



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 10 October, 2019

1. The House met at 11.13 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 9 October, 2019.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Abuni Mining Cooperative Society, on the alleged breach of trust by Malam Isa Yuguda, was presented and laid by Hon. Valentine Ayika Ogbonna (Njikoka/Dunukofia/Anaocha Federal Constituency);
- (ii) A petition from aggrieved staff of Three (3) Multi-Commodity Companies of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, on the non-payment of their arrears of salaries and allowances, was presented and laid by Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub (Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency);
- (iii) A petition from Corporal Abdulkareem Usman, on his dismissal from service by the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Mohammed Omar (Baruten/Kayama Federal Constituency);
- (iv) A petition from Jerome Atsu, on the termination of his appointment by the Niger Dock Company Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Legor Idagbo (Bekwarra/Obudu/Obanliku Federal Constituency); and
- (v) A petition from Prince Jopseph Okukunle Ogunwale Sogbaje, on behalf of Orile Oko Community, Remo North Local Government Area, appealing for rehabilitation of Orile/Fidipo road and Odo-Ona bridge was presented and laid by Hon. Adewunmi Oriyomi Onanuga (Ikennie/Sagamu/Remo North Federal Constituency).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**

- (i) *Need to Investigate the Curious Proposed Concession Arrangement amongst the Consortium (Bionica Technologies West Africa Limited — Sponsors), Bergman Security Consultant and Supplies Limited (Co-sponsor), Africa Finance Cooperation (Lead Financier) and Huawei Lead Technical Service Provider and the Nigeria Customs Service and Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) for the Customs Modernisation Project:*

Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso (Orlu/Orsu/Oru East 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 Curious Proposed Concession Arrangement Between the Consortium (Bionica Technologies West Africa Limited — Sponsors), Bergman Security Consultant and Supplies Limited (Co-sponsor), Africa Finance Cooperation (Lead Financier) and Huawei Lead Technical Service Provider and the Nigeria Customs Service and Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) for the Customs Modernisation Project:

The House:

Aware that previous administrations had embarked on Customs & Excise modernisation, for instance in 1990s there was the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) contract for the installation of ASYCUDA ++ and training of Customs Officers for 3 years which at the end, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was to hand over the installations to Customs and that contract was referred to as the "UNCTAD - Component" of the new modernization;

Also aware that the Federal Government afterwards insisted that the former pre-shipment Companies should be engaged to assist Customs function in the areas of classification and valuation of goods hence some Service providers namely **Webb Fontaine, Cotecna, S.G.S. and Global Scan** were engaged by the government for that purpose, and the contract was to last for 7 years, 2005 - 2012 at the end of which, the Service providers handed over to Customs;

Notes that by 2011, brought about positive effects of the modernization of the Nigeria Customs Service included competent and committed workforce among the Customs personnel; understanding of the new process of clearance by stakeholders; benefits to both the business community and the government; proper collection of revenues dues, elimination of corruption and encouragement of foreign investments;

Also notes that with these modernization frameworks, there exists today a "trade community network" which can also be called "one stop shop" that allows all trade transactions to be conducted through a single system domiciled with the Customs, making all other government agencies like NAFDAC, Shipping Companies and trade stakeholders dissolve into a single point of decision-making with the Nigeria Customs Service;

Disturbed that in **2011** there was an illegal concession agreement signed secretly between the Federal Ministry of Finance and a Company with an inadequate capital base called **Single Window Systems and Technology Limited (SWST)** during the government transition period but was stopped by the intervention of the House of Representatives following a public hearing and this act saved billions of Naira for Nigeria, *vide* the ***Votes and Proceedings*** of Wednesday, 13 July, 2011;

Also disturbed that in **2017** another concession attempt in the name of further modernization of Customs was made between the Technical Committee on the Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme purported to be acting on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria and another Company called Adani Nigeria Systems Limited to **“finance, rehabilitate, operate, manage, maintain, develop and optimize the scanning needs of the country in line with the provision of the Pre-shipment Inspection Imports Act” for a period of 25 years**, also the concession was stopped on the intervention of the House Committee on Customs;

Curious that in **September 2019**, another concession which will **last for 20 years** is being suggested to the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning, Federal Ministry of Justice and this agreement is for pro-rata sharing of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) on phase one of three hundred million dollars (\$300million) investment;

Worried that billions of Naira will be frittered away from the account of 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) regarding the cost of this latest proposed Customs modernization by the different parties involved in its logistics for a take-off;

Also worried that there is no difference in substance, scope and structure between the failed concession attempts of **2011, 2017 and this 2019 proposal**, because there is presently a national single window platform in the Nigeria Customs Service and the officers of the Nigeria Customs Service are performing beyond expectation, considering the level of collection of duties amounting to billions of Naira on daily basis;

Convinced that the Federal Government is being illadvised on the economic effects of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) which has accumulated in billions of Naira in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) thus a motion at the floor of the House in the **8th Assembly** for the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to account for its disbursement and management;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the different parties involved to maintain the *status-quo-ante* pending the outcome of the public hearing;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Finance, Customs, and Public Petitions to investigate:
 - (a) proposed concession and unveil the foreign and local interested parties of the Consortium of sponsors, co-sponsors, financiers and technical consultants
 - (b) the expenditure and disbursement patterns of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) between 2012 when the other Service providers like Webb Fontaine (i.e. previous modernisers of Customs) handed over to the Nigeria Customs Service and now (2019) and report back within three (3) weeks (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that previous administrations had embarked on Customs & Excise modernisation, for instance in 1990s there was the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) contract for the installation of ASYCUDA ++ and training of Customs Officers for 3 years which at the end, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was to hand over the installations to Customs and that contract was referred to as the "UNCTAD - Component" of the new modernization;

Also aware that the Federal Government afterwards insisted that the former pre-shipment Companies should be engaged to assist Customs function in the areas of classification and valuation of goods hence some Service providers namely **Webb Fontaine, Cotecna, S.G.S. and Global Scan** were engaged by the government for that purpose, and the contract was to last for **7 years, 2005 - 2012** at the end of which, the Service providers handed over to Customs;

Noted that by **2011**, brought about positive effects of the modernization of the Nigeria Customs Service included competent and committed workforce among the Customs personnel; understanding of the new process of clearance by stakeholders; benefits to both the business community and the government; proper collection of revenues dues, elimination of corruption and encouragement of foreign investments;

Also noted that with these modernization frameworks, there exists today a "trade community network" which can also be called "one stop shop" that allows all trade transactions to be conducted through a single system domiciled with the Customs, making all other government agencies like NAFDAC, Shipping Companies and trade stakeholders dissolve into a single point of decision-making with the Nigeria Customs Service;

Disturbed that in **2011** there was an illegal concession agreement signed secretly between the Federal Ministry of Finance and a Company with an inadequate capital base called **Single Window Systems and Technology Limited (SWST)** during the government transition period but was stopped by the intervention of the House of Representatives following a public hearing and this act saved billions of Naira for Nigeria, *vide the Votes and Proceedings of* Wednesday, 13 July, 2011;

Also disturbed that in **2017** another concession attempt in the name of further modernization of Customs was made between the Technical Committee on the Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme purported to be acting on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria and another Company called Adani Nigeria Systems Limited to "**finance, rehabilitate, operate, manage, maintain, develop and optimize** the scanning needs of the country in line with the provision of the Pre-shipment Inspection Imports Act" **for a period of 25 years**, also the concession was stopped on the intervention of the House Committee on Customs;

Curious that in **September 2019**, another concession which will **last for 20 years** is being suggested to the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning, Federal Ministry of Justice and this agreement is for pro-rata sharing of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) on phase one of three hundred million dollars (\$300million) investment;

Worried that billions of Naira will be frittered away from the account of 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) regarding the cost of this latest proposed Customs modernization by the different parties involved in its logistics for a take-off;

