



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14 March, 2018

1. The House met at 11.27 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 March, 2018.  
*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*
3. **Announcements**
  - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**  
Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following visitors in the Gallery:
    - (i) Staff and Students of *Baptist Nursery/Primary School*, Garki, Abuja;
    - (ii) Staff and Students of *Nigeria-Canadian College*, Jabi, Abuja;
    - (iii) Staff and Students of *Emmanuel's Learning Spring High School*, Mararaba, Karu, Nasarawa State; and
    - (iv) Staff and Students of *Handmaids Girls' Secondary School*, Kuje, Abuja.
  - (b) Mr Speaker announced the membership of the following Conference Committees:
    - (i) **Conference Committee on the National Biotechnology Development Bill, 2018:**

|    |                             |   |          |
|----|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Hon. Beni Lar               | — | Chairman |
| 2. | Hon. Shehu Aliyu Musa       | — | Member   |
| 3. | Hon. Opiah Goodluck         | — | Member   |
| 4. | Hon. Asuquo Daniel Effiong  | — | Member   |
| 5. | Hon. Ajibola Famurewa       | — | Member   |
| 6. | Hon. Garba Ibrahim Mohammed | — | Member   |

(ii) **Conference Committee on the Federal Audit Commission Bill, 2018:**

- |    |                              |   |          |
|----|------------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa | — | Chairman |
| 2. | Hon. Daniel Reyenieju        | — | Member   |
| 3. | Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim           | — | Member   |
| 4. | Hon. Nnenna Elendu Ukeje     | — | Member   |
| 5. | Hon. Jagaba Adams Jagaba     | — | Member   |
| 6. | Hon. Kayode Oladele          | — | Member   |

4. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**(i) ***Need to Investigate the Alleged Disappearance of \$150,000 from the International Amateur Athletics Federation to the Athletics Federation of Nigeria and the Threat of Banning the Country if the Money is not Returned:***

Hon. Diri Douye (Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokunia 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 Investigate the Alleged Disappearance of \$150,000 from the International Amateur Athletics Federation to the Athletics Federation of Nigeria and the Threat of Banning the Country if the Money is not Returned:**

The House:

*Notes* the reports in various news outlets including the Guardian (March 8, 2018) that the International Amateur Athletics Federation reportedly paid \$150,000 to the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), instead of \$15,000, which is its annual grant to member Federations for the year 2017;

*Also notes* that according to the reports, the IAAF accountants later discovered the error and subsequently asked AFN to refund the excess payment but the money seems to have disappeared into thin air;

*Informed* that some Board members of the AFN are calling for an emergency Congress to look into the scandal and have faulted the Sports Minister, Solomon Dalung, who was said to have set up a Committee to probe the circumstances surrounding the missing grant;

*Worried* over the allegations that the recipient of the money might have used his private account to collect the money from IAAF sometime last year when the sports minister had dissolved the board of various sports federations;

*Also worried* that in the era of the operation of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) by all Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government (MDAs) in the country, monies could be received and spent so easily, contrary to extant laws;

*Concerned* that not only is the image of the country being seriously tarnished by the failure of the AFN to refund the excess payment at the instance of the IAAF, Nigeria also runs the risk of being banned from international competitions;

*Also concerned* about the effect such a ban will have on the youth of the country who see participating in sports as a viable means of livelihood;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Sports to carry out a forensic audit on how this alleged looting of the excess grant payment and determine the steps being taken to:
  - (a) refund the money to the IAAF to prevent Nigeria from being banned, and
  - (b) prevent further infractions in future;
- (ii) invite the Minister of Youth and Sports, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria and the Central Bank of Nigeria and any other connected parties to explain their roles in the matter (*Hon. Douye Diri — Yenagoa/Kolokuma Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* the reports in various news outlets including the Guardian (March 8, 2018) that the International Amateur Athletics Federation reportedly paid \$150,000 to the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), instead of \$15,000, which is its annual grant to member Federations for the year 2017;

*Also noted* that according to the reports, the IAAF accountants later discovered the error and subsequently asked AFN to refund the excess payment but the money seems to have disappeared into thin air;

*Informed* that some Board members of the AFN are calling for an emergency Congress to look into the scandal and have faulted the Sports Minister, Solomon Dalung, who was said to have set up a Committee to probe the circumstances surrounding the missing grant;

*Worried* over the allegations that the recipient of the money might have used his private account to collect the money from IAAF sometime last year when the sports minister had dissolved the board of various sports federations;

*Also worried* that in the era of the operation of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) by all Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government (MDAs) in the country, monies could be received and spent so easily, contrary to extant laws;

*Concerned* that not only is the image of the country being seriously tarnished by the failure of the AFN to refund the excess payment at the instance of the IAAF, Nigeria also runs the risk of being banned from international competitions;

*Also concerned* about the effect such a ban will have on the youth of the country who see participating in sports as a viable means of livelihood;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Sports to carry out a forensic audit on how this alleged looting of the excess grant payment and determine the steps being taken to:

- (a) refund the money to the IAAF to prevent Nigeria from being banned, and
  - (b) prevent further infractions in future;
  - (ii) invite the Minister of Youth and Sports, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria and the Central Bank of Nigeria and any other connected parties to explain their roles in the matter (HR. 100/03/2018).
- (ii) ***Need to Deploy Security Personnel to Stem the Recurring Crises Between Ibaji/Odeke Kogi State, and Eziaguluotu Aguleri Communities of Anambra State:***  
Hon. Tony Nwoye (*Anambra East/Anambra West 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 Deploy Security Personnel to Stem the Reoccurring Crises Between the Ibaji/Odeke (Kogi State) and Eziaguluotu and Enuguotu Aguleri Communities of Anambra State:**

The House:

*Notes* that the communities of Ibaji/Odeke (Kogi State) and Eziaguluotu and Enuguotu Aguleri (Anambra State) have been involved in crises over Land and oil found on the land for several years during which several lives were lost, many wounded and properties worth Millions of Naira were destroyed;

*Informed* that the communal crisis reoccurred recently, and have been on-going for the past four days, leaving 4 persons with bullet wounds, over fifteen farm settlements destroyed, houses vandalized, properties destroyed and economic activities of communities in Onueke, Ogbuoka, Igozi, Anaovia, Ariyiga, Ataja, Odobuenyi, Oviaiosu, Akodi, Oda, Iyiakwa Nwakaego, Ngeneuju and Okpangol were disrupted;

*Cognizant* that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), provides that the security and welfare of the people should be the primary purpose of Government;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) call on the National Security Adviser, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Chief of Army Staff and the Inspector General of Police to deploy security personnel to Ibaji/Odeke (Kogi State) and Eziaguluotu and Enuguotu Aguleri communities of Anambra State to restore peace and avoid further escalation of the crises; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, and Police Affairs to ensure implementation of this resolution (*Hon. Tony Nwoye — Anambra East/West Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to*

The House:

*Noted* that the communities of Ibaji/Odeke (Kogi State) and Eziaguluotu and Enuguotu Aguleri (Anambra State) have been involved in crises over Land and oil found on the land for several years during which several lives were lost, many wounded and properties worth Millions of Naira were destroyed;

*Informed* that the communal crisis reoccurred recently, and have been on-going for the past four days, leaving 4 persons with bullet wounds, over fifteen farm settlements destroyed, houses vandalized, properties destroyed and economic activities of communities in Onueke, Ogbuoka, Igozi, Anaovia, Ariyiga, Ataja, Odobuenyi, Oviaiosu, Akodi, Oda, Iyiakwa Nwakaego, Ngeneuju and Okpangol were disrupted;

*Cognizant* that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), provides that the security and welfare of the people should be the primary purpose of Government;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) call on the National Security Adviser, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Chief of Army Staff and the Inspector General of Police to deploy security personnel to Ibaji/Odeke (Kogi State) and Eziaguluotu and Enuguotu Aguleri communities of Anambra State to restore peace and avoid further escalation of the crises; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defence, Army, and Police Affairs to ensure implementation of this resolution (**HR. 101/03/2018**).

