadibo Local Government Area of Benue State, has been a subject of dispute between the two communities;

Aware that a fact finding mission in 2005, comprising the National Boundary Commission and interested parties from all sides, had traced the land through a root title (Nigerian Constitution, Order in Council, 1954), as belonging to Enugu State;

Also noted that the dispute resurfaced in 2007 during which the Deputy Governors of the two States, together with the National Boundary Commission resolved, as an interim measure, to designate the disputed area a "buffer zone" and the two communities were asked to steer clear of the zone while the Commission sought a lasting solution to the dispute on its ownership;

Concerned that the Igu-Orokam community had recently entered the land and started cutting down economic trees, thereby provoking tension among the people of Amachalla community in Enugu State;

Further noted the allegation that the Igu-Orokam community had sold the disputed land or part of it to some investors who were sighted in the place, following which Igbo-Eze North Local Government Area alerted the police, and put the Governments of both States on notice, and prevailed on Amachalla community to maintain the peace;

Also concerned that this state of uneasy calm may not last long, as the tension may degenerate into breakdown of law and order, leading even to exchange of avoidable hostilities, if the situation is not effectively addressed, and the dispute resolved;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Inspector General of Police to enforce peace in the area so as to avoid any escalation of hostilities;

(*ii*) also urge the Government of Benue State to direct the people of Igu-Orakam community to strictly observe the "buffer zone" arrangement pending the final resolution of the dispute; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to interface with the National Boundary Commission to ensure an urgent resolution of the boundary dispute, and report back to the House within three months for further legislative action (**HR. 21/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Special Duties.

17. Consideration of Report

***Committee on National Security and Intelligence*:**

That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on National Security and Intelligence on the Alleged Invasion of the Ekiti State House of Assembly by men of the Department of State Service (DSS) in Violation of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, 2004 and approve the recommendations therein.

Order deferred by leave of the House.

18. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 22 June, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Goni Bukar Lawan — Bursari/Geidam/Yunusari Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.42 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker