HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 22 June, 2016

1. The House met at 11.23 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, 21 June, 2016.

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

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

(*i*) Staff and Students of Redeemer Teap International School, Garki II, Abuja;

(*ii*) Members of National Association of Public Administration Students (NAPAS), Department of Public Administration, Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna State;

(*iii*) Students of the Department of Political Science and Administration, Adamawa State University, Mubi; and

(*iv*) Staff and Students of Privilege and Peace International School, Apiawoyi, Nasarawa State.

4. **Petition**
A petition from Ashiegbu Desmond on his inhuman treatment and dismissal from the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Goodluck Nana Opiah (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order VIII, Rule 46)**
***Concern over Ban on Exportation of Dried Beans to European Countries from Nigeria by European Union*:**
Hon. Ferdinand Dozie Nwankwo (*Anaocha/Njikoka/Dunukofia Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

(*a*) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and

PRINTED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESS, ABUJA

(*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.*

Concern over Ban on Exportation of Dried Beans to European Countries from Nigeria by European Union:

The House:

Notes that in June 2015, the European Union banned importation of dried beans into European Countries from Nigeria on the ground that the produce contained high level of pesticide considered hazardous to human health;

Also notes that the ban was to last till 30th June, 2016 to allow Nigerian authorities time to provide an export control plan and assurance that the beans exported to the EU comply with the EU-Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances;

Aware that the House, after considering motion by Hon. Jerry Alagboso, mandated the Committees on Commerce, and Agriculture to liaise with relevant stakeholders to work on resolving the issues and concerns raised by the EU Food. Safety Authority to lift the ban;

Also aware that several relevant agencies of government including Standard Organization of Nigeria, NAFDAC and Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment claimed to be collaborating with each other to resolve the issue before close of the deadline;

Concerned about recent several newspaper publications where the Coordinating Director of the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service, Vincent Isegbe said that the EU has extended the ban on importation of dried beans from Nigeria into EU for 3 years;

Also concerned that the publication alleged that the reason for the extension of the ban is that Nigeria did not do enough to lift the ban during the period of suspension;

Worried about the effect of the extended ban of dried beans export on our economy, especially as the current administration is focused on diversifying the economy through export of agricultural products;

Also worried about how safe the dried beans and other foodstuff consumed within the country are for human consumption;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry to investigate the matter and report back to the House within two weeks (*Hon. Ferdinand Dozie Nwankwo — Anaocha/Njikoka/Dunukofia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in June 2015, the European Union banned importation of dried beans into European Countries from Nigeria on the ground that the produce contained high level of pesticide considered hazardous to human health;

Also noted that the ban was to last till 30th June, 2016 to allow Nigerian authorities time to provide an export control plan and assurance that the beans exported to the EU comply with the EU-Minimal Risk Levels for Hazardous Substances;

Aware that the House, after considering motion by Hon. Jerry Alagboso, mandated the Committees on Commerce, and Agriculture to liaise with relevant stakeholders to work on resolving the issues and concerns raised by the EU Food, Safety Authority to lift the ban;

Also aware that several relevant agencies of government including Standard Organization of Nigeria, NAFDAC and Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment claimed to be collaborating with each other to resolve the issue before close of the deadline;

Concerned about recent several newspaper publications where the Coordinating Director of the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service, Vincent Isegbe said that the EU has extended the ban on importation of dried beans from Nigeria into EU for 3 years;

Also concerned that the publication alleged that the reason for the extension of the ban is that Nigeria did not do enough to lift the ban during the period of suspension;

Worried about the effect of the extended ban of dried beans export on our economy, especially as the current administration is focused on diversifying the economy through export of agricultural products;

Also worried about how safe the dried beans and other foodstuff consumed within the country are for human consumption;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry to investigate the matter and report back to the House within two weeks (**HR. 22/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services.