**5. Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Harmful Waste (Special Criminal Provisions, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1363).
- (2) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1364).
- (3) Dangerous Weapons Bill, 2018 (HB. 1365).
- (4) National Agency for Technology Management Bill, 2018 (HB. 1366).
- (5) Nigerian Textile Industry Trust Fund Bill, 2018 (HB. 1367).

**6. Presentation of Report**

***Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Production and Distribution of Drinks Manufactured by the Nigeria Bottling Company Limited and other Drinks Produced or Marketed in Nigeria:***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Production and Distribution of Drinks Manufactured by the Nigeria Bottling Company Limited and other Drinks Produced or Marketed in Nigeria" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**7. Consolidation of Bills:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 to Provide an Expanded Scope of Borrowing Power to the Government, Repeal and Enact the Fiscal Responsibility Bill to Provide for Prudent Management of the Nation's Resources, Ensure Long Term Macro-Economic Stability of the National Economy, Secure Greater Accountability and Transparency in Fiscal Operations within the Medium Term Fiscal Policy Framework and the Establishment of the Fiscal Responsibility Commission to Ensure the Promotion and Enforcement of the Nation's Economic Objectives; and for Related Matters (HB. 1166 and HB. 1093) be further consolidated with a Bill for an Act to Amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 to Enhance the Powers of the Commission in the Performance of its Functions under the Act in the Enforcement of Remittance of Revenues into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation and to Provide Penalties for Violation of the Provisions of the Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 1225), and a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 and Enact Fiscal Responsibility Bill to Provide for the Establishment of the Fiscal Expansionary Commission and to Promote Long Term Economic Growth through greater Transparency and Accountability in Fiscal Operations of Government, increased Government spending on Infrastructure, Budget Process Reform; and for Related Matters (HB. 1348) (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**8. A Bill for an Act to Establish 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 Provision for continuous Training and Development of the Directors, to ensure Professionalism and Promote Corporate Governance Values by the Directors; and for Related Matters (HB. 1352) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish 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 Provision for continuous Training and Development of the Directors, to ensure Professionalism and Promote Corporate Governance Values by the Directors; and for Related Matters (HB. 1352) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Bill withdrawn, by leave of the House.*

**9. A Bill for an Act to make the Assets Declared by Public Officers Accessible to the Public in Order to give effect to the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999; and for Related Matters (HB. 1068) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to make the Assets Declared by Public Officers Accessible to the Public in Order to give effect to the Provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999; and for Related Matters (HB. 1068) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Hazeer Babajide Akinloye — Eti-Osa Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

*Debate.*

*Bill withdrawn, by leave of the House.*

**10. Need for Construction of Road to Link Communities in Jigawa, Bauchi and Kano States**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the need to construct a road to link several communities of Gwaram in Jigawa State with Warji, Dallaji - Tudun Wada, Nasaru, Balma Masussuka, Kafin Lemo of Bauchi State to Sumaila Road in Kano State has become paramount;

*Aware* that the road has for a long time remained untarred and therefore unmotorable which causes transit fatigue, hardship, danger and also exposes commuters to accidents due to the bad state of the road;

*Further aware* of the Economic Importance of the road to local traders and farmers who ply the road to make ends meet;

*Informed* that the deplorable condition of the road makes it very easy for kidnappers and armed robbers to carry out their operations freely and then run into their hideouts in the bush along its stretch;

*Cognizant* that the construction of the road will greatly ease the transportation difficulties currently being experienced by the people and reduce incidents of kidnapping and armed robbery that thrive as a result of the bad state of the road;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to embark upon construction of the Road from Gwaram in Jigawa State to Warji, Dallaji-Tudun Wada, Nasaru, Balma Masussuka, Kafin Lemo of Bauchi State to Sumaila in Kano State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance to ensure the construction of the road is included in the 2018 budget proposal (*Hon. Salisu Zakari Ningi — Ningi/Warji Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**(HR. 102/03/2018).**

*Motion referred to the Committees on Works, Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).*

**11. Need to Investigate the Untoward activities going on in various Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps in Nigeria**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* with concern the publication in the Nation Newspaper of December 17, 2017 on how the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps in Nigeria are poorly managed;