Also worried that there is no difference in substance, scope and structure between the failed concession attempts of 2011, 2017 and this 2019 proposal, because there is presently a national single window' platform in the Nigeria Customs Service and the officers of the Nigeria Customs Service are performing beyond expectation, considering the level of collection of duties amounting to billions of Naira on daily basis;

Convinced that the Federal Government is being illadvised on the economic effects of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) which has accumulated in billions of Naira in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) thus a motion at the floor of the House in the 8th Assembly for the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to account for its disbursement and management;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the different parties involved to maintain the *status-quo-ante* pending the outcome of the public hearing;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Finance, Customs, and Public Petitions to investigate:
 - (a) proposed concession and unveil the foreign and local interested parties of the Consortium of sponsors, co-sponsors, financiers and technical consultants
 - (b) the expenditure and disbursement patterns of the 1% Comprehensive Import Supervision Scheme (CISS) between 2012 when the other Service providers like Webb Fontaine (i.e. previous modernisers of Customs) handed over to the Nigeria Customs Service and now (2019) and report back within three (3) weeks (HR. 132/10/2019).
- (ii) *Need to Save the Lives of People of Aba South Local Government Area from Killings, Further Ransacking, Restriction of Movement and Attacks by Joint Police Teams from Ndiegoro and Cameroon Road Police Stations:*
Hon. Prestige Ossy (Aba North/Aba South 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 Save the Lives of People of Aba South Local Government Area from Killings, Further Ransacking, Restriction of Movement and Attacks by Joint Police Teams from Ndiegoro and Cameroon Road Police Stations;

The House:

Notes that between Friday, 27 September, 2019, and Tuesday, 1 October, 2019, Police Officers from Ndiegoro and Cameroon Road Police Stations invaded Oko-Jombo Street, Ntueke road, Anaba Street and its axis, all in Aba South Local Government Area and unleashed mayhem on the people of the area, killing some, setting buildings ablaze, destroying properties, carting away others and eventually taking some residents captive;

Also notes that the Police Officers were alleged to have been in the habit of mounting check points along Oko-Jombo Street to ensure easy passage for people involved in illicit drug business, drug-users, kidnappers and area boys, after collecting bribes from them to allow their unlawful businesses to thrive in the area;

Further notes that on that fateful Friday, 27 September, 2019, the Police Officers had mounted a road block at Degema Street - Oko - Jombo-Umuosi junction and were extorting money from commuters, buses and commercial tricycle operators, in the process, harassing those who patronize drug dealers which infuriated them as their drug business had witnessed a sharp decline after they had offered bribe, usually termed "Title", which the Police Officers felt was insufficient;

Informed that in the ensuing confrontation with the area boys, the Policemen, led by one Alhaji, killed one of the area boys, and in retaliation, the area boys set the tricycle used by the policemen ablaze, resulting in the death of the driver and the Alhaji, and also collected two AK 47 rifles from the Policemen;

Concerned about the impunity with which the policemen carried out those dastardly acts and killings which have rendered many residents of the area homeless and their means of livelihood, destroyed; a development that has devastated the people;

Resolves to:

(i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased Police Officer, the driver of the tricycle and the residents who were killed in the mayhem; and

(ii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and Narcotic Drugs to investigate the remote and immediate causes of the incident with a view to identifying the perpetrators of the heinous crimes, and report back in two (2) weeks (Hon. Prestige Ossy C. S. O., Ossy, Aba North/South Federal Constituency).

Debate —

Agreed to:

The House:

Noted that between Friday, 27 September, 2019, and Tuesday, 1 October, 2019, Police Officers from Ndiegoro and Cameroon Road Police Stations invaded Oko-Jombo Street, Ntueke road, Anaba Street and its axis, all in Aba South Local Government Area and unleashed mayhem on the people of the area, killing some, setting buildings ablaze, destroying properties, carting away others and eventually taking some residents captive;

Also noted that the Police Officers were alleged to have been in the habit of mounting check points along Oko-Jombo street to ensure easy passage for people involved in illicit drug business, drug users, kidnappers and area boys, after collecting bribes from them to allow their unlawful businesses to thrive in the area;

Further noted that on that fateful Friday, 27 September, 2019, the Police Officers had mounted a road block at Degenma Street Oko-Jombo-Umuosi junction and were extorting money from commuters, buses and commercial tricycle operators, in the process, harassing those who patronize drug dealers which infuriated them as their drug business had witnessed a sharp decline after they had offered bribe, usually termed "Title", which the police officers felt was insufficient;

Informed that in the ensuing confrontation with the area boys, the Policemen, led by one Alhaji, killed one of the area boys, and in retaliation, the area boys set the tricycle used by the Policemen ablaze, resulting in the death of the driver and the Alhaji, and also collected two AK 47 rifles from the Policemen;

Concerned about the impunity with which the policemen carried out those dastardly acts and killings which have rendered many residents of the area homeless and their means of livelihood, destroyed, a development that has devastated the people;

Resolved to:

(i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased Police Officer, the driver of the tricycle and the residents who were killed in the mayhem; and

(ii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and Narcotic Drugs to investigate the remote and immediate causes of the incident with a view to identifying the perpetrators of the heinous crimes, and report back in two (2) weeks (HR. 133/10/2019);

Motion referred to the Committees on Police Affairs, Narcotics and Drugs, and Human Rights.

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (Hon. Otumba Adewunmi Onanuga —

Ikenne/Sagamu/Reno North Federal Constituency);

Agreed to.

(iii) **Commemoration of the 2019 International Day of the Girl Child in Nigeria: Empowering a Girl Child for a Brighter Tomorrow:**

Hon. Adewunmi Onanuga (Ikenne/Sagamu/Reno North Federal Constituency and 4 others) 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.

**Commemoration of the 2019 International Day of the Girl Child in Nigeria:
Empowering a Girl Child for a Brighter Tomorrow:**

The House:

Notes that 11 October every year is recognised by the United Nations and marked as the International Day of the Girl Child to amplify their voices and stand up for their rights and needs;

Also notes that this year's theme "**Girl Force: Unscripted and Unstoppable**" was organized as a global move to celebrate achievements towards supporting girls following the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

Aware that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was to protect young and adolescent girls, focussing on tackling issues like child marriage, education inequality, gender-based violence, climate change, self-esteem, and girls' rights to menstrual hygiene;

Also aware that menstrual hygiene is vital to the empowerment and well-being of women and girls worldwide, ensuring that women and girls live in environments that values and supports their ability to manage their menstruation with dignity;

Concerned that in Nigeria, 25 percent of women lack adequate privacy for menstrual hygiene management and globally, over 500 million women and girls lack adequate facilities for menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and inadequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities, mainly in public places, including schools, and workplaces which pose major challenges to women and girls;

Cognizant that Menstrual hygiene management is the process where women and adolescent girls use clean menstrual hygiene management (MHM) materials to absorb or collect blood that can be changed in privacy as often as necessary for the duration of the menstruation period, using soap and water for washing their bodies as required and having access to facilities to dispose of used menstrual management material;

Worried that the major constraint to effective menstrual hygiene management is the high cost of sanitary pad as a result of the harsh economic realities in the country where a large number of families live below the poverty line;

Also worried about the disheartening low level of awareness regarding menstrual hygiene management in Nigeria and the growing dispersion of stigmas and misconceptions related to menstruation especially restriction from social activities deeply rooted in attitudes and myths about menstruation, including an erroneous belief that a menstruating woman or girl is cursed, and is a harbinger of bad luck;

Desirous of the need to improve menstrual hygiene of Nigerian women and girls by removing sales tax on feminine hygiene products and regularly distributing free menstrual pads in schools providing access to affordable, quality menstrual products;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Health, and Women Affairs to initiate ways of Improving the Hygiene of women and girls in Commemoration of the 2019 International Day of the Girl Child in Nigeria; and.