6. **Privilege (Order VI, Rule 20)**

Rising on Order VI, Rule 20, Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki (*Dala Federal Constituency*) recalled the House Resolution of Tuesday, 15 December, 2015, wherein the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Special Duties were mandated to carry out a holistic investigation into the activities of Hajj Commission of Nigeria as it relates to Hajj and Umrah operations with particular reference to 2015 Hajj, giving details of the parties involved in the Mina stamped. He observed with regrets that several months after the Resolution the concerned Committees have not done any tangible work on the assignment. He noted that the apparent inaction of the Committees constitutes a breach of the privilege of the House and therefore appealed to the Hon. Speaker to invoke Order XVII, Rule 109 (*iv*) (*g*) by discharging the Committees of the referral, having regards to the fact that preparation for the 2016 Hajj has begun. He also appealed to the House to find alternative ways of averting the tragedy that marred the 2015 Hajj operation.

Mr Speaker noted the observation of Hon. Aliyu Madaki and ruled that it would be appropriate to constitute an Ad hoc Committee to deal with the matter. He therefore discharged the Committees of the referral and directed that an Ad-hoc Committee should work on the matter and report back within 4 weeks.

***Ad-hoc Committee to Investigate the Role of National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) in the operation of Hajj and Umrah especially 2015 operation vis-a-vis the Stampede at Mina*:**
Mr Speaker named the Members of the *Ad-hoc* Committee as follows:

(1)	Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Kemba	—	*Chairman*
(2)	Hon. Mojeed Alabi	—	*Member*
(3)	Hon. Chika Adamu	—	*Member*
(4)	Hon. Muktar Aliyu Betara	—	*Member*
(5)	Hon. Iduma Igariwey Enwo	—	*Member*
(6)	Hon. Aliyu Madaki	—	*Member*
(7)	Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai	—	*Member*
(8)	Hon. Shadimu Mutiu	—	*Member*
(9)	Hon. Balarabe Salame	—	*Member*

7. Presentation of Report
***Ad-hoc Committee on Deregulation of the Petroleum Downstream Sector in Nigeria*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Deregulation of the Petroleum Downstream Sector in Nigeria (**HR. 166/2016**)" (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — Doguwa/Tudun Wada Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Independent Warehouse Regulatory Agency; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 116) — *Second Reading*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Independent Warehouse Regulatory Agency; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 116) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani 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 Capital Market and Institutions.

9. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Prevention, Treatment and Control of Cancer; a Bill for an Act to Establish a National Cancer Institute to be the Nation's Principal Agency for Cancer Research, to Coordinate a National Research Programme on Cancer Causes, Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment Through Various Research Projects and Clinical Trials; a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment; and a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Agency for the Prevention and Control of Cancer (HBs 462, 463, 464 and 497) — *Second Reading*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Prevention, Treatment and Control of Cancer; a Bill for an Act to Establish a National Cancer Institute to be the Nation's Principal Agency for Cancer Research, to Coordinate a National Research Programme on Cancer Causes, Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment Through Various Research Projects and Clinical Trials; a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment; and a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Agency for the Prevention and Control of Cancer (HBs 462, 463, 464 and 497) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Aminu Ahmad Suleiman — Nasarawa North/Nasarawa West Federal Constituency*).

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Regulate Community Service for Offenders in certain cases, to Require a Person Convicted of a Minor Offence, with the consent of the offender, to perform Community Service in lieu of Imprisonment; and to Provide for Other Related Matters (HB. 488) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Regulate Community Service for Offenders in certain cases, to Require a Person Convicted of a Minor Offence, with the consent of the offender, to perform Community Service in lieu of Imprisonment; and to Provide for Other Related Matters (HB. 488) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba – Mbaitoli/Ikeduru 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 Interior.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of Human Rights Online, to Protect Internet Users in Nigeria from Infringement of their Fundamental Freedoms and to Guarantee Application of Human Rights for Users of Digital Platforms; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 490) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of Human Rights Online, to Protect Internet Users in Nigeria from Infringement of their Fundamental Freedoms and to Guarantee Application of Human Rights for Users of Digital Platforms; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 490) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Chukwuemeka Ujam – Nkanu East/Nkanu West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Human Rights, and Telecommunications.