*Also notes* that there are several IDPs Camps all over the country due to the continuous invasion by Boko Haram which has led to displacement of many innocent citizens from their Communities;

*Worried* that there are a lot of stories in our national dailies, including the New York Times, of the harrowing experiences of rape committed against women and girls by men in the Camps especially those who are supposed to protect them;

*Also worried* that the stories are the same in all the Camps across the country namely: rape, sex for food and materials, rampant pregnancy and abandonment of young mothers and their children. There are also cases of pilfering of relief materials and extortion ravaging the camps;

*Aware* that Human Rights Watch had reportedly written to various government agencies requesting comments on the various allegations emanating from all the camps, but has not received any response;

*Also aware* that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is mandated under the National Emergency Management Agency Act to provide emergency reliefs to victims of "natural or other disasters" and to assist in their rehabilitation, but NEMA and the Refugee Commission which have expanded mandate for IDPs are unable to cope with the level of displacement;

*Concerned* that the efforts of government concerning the care and protection of the IDPs is not enough, hence the need for government to do more to protect them;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on IDPs, Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone to investigate the rampant cases of rape, teenage pregnancy, extortion and stealing of relief materials in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps across Nigeria and report back within 8 weeks (*Hon. Hassan Saleh — Ado/Ogbadibo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to*

The House:

*Noted* with concern the publication in the Nation Newspaper of December 17, 2017 on how the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps in Nigeria are poorly managed;

*Also noted* that there are several IDPs Camps all over the country due to the continuous invasion by Boko Haram which has led to displacement of many innocent citizens from their Communities;

*Worried* that there are a lot of stories in our national dailies, including the New York Times, of the harrowing experiences of rape committed against women and girls by men in the Camps especially those who are supposed to protect them;

*Also worried* that the stories are the same in all the Camps across the country namely: rape, sex for food and materials, rampant pregnancy and abandonment of young mothers and their children. There are also cases of pilfering of relief materials and extortion ravaging the camps;

*Aware* that Human Rights Watch had reportedly written to various government agencies requesting comments on the various allegations emanating from all the camps, but has not received any response;

*Also aware* that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is mandated under the National Emergency Management Agency Act to provide emergency reliefs to victims of "natural or other disasters" and to assist in their rehabilitation, but NEMA and the Refugee Commission which have expanded mandate for IDPs are unable to cope with the level of displacement;

*Concerned* that the efforts of government concerning the care and protection of the IDPs is not enough, hence the need for government to do more to protect them;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on IDPs, Refugees and Initiatives on North East Zone to investigate the rampant cases of rape, teenage pregnancy, extortion and stealing of relief materials in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps across Nigeria and report back within 8 weeks (**HR. 103/03/2018**).

**12. Need to Conduct a Comprehensive Audit of all Revenues Accruable to the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) through the Abuja Investment Company Limited, its Subsidiaries and Affiliates and also the Alleged Abuse of Due Process in the Last 10 Years (2007-2017)**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) was incorporated in 1994 as Abuja Investment and Property Development Company (AIPDC);

*Also notes* that AICL is wholly owned by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) with a vision to build capacity in Public Private Partnership Administration and Asset Management for sustainable development;

*Further notes* that the Abuja Investment Company Limited oversees the Abuja Markets Management Limited, Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited, Abuja Property and Development Limited, Abuja Technology Village, and Abuja Film Village International;

*Aware* that FCTA controls varying stakes in various affiliates of the Abuja Investment Company Limited which include the Abuja Leasing Company Limited, Abuja Connect Limited, Power North AICL Equipment Leasing Limited, Abuja Power Company Limited, Aso Properties and Investment Management Limited, Aso Savings and Loans Limited, among others;

*Informed* that as a result of the abuse of due process by the Abuja Markets Limited and other subsidiaries, the AICL signed a Facility Management Agreement which has been consistently disregarded to the detriment of the Federal Government;

*Further informed* that one of the Subsidiary of the Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited receives Forty Million Naira (₦40,000,000) monthly as subsidy to augment its operations which, according to findings, is unnecessary if the organization is efficiently managed;