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development to convene a Stakeholders Legislative Summit on the challenges of menstrual Hygiene Management in Nigeria and report back in four (4) weeks (*Hon. Otunba Adewumi Onanuga — Ikenne/Sagamu/Remo North Federal Constituency and Four Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that 11 October every year is recognised by the United Nations and marked as the International Day of the Girl Child to amplify their voices and stand up for their rights and needs;

Also noted that this years' theme "**Girl Force: Unscripted and Unstoppable**" was organized as a global move to celebrate achievements towards supporting girls following the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

Aware that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was to protect young and adolescent girls, focussing on tackling issues like child marriage, education inequality, gender-based violence, climate change, self-esteem, and girls' rights to menstrual hygiene;

Also aware that menstrual hygiene is vital to the empowerment and well-being of women and girls worldwide, ensuring that women and girls live in environments that values and supports their ability to manage their menstruation with dignity;

Concerned that in Nigeria, 25 percent of women lack adequate privacy for menstrual hygiene management and globally, over 500 million women and girls lack adequate facilities for menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and inadequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities, mainly in public places, including schools, and workplaces which pose major challenges to women and girls;

Cognizant that Menstrual hygiene management is the process where women and adolescent girls use clean menstrual hygiene management (MHM) materials to absorb or collect blood that can be changed in privacy as often as necessary for the duration of the menstruation period, using soap and water for washing their bodies as required and having access to facilities to dispose of used menstrual management-material;

Worried that the major constraint to effective menstrual hygiene management is the high cost of sanitary pad as a result of the harsh economic realities in the country where a large number of families live below the poverty line;

Also worried about the disheartening low level of awareness regarding menstrual hygiene management in Nigeria and the growing dispersion of stigmas and misconceptions related to menstruation especially restriction from social activities deeply rooted in attitudes and myths about menstruation, including an erroneous belief that a menstruating woman or girl is cursed, and is a harbinger of bad luck;

Desirous of the need to improve menstrual hygiene of Nigerian women and girls by removing sales tax on feminine hygiene products and regularly distributing free menstrual pads in schools providing access to affordable, quality menstrual products;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Health, and Women Affairs to initiate ways of Improving the Hygiene of women and girls in Commemoration of the 2019 International Day of the Girl Child in Nigeria; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development to convene a Stakeholders Legislative Summit on the challenges of menstrual Hygiene Management in Nigeria and report back in four (4) weeks (HR. 134/10/2019).

Motion referred to the Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development.

- (iv) ***The Need to Investigate the Boat Mishap in Kirfi Local Government Area of Bauchi State and the Siluko River Bank Overflow in Edo State:***

Hon. Musa Mohammad Pali (*Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency and 1 other*) 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.

The Need to Investigate the Boat Mishap in Kirfi Local Government Area of Bauchi State and the Siluko River Bank Overflow in Edo State:

The House:

Notes that there was a boat mishap which occurred on Monday, 7 October, 2019 in Gangula River precisely at Maficin Kuna in Kirfi Local Government Area of Bauchi State and on Wednesday, 9 October, 2019, River Siluko, a major river in Edo State overflowed its bank by a proportion of over 65% and submerged the communities around the river;

Also notes that 35 people were aboard the ill fitted boat as at the time of the mishap;

Aware that many lives were lost in the unfortunate incidence and rescue operation has since commenced which has led to the recovery of ten (10) bodies and still counting, also lives and property worth millions of Naira were lost and destroyed to the overflow of River Siluko;

Worried that incidences of boat mishaps are rather becoming too regular on our water ways and across the country;

Concerned that if urgent measures and steps are not taken, more lives and properties will be lost to boat mishap in the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide Safety Gadgets such as safety boats, life jackets and many more including relief materials to the affected victims;

- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to construct bridges across Gangula river linking the affected communities, these bridges include but not limited to Kirfi -Gaka - Guyaba stations;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Inland Waterways to investigate the remote cause of the boat mishap and report back in three (3) weeks;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to monitor compliance and report back in three (3) weeks; and
- (v) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased (*Hon. Mohammed Musa Pali — Alkaleri/Kirfi Federal Constituency and 1 Other*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that there was a boat mishap which occurred on Monday, 7 October, 2019 in Gangula River precisely at Maficin Kuna in Kirfi Local Government Area of Bauchi State and on Wednesday, 9 October, 2019, River Siluko, a major river in Edo State overflowed its bank by a proportion of over 65% and submerged the communities around the river;

Also noted that 35 people were aboard the ill fitted boat as at the time of the mishap;

Aware that many lives were lost in the unfortunate incidence and rescue operation has since commenced which has led to the recovery of ten (10) bodies and still counting, also lives and property worth millions of Naira were lost and destroyed to the overflow of River Siluko;

Worried that incidences of boat mishaps are rather becoming too regular on our water ways and across the country;

Concerned that if urgent measures and steps are not taken, more lives and properties will be lost to boat mishap in the country;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide Safety Gadgets such as safety boats, life jackets and many more;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected individuals and families of both the deceased and the survivors;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to construct bridges across Gangula river linking the affected communities, these bridges include but not limited to Kirfi -Gaka - Guyaba stations;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Inland Waterways to investigate the remote cause of the boat mishap and report back in three (3) weeks;
- (v) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to monitor compliance and report back in three (3) weeks; and
- (vi) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased (**HR. 135/10/2019**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Admittance into the Chamber

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, Mrs Ogunniyi and Mrs Elusakin Agnes Iyabo and their colleagues, for the purpose of commending their outstanding leadership as best Principal and best teacher of the year respectively, in commemoration of World Teachers Day, pursuant to Order Nineteen, Rule 8 (2) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

Agreed to.

—Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 6 (2) to enable it bring forward and consider forthwith item 22 on the Order Paper — Agreed to.

Commemoration of World Teachers Day (WTD)

The House:

Notes that this year's World Teachers' Day (WTD) or International Teachers' Day was celebrated on October 5, 2019, with the theme "Young Teachers: The future of the Profession and was aimed at proffering ideas to attract and keep young persons in the profession;

Aware that the celebration of teachers followed the United Nation's Declaration in 1994 for the recognition of the World Teachers Day (WTD) or International Teachers Day to celebrate teachers around the World for their efforts towards shaping the minds of several children and the society at large even though they remain unsung heroes and heroines whose contributions to the society are underappreciated;

Also aware that the United Nation's in developing the thematic areas of concentration for the Sustainable Development Goal 4 Quality Education, recognizes the role of teachers as being key to the achievement of its Education by 2030 Agenda;

Observes that the Federal Government, in marking the day, instituted the President's Teachers and Schools Excellence Award to show appreciation for the immense contributions of teachers to nation-building;

Worried that despite the contributions of Teachers to societal development, teachers in Nigeria are overworked and remain among the worst paid in the world, with poor welfare package and teaching environment;

Also worried that currently none of the E9 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan) other than Nigeria, allocates less than 20 per cent of its annual budget to education;

Resolves to:

- (i) recognise and honour the Best Teacher and the Best Principal in Nigeria as a sign of appreciation and to show support to the teachers for their selfless sacrifices towards societal development;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to improve on the welfare and support schemes for teachers, especially in the area of training, using the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) approach in addressing education policy and curriculum choices in schools in order to improve competitiveness in science and technology development;

- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to employ more teachers to address the issue of inadequate staffing and low productivity within the education sector and also increase budgetary allocation for the Education sector in the 2020 appropriation Bill so as to equip teachers with the requisite training and adequate facilities in the schools; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services and Basic Education and Service to ensure implementation (*Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that this year's World Teachers' Day (WTD) or International Teachers' Day was celebrated on October 5, 2019, with the theme "Young Teachers: The future of the Profession and was aimed at proffering ideas to attract and keep young persons in the profession;