12. **Urgent Need to Save the Souls of People of Ife Central Local Government Area of Osun State from the Devastating Effects of Gully Erosion**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Ife Central Local Government consists of many communities, amongst which is Oni-Ilare Line 1 Community which is inhabited by about 60,000 people;

Aware that Sabo/Fajuyi/Ilesa Road is a Federal Road that was constructed without proper drainage facilities, thus leading to serious occurrence of gully erosion which constitutes serious danger to the lives and properties of the people;

Concerned that the gully erosion has separated one Community from the other leading to disintegration and inability to effectively carry out commercial transactions, including impediment to vehicular movements as well as the collapse of schools, houses, shops and fences;

Also concerned that no positive step has been taken to stop the devastation caused by the gully erosion which started more than ten years ago;

Believes that immediate action needs to be taken to avoid further loss of lives and destruction of properties;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to construct proper drainage system along Sabo/Fajuyi/Ilesa Road and also to create channel for water flow from Ilare, Sabo, College, Fajuyi, Hezekiah Oluwasanmi Road in Ile-Ife to the canal behind Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospital, Ile-Ife, Osun State (*Hon. Albert Abiodun Adeogun – Ife Central/Ife East/Ife North/Ife South Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

(HR. 23/2016).

Motion referred to the Committee on Environment and Habitat, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).

13. Urgent Need to Investigate the Process of Digital (Broadcast) Switch Over now Slated for June 2017

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that for the second time, Nigeria has failed to meet the deadline for Digital Switch Over (DSO) from analogue transmission to digital terrestrial transmission;

Aware that the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) the regulator of broadcasting in Nigeria is saddled with the responsibility to comply with this policy of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which Nigeria is a member;

Worried that despite the NBC being advised by the digital team to issue one (1) Signal Distribution Licence to a strong and reliable technical company, it went ahead and issued three (3) independent licences, thereby causing confusion in the market;

Also worried that the failure to consider telecommunications companies that have the needed critical infrastructure like fibreoptic network as key stakeholders in the process of issuance of DSO made the proposed solution to look inefficient and wasteful, considering the number of satellite dishes scattered in Jos, Plateau State where the pilot scheme was launched by the Ministry of Information and Culture;

Cognizant that the driver of DSO process would have allowed content providers to include the Graphic User Interface (GUI) solution but this was separated and given to a relatively unknown foreign outfit with little or no technical knowhow to solely handle, and it was given the responsibility of providing GUI for over 25 million homes and offices, leaving the entire data that could also be used for other purposes like security and commercials, in the hands of a foreign company;

Observes with dismay the fact that the Government has paid billions of Naira to private companies to import Set-Top Boxes and Graphic User Interface (GUI) for over 20 million viewers in Nigeria;

Also observes that the harvested bandwidth frequency spectrum freed up in the process of digitalization was sold to MTN without recourse to due process, thereby increasing the chances of creating a monopoly in the broadcasting Industry;

Concerned that with the June 2017 date for the switch over being just 12 months from now, Nigeria will be required to procure over 20 million units of Set-Top Boxes from China, hence the urgent need for the Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) to be alive to its mandate of ascertaining the quality of the boxes that will be sold to Nigerians to ensure that they meet the minimum standard required and are also cost effective;

Resolves to:

Constitute an *Ad hoc* Committee to carry out the following actions and report back to the House within 8 weeks:

(*i*) invite all Stakeholders involved in the DSO programme with a view to ensuring that the process will meet the deadline, ensure quality and cost effective services to Nigerians;

(*ii*) investigate the sale of the harvested Bandwidth to MTN, and the concession of the GUI valued added services to Inview Tech Ltd of United Kingdom; and

(*iii*) ascertain whether the Aggregators that were paid billions of Naira to supply over 20 million Set-Top Boxes are capable of meeting the deadline (*Hon. Chris Emeka Azubogu – Njewi North south/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that for the second time, Nigeria has failed to meet the deadline for Digital Switch Over (DSO) from analogue transmission to digital terrestrial transmission;