*Concerned* that about ₦1 Billion (One Billion Naira), which is expended annually on diesel and appropriated for, is a source of embezzlement being perpetrated by a few individuals at the expense of the country;

*Also concerned* that in spite of the capital invested by the Federal Government to establish the Abuja Investment Company Limited, its Subsidiaries and Affiliates have become a source of revenue leakages and fraud running into billions of naira;

*Worried* that efforts by the new management of AICL to sanitize the activities of its Subsidiaries are being frustrated as laid down agreements are blatantly disregarded;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory to:

- (i) carry out an extensive audit of all contract agreements entered into between the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) and its Subsidiaries/Affiliates and revenues accruable from the contracts as well as remittances made to date and losses, if any;

- (ii) investigate the immediate and remote causes of breach of due process and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Prestige Ossy — Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) was incorporated in 1994 as Abuja Investment and Property Development Company (AIPDC);

*Also noted* that AICL is wholly owned by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) with a vision to build capacity in Public Private Partnership Administration and Asset Management for sustainable development;

*Further noted* that the Abuja Investment Company limited oversees the Abuja Markets Management Limited, Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited, Abuja Property and Development Limited, Abuja Technology Village, and Abuja Film Village International;

*Aware* that FCTA controls varying stakes in various affiliates of the Abuja Investment Company Limited which include the Abuja Leasing Company Limited, Abuja Connect Limited, Power North AICL Equipment Leasing Limited, Abuja Power Company Limited, Aso Properties and Investment Management Limited, Aso Savings and Loans Limited, among others;

*Informed* that as a result of the abuse of due process by the Abuja Markets Limited and other subsidiaries, the AICL signed a Facility Management Agreement which has been consistently disregarded to the detriment of the Federal Government;

*Also informed* that one of the Subsidiary of the Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company Limited receives Forty Million Naira (₦40,000,000) monthly as subsidy to augment its operations which, according to findings, is unnecessary if the organization is efficiently managed;

*Concerned* that about ₦1 Billion (One Billion Naira), which is expended annually on diesel and appropriated for, is a source of embezzlement being perpetrated by a few individuals at the expense of the country;

*Also concerned* that in spite of the capital invested by the Federal Government to establish the Abuja Investment Company Limited, its Subsidiaries and Affiliates have become a source of revenue leakages and fraud running into billions of naira;

*Worried* that efforts by the new management of AICL to sanitize the activities of its Subsidiaries are being frustrated as laid down agreements are blatantly disregarded;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on Federal Capital Territory to:

- (i) carry out an extensive audit of all contract agreements entered into between the Abuja Investment Company Limited (AICL) and its Subsidiaries/Affiliates and revenues accruable from the contracts as well as remittances made to date and losses, if any;
- (ii) investigate the immediate and remote causes of breach of due process and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 104/03/2018**).

**13. Need for the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to Commence Work on the Proposed Skills Acquisition Centre in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency of Lagos State**  
*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency is densely populated with an adult population of 2.6 million as captured in the 2006 Census exercise;

*Also notes* that the entire South West Geopolitical Zone does not have a modern skills acquisition center like other zones to train people to be self-reliant and independent;

*Further notes* that the Hon. Minister of Labour and Employment, Dr Chris Ngige had mandated the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to undertake the construction of the skills acquisition centers in the South West Zone;

*Informed* that in a bid to ensure the construction of a skills acquisition center in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal constituency, a parcel of land measuring about 3.4 hectares was provided for the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and approval was given for same by the Hon. Minister since year 2017 but the NDE has not complied due to bureaucratic bottle necks;

*Aware* that providing a skills acquisition center in the Constituency will reduce the menace of jobless youths commonly referred to as Area Boys, harness their enormous potentials and enable them become self-reliant with a view to generating a pool of indigenous and trained manpower sufficient to meet the needs of the private and public sectors of the entire Constituency and beyond;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity to interface with the Minister of Labour and Employment and the Director-General of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to ascertain the reasons for the delay of the project in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency with a view to ensuring its early commencement; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance to ensure that the project is included in the 2018 Budget proposal (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency is densely populated with an adult population of 2.6 million as captured in the 2006 Census exercise;

*Also noted* that the entire South West Geopolitical Zone does not have a modern skills acquisition center like other zones to train people to be self-reliant and independent;

*Further noted* that the Hon. Minister of Labour and Employment, Dr Chris Ngige had mandated the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to undertake the construction of the skills acquisition centers in the South West Zone;

*Informed* that in a bid to ensure the construction of a skills acquisition center in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal constituency, a parcel of land measuring about 3.4 hectares was provided for the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and approval was given for same by the Hon. Minister since year 2017 but the NDE has not complied due to bureaucratic bottle necks;

*Aware* that providing a skills acquisition center in the Constituency will reduce the menace of jobless youths commonly referred to as Area Boys, harness their enormous potentials and enable them become self-reliant with a view to generating a pool of indigenous and trained manpower sufficient to meet the needs of the private and public sectors of the entire Constituency and beyond;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) mandate the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity to interface with the Minister of Labour and Employment and the Director-General of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to ascertain the reasons for the delay of the project in Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency with a view to ensuring its early commencement; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Appropriations, and Legislative Compliance to ensure that the project is included in the 2018 Budget proposal (**HR. 105/03/2018**).

**14. Need for the River Basin Development Authorities to Focus on their Statutory Mandate to reduce Nigeria's Dependency on Rain-Fed Agriculture**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that Nigeria has eleven River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) which were established in 1976 to harness the country's water resources and optimize Nigeria's agricultural resources for food self-sufficiency;

*Also notes* that the River Basin Development Authorities are also expected to bridge the gap between rural and urban centres by taking development to the grass roots and discourage rural - urban migration;

*Aware* that the River Basin Development Authorities include the Sokoto - Rima Basin, the Hadejia-Jema'are Basin; the Lake Chad Basin, the Upper Benue Basin, the Lower Benue Basin, the Cross River Basin, the Anambra - Imo Basin, the Niger Basin, the Niger Delta Basin, the Benin-Owena Basin and the Osun-Ogun Basin;

*Also aware* that the River Basin Authorities have over the years, embarked on construction of many Dams which include: Nkari, Qua Falls, Obudu, Bakolori, Ede-Erinle, Zobe, Zauro, Tiga, Oyan, Kiri, Kafin Zaki, Ikere, Goronyo, Challawa, Dadin Kuwa, Asijere and so many others;

*Concerned* that the eleven River Basin Development Authorities and their numerous Dams have largely failed to lift Nigeria from rain-fed agriculture since the one seasonal farming period cannot satisfy the country's food needs despite its vast arable land;

*Also concerned* that other mandates of the River Development Basins (RBDA's) that are aimed at stimulating the setting up of large plantations and industrial complexes capable of bringing the private and public sectors into joint business partnerships have been largely unattainable;

*Further concerned* that the failure of the River Development Basins in carrying out their functions has led the country into spending billions of naira yearly in the importation of tons of fish and other agricultural produce that should readily have been available in Nigeria;

*Cognizant* of the Federal Government's current drive to diversify the economy through agriculture;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to come up with strategies to resuscitate the River Basin Development Authorities to enable them achieve their statutory mandate of diversifying the economy through agriculture; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to visit and assess the eleven River Basin Development Authorities, their Dams and Reservoir projects across the country with a view to ascertaining their levels of operations and ensure increased allocations to them in the 2018 budget estimates (*Hon. Emmanuel Ukoete — Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that Nigeria has eleven River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) which were established in 1976 to harness the country's water resources and optimize Nigeria's agricultural resources for food self-sufficiency;

*Also noted* that the River Basin Development Authorities are also expected to bridge the gap between rural and urban centres by taking development to the grass roots and discourage rural - urban migration;

*Aware* that the River Basin Development Authorities include the Sokoto - Rima Basin, the Hadejia-Jema'are Basin; the Lake Chad Basin, the Upper Benue Basin, the Lower Benue Basin, the Cross River Basin, the Anambra - Imo Basin, the Niger Basin, the Niger Delta Basin, the Benin-Owena Basin and the Osun-Ogun Basin;

*Also aware* that the River Basin Authorities have over the years, embarked on construction of many Dams which include; Nkari, Qua Falls, Obudu, Bakolori, Ede-Erinle, Zobe, Zauro, Tiga, Oyan, Kiri, Kafin Zaki, Ikere, Goronyo, Challawa, Dadin Kuwa, Asijere and so many others;

*Concerned* that the eleven River Basin Development Authorities and their numerous Dams have largely failed to lift Nigeria from rain-fed agriculture since the one seasonal farming period cannot satisfy the country's food needs despite its vast arable land;

*Also concerned* that other mandates of the River Development Basins (RBDA's) that are aimed at stimulating the setting up of large plantations and industrial complexes capable of bringing the private and public sectors into joint business partnerships have been largely unattainable;

*Further concerned* that the failure of the River Development Basins in carrying out their functions has led the country into spending billions of naira yearly in the importation of tons of fish and other agricultural produce that should readily have been available in Nigeria;

*Cognizant* of the Federal Government's current drive to diversify the economy through agriculture;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to come up with strategies to resuscitate the River Basin Development Authorities to enable them achieve their statutory mandate of diversifying the economy through agriculture; and

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to visit and assess the eleven River Basin Development Authorities, their Dams and Reservoir projects across the country with a view to ascertaining their levels of operations and ensure increased allocations to them in the 2018 budget estimates (HR. 106/03/2018).

**15. Consideration of Reports**

- (i) ***Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Production and Distribution of Drinks Manufactured by the Nigeria Bottling Company Limited and other Drinks Produced or Marketed in Nigeria:***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do consider the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Production and Distribution of Drinks Manufactured by the Nigeria Bottling Company Limited and other Drinks Produced or Marketed in Nigeria and approve the recommendations therein” (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I 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 warning labels be printed on Fanta and Sprite that the products are harmful when taken with Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)” (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

***Amendment Proposed:***

In the Prayer, immediately after the word “Sprite”, insert the following “from January 1, 2019” (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (i) as amended, stands part of the Report — Agreed to.*

***Recommendation (ii):***

“That the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) should compel Producers/Manufacturers to indicate all chemicals, acids, colorants and preservatives contained in their products on the packs or bottles no matter how negligible they are” (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

***Amendment Proposed:***

In the Prayer, immediately after the word “NAFDAC”, insert the following “from January 1, 2019” (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (ii) as amended, stands part of the Report — Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (iii):**

“That the Regulatory Agencies be adequately supported and funded by the Government to enable them effectively stop adulteration of all drinks produced and marketed in Nigeria” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out* all the words in the Prayer and *insert* as follows:

“That the Regulatory Agencies be adequately funded by the Government to enable them effectively monitor and ensure compliance with the standards of all beverages produced and marketed in Nigeria” (*Hon. Pwajok Edward Gyang — Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency*)

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (iii) as amended, stands part of the Report — Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (iv):**

“That expiration dates must be printed on all carbonated and non-carbonated drinks produced and marketed in Nigeria” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

“In line 2 of the Prayer, immediately after the word “Nigeria”, *insert* the following “from January 1, 2019” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*)

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (iv) as amended, stands part of the Report — Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (v):**

“That standard review should be carried out biannually by the Regulatory Agencies, particularly the Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) partnering with NAFDAC” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (vi):**

“That there should be a Standing Committee on drinks, beverages and foods produced and/or marketed in Nigeria” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out* all the words in the Prayer, and *insert* as follows:

“Mandate the Committee on Healthcare Institutions to pay attention to the National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC)” (*Hon. Muhammed Zakari — Baruten/Kaima Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (vi) as amended, 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 *Ad-hoc* Committee to Investigate the Production and Distribution of Drinks Manufactured by the Nigeria Bottling Company Limited and other Drinks Produced or Marketed in Nigeria and approved Recommendations (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) as amended, approved Recommendation (v), and approved Recommendation (vi) as amended.