Aware that the celebration of teachers followed the United Nation's Declaration in 1994 for the recognition of the World Teachers Day (WTD) or International Teachers Day to celebrate teachers around the World for their efforts towards shaping the minds of several children and the society at large even though they remain unsung heroes and heroines whose contributions to the society are underappreciated;

Also aware that the United Nation's in developing the thematic areas of concentration for the Sustainable Development Goal 4 Quality Education, recognizes the role of teachers as being key to the achievement of its Education by 2030 Agenda;

Observed that the Federal Government, in marking the day, instituted the President's Teachers and Schools Excellence Award to show appreciation for the immense contributions of teachers to nation-building;

Worried that despite the contributions of Teachers to societal development, teachers in Nigeria are overworked and remain among the worst paid in the world, with poor welfare package and teaching environment;

Also worried that currently none of the E9 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan) other than Nigeria, allocates less than 20 per cent of its annual budget to education;

Resolved to:

- (i) recognise and honour the Best Teacher and the Best Principal in Nigeria as a sign of appreciation and to show support to the teachers for their selfless sacrifices towards societal development;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to improve on the welfare and support schemes for teachers, especially in the area of training, using the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) approach in addressing education policy and curriculum choices in schools in order to improve competitiveness in science and technology development;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to employ more teachers to address the issue of inadequate staffing and low productivity within the education sector and also increase budgetary allocation for the Education sector in the 2020 appropriation Bill so as to equip teachers with the requisite training and adequate facilities in the schools; and

- (iv) mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services and Basic Education and Service to ensure implementation (HR. 136/10/2019).

The House commended Mrs. Ogunniyi and Mrs. Elasakin Agnes Iyabo for their outstanding performances in the teaching profession.

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Federal College of Agriculture, Kirikasamma (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.382).
- (2) Federal College of Education, Birniwa (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.383).
- (3) Electronic Transaction Bill, 2019 (HB.384).
- (4) Birth, Death, etc. (Compulsory Registration) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.385).
- (5) Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.386).
- (6) Federal Capital Territory Directorate of Road Traffic and Motor Vehicle Administration Services (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB.387).
- (7) National Urban Development and Regional Planning Commission (Establishment, etc) Bill, 2019 (HB.388).
- (8) Employee's Remunerations Bill, 2019 (HB.389).
- (9) National Humanitarian Bureau (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2019 (HB.390).
- (10) National Oil and Gas Museum and Research Institute, Oloibiri Bill, 2019 (HB.391).
- (11) Pension Reform Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (HB.392).
- (12) National Roads Fund Bill, 2019 (HB.367).

8. Presentation of Report

Ad-hoc Committee to Determine why the Warri, Port Harcourt, Onne, Calabar and Onitsha Ports Complexes are not being put to Maximal Use:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee to Determine why the Warri, Port Harcourt, Onne, Calabar and Onitsha Ports Complexes are not being put to Maximal Use" (Hon. Buba Yusuf Yakub — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. A Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦10,330,416,607,347 (Ten Trillion, Three Hundred and Thirty Billion, Four Hundred and Sixteen Million, Six Hundred and Seven Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira) only, of which ₦556,700,827,235 (Five Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Seven Hundred Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-Five Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦2,748,598,930,000 (Two Trillion, Seven Hundred and Forty-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Ninety-Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Thirty Thousand Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦4,880,309,549,778 (Four Trillion, Eight Hundred and Eighty Billion, Three Hundred and Nine Million, Five Hundred and Forty-Nine Thousand,