Aware that the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) the regulator of broadcasting in Nigeria is saddled with the responsibility to comply with this policy of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which Nigeria is a member;

Worried that despite the NBC being advised by the digital team to issue one (1) Signal Distribution Licence to a strong and reliable technical company, it went ahead and issued three (3) independent licences, thereby causing confusion in the market;

Also worried that the failure to consider telecommunications companies that have the needed critical infrastructure like fibreoptic network as key stakeholders in the process of issuance of DSO made the proposed solution to look inefficient and wasteful, considering the number of satellite dishes scattered in Jos, Plateau State where the pilot scheme was launched by the Ministry of Information and Culture;

Cognizant that the driver of DSO process would have allowed content providers to include the Graphic User Interface (GUI) solution but this was separated and given to a relatively unknown foreign outfit with little or no technical knowhow to solely handle, and it was given the responsibility of providing GUI for over 25 million homes and offices, leaving the entire data that could also be used for other purposes like security and commercials, in the hands of a foreign company;

Observed with dismay the fact that the Government has paid billions of Naira to private companies to import Set-Top Boxes and Graphic User Interface (GUI) for over 20 million viewers in Nigeria;

Also observed that the harvested bandwidth frequency spectrum freed up in the process of digitalization was sold to MTN without recourse to due process, thereby increasing the chances of creating a monopoly in the broadcasting Industry;

Concerned that with the June 2017 date for the switch over being just 12 months from now, Nigeria will be required to procure over 20 million units of Set-Top Boxes from China, hence the urgent need for the Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) to be alive to its mandate of ascertaining the quality of the boxes that will be sold to Nigerians to ensure that they meet the minimum standard required and are also cost effective;

Resolved to:

Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to carry out the following actions and report back to the House within 8 weeks:

(*i*) invite all Stakeholders involved in the DSO programme with a view to ensuring that the process will meet the deadline, ensure quality and cost effective services to Nigerians;

(*ii*) investigate the sale of the harvested Bandwidth to MTN, and the concession of the GUI value added services to Inview Tech Ltd of United Kingdom; and

(*iii*) ascertain whether the Aggregators that were paid billions of Naira to supply over 20 million Set-Top Boxes are capable of meeting the deadline (**HR. 24/2016**)

14. Call on the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) to Maintain and Continuously Update a Comprehensive Database of Nigerians

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that since Nigeria's independence in 1960, the country has not been able to conduct a reliable and acceptable census exercise and as a result, it has not been able to have an accurate and centralised database to guide national planning;

Also notes that knowledge of the exact population and demographies of a country is cardinal to national planning as it will facilitate equitable redistribution of national wealth and also the spread of development;

Aware of the data captured by various agencies like the Federal Road Safety Corps, the Independent National Electoral Commission, the Nigerian Communications Commission through the telecommunications companies and very recently, Commercial Banks through the Bank Verification Number (BVN) initiative, yet these data are not centralized and none of these agencies can rely on the other to get accurate information on Nigerians;

Also aware that the data captured by these agencies are limited to their areas of operation to the exclusion of the larger population; and even the current regimes of National Identity Cards, National Drivers Licence and Permanent Voters Cards only cover persons who are 18 years and above or persons with interest in the agency's area of operation;

Observes that countries with centralized national database like the United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, China, Kenya and South Africa have recorded growth and development, minimal levels of corruption, high security surveillance, effective immigrant control, social security and welfare and effective tax systems;

Convinced of the need for a centralized database to capture Nigerians of all ages, gender, ethnicity, etc which will specifically identify all citizens and foreigners living in the country as this will aid the

government in statistical planning and realistic budgeting, security surveillance, social security and welfare, immigrants' control, fight against corruption and provision of infrastructure;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) to regularly update its centralized national database to capture Nigerians of all ages, gender and ethnicity;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Interior to interface with relevant agencies like the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the Nigerian Immigration Service with specialized data to integrate and share their data into the Central Database platform;

(*iii*) further urge the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as well as the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to ensure that relevant agencies/companies under them comply by synergizing their data into the Central Database platform; and

(*iv*) mandate the Committees on Interior, Population, Federal Road Safety Commission, Telecommunications, Banking and Currency, and Electoral and Political Party Matters to ensure compliance (*Hon. Omoregie Ogbeide-Ihama — Oredo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Question agreed to.

The House:

Noted that since Nigeria's independence in 1960, the country has not been able to conduct a reliable and acceptable census exercise and as a result, it has not been able to have an accurate and centralised database to guide national planning;

Also noted that knowledge of the exact population and demographics of a country is cardinal to national planning as it will facilitate equitable redistribution of national wealth and also the spread of development;

Aware of the data captured by various agencies like the Federal Road Safety Corps, the Independent National Electoral Commission, the Nigerian Communications Commission through the telecommunications companies and very recently, Commercial Banks through the Bank Verification Number (BVN) initiative, yet these data are not centralized and none of these agencies can rely on the other to get accurate information on Nigerians;

Also aware that the data captured by these agencies are limited to their areas of operation to the exclusion of the larger population; and even the current regimes of National Identity Cards, National Drivers Licence and Permanent Voters Cards only cover persons who are 18 years and above or persons with interest in the agency's area of operation;

Observed that countries with centralized national database like the United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, China, Kenya and South Africa have recorded growth and development, minimal levels of corruption, high security surveillance, effective immigrant control, social security and welfare and effective tax systems;

Convinced of the need for a centralized database to capture Nigerians of all ages, gender, ethnicity, etc. which will specifically identify all citizens and foreigners living in the country as this will aid the government in statistical planning and realistic budgeting, security surveillance, social security and welfare, immigrants' control, fight against corruption and provision of infrastructure.

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) to regularly update its centralized national database to capture Nigerians of all ages, gender and ethnicity;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Ministry of Interior to interface with relevant agencies like the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the Nigerian Immigration Service with specialized data to integrate and share their data into the Central Database platform;

(*iii*) further urge the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as well as the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to ensure that relevant agencies/companies under them comply by synergizing their data into the Central Database platform; and

(*iv*) mandate the Committees on Interior, Population, Federal Road Safety Commission, Telecommunications, Banking and Currency, and Electoral and Political Party Matters to ensure compliance (**HR. 25/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Population, Interior, Federal Road Safety Commission, Telecommunications, Banking and Currency, and Electoral and Political Party Matters.

15. Need to Ascertain the Proceeds of the Treasury Single Account to Enhance Transparency, Accountability and Good Governance:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Treasury Single Account (TSA) is a financial policy being implemented by the Federal Government to consolidate all inflows from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) into one single account maintained by the Central Bank of Nigeria with the aim of ensuring accountability of government revenues, enhance transparency and avoid misappropriation and misapplication of public funds;

Also notes that though section 80 (1) of the 1999 Constitution provides that "all revenues or other moneys raised or received by the Federation (not being revenues or other moneys payable under this Constitution or any Act of the National Assembly into any other public fund of the Federation established for a specific purpose) shall be paid into and form one Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation", successive governments continued to operate multiple accounts for the lodgment of government revenues in flagrant disregard to the provision of the Constitution;

Aware that in 2012, the Federal Government ran a pilot scheme for a single account using 217 Ministries, Departments and Agencies as a case study, and the success of the scheme motivated the present Government to fully implement the TSA effective 15 September, 2015, leading to directives to banks to implement the technology platform that will help accommodate all MDAs in the TSA scheme;

Also aware of the disclosure by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Mrs Kemi Adeosun as contained in The Guardian Newspaper of 4 March, 2016 that from the execution of the TSA, a balance of ?2.9 trillion has been accumulated from the MDAs;

Cognizant that the introduction of the TSA has helped to improve the process of collection of revenues and will engender prompt settlement of matured government commitments which may eventually facilitate project completion and service delivery on schedule;

Federation", successive governments continued to operate multiple accounts for the lodgment of government revenues in flagrant disregard to the provision of the Constitution;

Aware that in 2012, the Federal Government ran a pilot scheme for a single account using 217 Ministries, Departments and Agencies as a case study, and the success of the scheme motivated the present Government to fully implement the TSA effective 15 September, 2015, leading to directives to banks to implement the technology platform that will help accommodate all MDAs in the TSA scheme;

Also aware of the disclosure by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Mrs Kemi Adeosun as contained in The Guardian Newspaper of 4 March, 2016 that from the execution of the TSA, a balance of ?2.9 trillion has been accumulated from the MDAs;

Cognizant that the introduction of the TSA has helped to improve the process of collection of revenues and will engender prompt settlement of matured government commitments which may eventually facilitate project completion and service delivery on schedule;

Worried that despite the laudable commitment of the current administration to combat corrupt practices, eliminate waste in public finance and ensure adequate fund flow that will be channeled to critical sectors of the economy to facilitate development, some establishments are still left out of the TSA platform;

Concerned that while section 80 (1) of the Constitution regarding maintenance of Federation Account provides a broad legal framework, it does not address the operational details, and concerns have been raised by the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) about the possible sharing of TSA funds among the tiers of government;

Observed that while there is no clear operational details as regards the management of the funds accumulated in the TSA, the need for its urgent utilization to discharge governmental commitments for development and good governance may be delayed to assess the anticipated impact of the policy;

Regretted that the objectives of TSA to institutionalize transparency, accountability and fiscal discipline in public expenditure may be negated if the plan for its utilization is not made public for purposes of accountability and transparency;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Commend the Federal Government for implementing the Treasury Single Account as a strategic device to curb corruption and enhance accountability in the management of public expenditure.

(*ii*) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to liaise with the Central Bank of Nigeria and any other agency of government that has official role in the implementation of the TSA, to ascertain the actual amount realized so far, the government's plans on its spending and the various government agencies from which such funds were obtained, including a comprehensive list of abandoned projects from which such funds accrued (**HR. 26/2016**).

16. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 23 June, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.26 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

Worried that despite the laudable commitment of the current administration to combat corrupt practices, eliminate waste in public finance and ensure adequate fund flow that will be channeled to critical sectors of the economy to facilitate development, some establishments are still left out of the TSA platform;

Concerned that while section 80 (1) of the Constitution regarding maintenance of Federation Account provides a broad legal framework, it does not address the operational details, and concerns have been raised by the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) about the possible sharing of TSA funds among the tiers of government;

Observes that while there is no clear operational details as regards the management of the funds accumulated in the TSA, the need for its urgent utilization to discharge governmental commitments for development and good governance may be delayed to assess the anticipated impact of the policy;

Regrets that the objectives of TSA to institutionalize transparency, accountability and fiscal discipline in public expenditure may be negated if the plan for its utilization is not made public for purposes of accountability and transparency;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Commend the Federal Government for implementing the Treasury Single Account as a strategic device to curb corruption and enhance accountability in the management of public expenditure.

(*ii*) set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to liaise with the Central Bank of Nigeria and any other agency of government that has official role in the implementation of the TSA, to ascertain the actual amount realized so far, the government's plans on its spending and the various government agencies from which such funds were obtained, including a comprehensive list of abandoned projects from which such funds accrued; and

(*iii*) urge the Federal Government to submit a comprehensive spending plan for the proceeds of the TSA to enhance the House Committees' preparations for oversight over its management (*Hon. Adamu Dali Usman Kamale — Madagali/Michika Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in Prayer (*iii*) (*Hon. Simon Yakubu Arabo — Kauru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Treasury Single Account (TSA) is a financial policy being implemented by the Federal Government to consolidate all inflows from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) into one single account maintained by the Central Bank of Nigeria with the aim of ensuring accountability of government revenues, enhance transparency and avoid misappropriation and misapplication of public funds;

Also noted that though section 80 (1) of the 1999 Constitution provides that "all revenues or other moneys raised or received by the Federation (not being revenues or other moneys payable under this Constitution or any Act of the National Assembly into any other public fund of the Federation established for a specific purpose) shall be paid into and form one Consolidated Revenue Fund of the