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

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

**Petition by Empowerment for Unemployed Youth Initiative and Nine Other Civil Society Organizations:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do consider the Petition by Empowerment for Unemployed Youth Initiative and Nine Other Civil Society Organizations against the Federal Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Defence on the Ceding of Nigeria Coastal Waterways to HLSI Security Firms and the Technology and Commercialization of the Nigeria Navy to Shorfac Consortium Limited 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):**

“Urge the Executive Arm to, in the overriding National Security Interest (to preserve our security both internal and external) and to strengthen our Naval Command, cancel the Deep Blue Sea Contract, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), HLSI, System for improving the control over Nigeria's Exclusive Economic Zone in its entirety” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (ii):**

“That the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency should stop henceforth, the funding of the contract as it was not appropriated for” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (iii):**

“That Messrs Shorfac Consortium Proposal, widely consulted and studied by both the Executive and National Assembly should be encouraged as it puts no financial stress or security threats to Nigeria” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

In line 2 of the Prayer, immediately after the word “encouraged”, insert the words “to proceed and conclude” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwu East/Ukwu West Federal Constituency*)

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (iii) as amended, 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 Petition by Empowerment for Unemployed Youth Initiative and Nine Other Civil Society Organizations against the Federal Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Defence on the Ceding of Nigeria Coastal Waterways to HLSI Security Firms and the Technology and Commercialization of the Nigeria Navy to Shorfac Consortium Limited and approved Recommendations (i) and (ii), and approved Recommendation (iii) as amended.

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

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

**Petition by Igwe (Arc) Augustine Azuka Ngoddy Mcpkoc:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Petition by Igwe (Arc) Augustine Azuka Ngoddy Mcpkoc against the Nigeria Police Force Command, Awka over the Land Allocation by Atani Community for Police Station, Atani 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 Nigeria Police should vacate the Land belonging to Atani Community, which it encroached upon, as the Land given to it by the Atani Community did not cross the road as shown in the drawn map" (*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 Petition by Igwe (Arc) Augustine Azuka Ngoddy Mcpkoc against the Nigeria Police Force Command, Awka over the Land Allocation by Atani Community for Police Station, Atani 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:**

**Petition by Ahmed A. Abbas and Twenty-Five Others:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Petition by Ahmed A. Abbas and Twenty-Five Others against Staff School, Federal Polytechnic, Mubi, Adamawa State on their unlawful dismissal 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):**

"Urge the Federal Polytechnic Mubi, Adamawa State to reinstate Ahmed A. Abbas and twenty-five others as Staff of the School" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

**Agreed to.**

**Recommendation (ii):**

"That all their salaries and entitlements be paid to them" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

**Agreed to.**

**Recommendation (iii):**

"That those qualified to receive Pensions, should have their Pensions processed" (*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 Petition by Ahmed A. Abbas and Twenty-Five Others against Staff School, Federal Polytechnic, Mubi, Adamawa State on their unlawful dismissal and approved Recommendations (i) - (iii) of the Report.

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

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

**Petition by Luka Markus Bot against the Chief Registrar, Supreme Court of Nigeria:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Petition by Luka Markus Bot against the Chief Registrar, Supreme Court of Nigeria on his wrongful dismissal as Employee of the Supreme Court of Nigeria 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 Chief Registrar, Supreme Court of Nigeria to reinstate Luka Markus Bot” (*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 Petition by Luka Markus Bot against the Chief Registrar, Supreme Court of Nigeria on his wrongful dismissal as Employee of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and approved the Recommendation of the Report.

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

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

**Petition by Uchenna C. Oparaugo and Co on Behalf of Olukemi Joy Komolaye:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Petition by Uchenna C. Oparaugo and Co on behalf of Olukemi Joy Komolaye against the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) on the alleged unlawful termination of her 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:**

“Urge the Nigerian Communications Commission to reinstate Olukemi Joy Komolaye” (*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 Petition by Uchenna C. Oparaugo and Co on behalf of Olukemi Joy Komolaye against the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) on the alleged unlawful termination of her appointment and approved the Recommendation of the Report.

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

**16. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 15 March, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabamila — House Leader).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 3.14 p.m.*

**Yakubu Dogara**  
*Speaker*