Seven Hundred and Seventy-Eight Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure, while the sum of ₦2,144,807,300,334 (Two Trillion, One Hundred and Forty-Four Billion, Eight Hundred and Seven Million, Three Hundred Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty-Four Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending 31 December, 2020 (HB. 355) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦10,330,416,607,347 (Ten Trillion, Three Hundred and Thirty Billion, Four Hundred and Sixteen Million, Six Hundred and Seven Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira) only, of which ₦556,700,827,235 (Five Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Seven Hundred Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-Five Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦2,748,598,930,000 (Two Trillion, Seven Hundred and Forty-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Ninety-Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Thirty Thousand Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦4,880,309,549,778 (Four Trillion, Eight Hundred and Eighty Billion, Three Hundred and Nine Million, Five Hundred and Forty-Nine Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Eight Naira) only is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure, while the sum of ₦2,144,807,300,334 (Two Trillion, One Hundred and Forty-Four Billion, Eight Hundred and Seven Million, Three Hundred Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty-Four Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending 31 December, 2020 (HB. 355) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

All other Standing Committees of the House to serve as Sub-Committees.

10. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Police Academy as a Degree Awarding Institution to Provide Academic and Professional Training; and for Related Matters (HB. 90) and a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigeria Police Academy as a Degree Awarding Institution to Provide Academic and Professional Training; and for Related Matters (HB. 195) be now consolidated" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

Agreed to.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, 2005 to Prohibit and Criminalize Estimated Billing by Electricity Distribution Companies and Provide for Compulsory Installation of Pre-Paid Meters to all Power Consumers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1) — *Third Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed. "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, 2005 to Prohibit and Criminalize Estimated Billing by Electricity Distribution Companies and Provide for Compulsory Installation of Pre-Paid Meters to all Power Consumers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Provide that 10% of Jobs Available in all Federal Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Companies be distributed among the Physically Challenged Persons in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide that 10% of Jobs Available in all Federal Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Companies be distributed among the Physically Challenged Persons in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader):

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Orientation Agency Act, Cap. N64, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for an Operational Framework for the Global Initiative for Harmony Corps in Order to Promote Inter-Ethnic Integration, Mediation, Peace-Building, Mutual Understanding, Patriotism for Peaceful Co-existence; and for Related Matters — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Orientation Agency Act, Cap. N64, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for an Operational Framework for the Global Initiative for Harmony Corps in Order to Promote Inter-Ethnic Integration, Mediation, Peace-Building, Mutual Understanding, Patriotism for Peaceful Co-existence; and for Related Matters be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader):

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Ear Care Centre, Kaduna for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Diseases, Co-ordination of Research in Ear, Nose and Throat, and other Supporting Fields; and for Related Matters (HB. 13) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Ear Care Centre, Kaduna for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Diseases, Co-ordination of Research in Ear, Nose and Throat, and other Supporting Fields; and for Related Matters (HB. 13) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader):

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

15. **A Bill for an Act to Provide easy access to Higher Education for Nigerians through Interest Free Loans from Nigeria Education Bank with a View to Providing Education for all Nigerians; and for Related Matters (HB.6) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide easy access to Higher Education for Nigerians through Interest Free Loans from Nigeria Education Bank with a View to Providing Education for all Nigerians; and for Related Matters (HB.6) be now read the Third Time" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader):

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

16. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Forensic DNA Database in Nigeria charged with Responsibility for the Collection of DNA Samples, making Forensic DNA Analysis, Use of DNA Profile and Information targeted at Addressing Doubts in Criminal and DNA Related Issues; and for Related Matters (HB. 175) — Second Reading**

Order deferred by leave of the House.

17. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of Plant Varieties, Establish a Plant Variety Protection Office for the Promotion of Increased Staple Crop Productivity for small Holder Farmers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 68) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Protection of Plant Varieties, Establish a Plant Variety Protection Office for the Promotion of Increased Staple Crop Productivity for small Holder Farmers in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 68) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Dan' Agundi Munir Babba — Kumbotso Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Agricultural Production and Services.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That items 8, 10 - 21 on the Order Paper be set down to the next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)" (Hon. Ademorin Aliu Kuye — Somolu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

18. **Adjournment of First Sitting**

That this House do now adjourn the First Sitting till 3.50 p.m. (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.41 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker

