FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 38

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 10 November, 2016

1. The House met at 11.04 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 Wednesday, 9 November, 2016.

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

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

(*i*) Staff and Students of ***Asacs International Staff College***, Bwari, Abuja; and

(*ii*) Members of ***Young Diplomats Club, Benson Idahosa University***, Benin City, Edo State.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber (Order Nineteen, Rule 8 (1) (iv))**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, former Members of the House of Representatives, and Members of Edo State House of Assembly, pursuant to Order Nineteen, Rule 8 (1) (*iv*) of the Standing Orders to observe the valediction in honour of Hon. Philip Shaibu, Deputy Governor-elect, Edo State" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

A Valediction in honour of Hon. Philip Shaibu — Deputy Governor-Elect, Edo State:
Hon. Speaker recognised some Hon. Members to address the House on their knowledge of Hon. Philip Shaibu. The Hon. Members extolled the virtues and exemplary life of Hon. Philip Shaibu and described him as a role model for upcoming leaders in Nigeria. He was further acknowledged to have served the nation in various capacities, including being the President of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS), Special Adviser to the Edo State Governor, and a former Member of the Edo State House of Assembly. Some Members noted that Hon. Philip Shaibu distinguished himself as a humble, hardworking and pragmatic legislator since the commencement of the 8th National Assembly. He was therefore implored to be a worthy ambassador of the House of Representatives, and the National Assembly in his new assignment in the executive branch of the Edo State Government.

Mr Speaker invited Hon. Shaibu to make a response.

Hon Philip Shaibu addressed the House as follows:

Mr Speaker, Honourable Colleagues, I stand before you today grateful to God for his interventions in my life. I stand in appreciation to the good people of Etsako West, Central and East Federal Constituency on whose mandate I have served in this hallowed Chamber for the past seventeen months. I say thank you to all of you, honourable colleagues who have become friends, friends who have become comrades and comrades who have become brothers.

I stand with joy as I remember the challenges we have surmounted together and the experiences and privileges we have also shared together as members of the Eighth Assembly. I stand before you to confirm that though tribe, faith, tongue and creed may differ, we are one big family of patriots, in service for a better nation.

I stand to assure this most important assemblage of nation builders, that the lessons learnt in this hallowed chamber are permanently engraved in my heart. I stand to assure you that by God's grace and the goodwill of our people, we will continue to stand as a nation of great minds.

I stand tempted, at a crossroad between the strongest Institution in our country and the service of my state but my heart is commanded by the new mandate of Edo people, for more service and for more sacrifices. This new mandate will be activated in two days from today. I have had the privilege to serve two terms as the majority leader in Edo State House of Assembly and I have also had the honour to serve in this 'green' chamber as a member of this 8th Assembly; I believe that these experiences would help me ensure a better working relationship between the executive and the legislature.

I assure you as I would also assure Edo people that I will continue to stand with and for the people because it is to them we applied to serve and in the final analysis, our report card would be determined by the people and how much we have contributed to better their quality of life.

I stand not unmindful of the great challenges that lie ahead. I stand with confidence because am conscious of the Edo Spirit of "we can do it". I stand conscious of our heritage of empire building, moat making, bronze casting, stone blasting, fish farming, ivory carving, craft making, and history making. If we could do all these in centuries past without internet, be assured we can do more now, if we unite and stand resolute.

From the forests of Urhonigbe to the City of Benin, from the rice plains of Ilushin to the learning citadels in Ekpoma, Ekiadolor and Iyamho, from the mountains of Kukuruku to the farms of Afemai, from the rivers of Agenebode to the ocean fronts of Gelegele, I stand conscious, that our greatest strength lies in our people and with them must we therefore stand. We must all stand up, sleeves folded, for the real work that would make Change real.

As I bow out today from this chambers be assured that I will continue to stand with you as you remain firm in service to the people and our dear Republic.

God bless the National Assembly.

God bless Edo State.

God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The House observed a standing ovation in his honour. Hon Philip Shaibu took a bow, and exited from the House.

5. **Petitions**

(*i*) A petition from Fafowora & Co (Grace Chambers), on behalf of the family of Matthew Aderemi Adekanmi Bepo, who was allegedly killed by the Law Enforcement Agents of the Government of Equatorial Guinea, was presented and laid by Hon. Israel Ajibola Famurewa (*Atakunmosa East /Atakunmosa West/Ilesa Federal Constituency*);

(*ii*) A petition from C. C. Anyanwu & Co. (Barristers & Solicitors), on behalf of Mbaegbu family and Amaibo community of Nguru Umuaro, Ngor Okpala Local Government Area, Imo State, on a case of intimidation and harassment by the Nigeria Police Force, Imo State Command and the X-Squad Unit of Force Criminal Investigation Department (FCID), was presented and laid by Hon. Bede Eke (*Aboh Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency*);

(*iii*) A petition from Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Ugokwe (*rtd*), on the compulsory acquisition and possession of his landed properties by the Directorate of Lands - Abuja Geographic Information System (AGIS), was presented and laid by Hon. Olatubosun Oladele George (*Irepo/Orelope/Olorunsogo Federal Constituency*);

(*iv*) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Zephaniah Jisalo (*Abuja Municipal/Bwari Federal Constituency*):

(*a*) Indigenes of Durumi 1, 2, 3, 4 and Danko communities of Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, on the act of trespass to their lands by the Federal Capital Territory Administration, Abuja;

(*b*) Kyauta Yepwi (*Galadima of Karu*), on behalf of Karu community on the non-payment of compensation on their lands and crops by the Federal Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development for over twenty years;

(*v*) A petition from Savvy Law Partners, on behalf of Bayelsa Youths for Truth and the Rule of Law, on the appointment of the Vice Chancellor, Federal University, Otuoke, Professor Seth Accra Jaja, was presented and laid by Hon. Diri Douye (*Yenagoa/Kolokuma/Opokuma Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

6. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**

***Exclusion of Imo State Oil Producing Areas from the Niger Delta/Federal Government Stakeholders Meeting*:**

Hon. Opiah Goodluck Nanah (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru 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.***

Exclusion of Imo State Oil Producing Areas from the Niger Delta/Federal Government Stakeholder Meetings:

The House:

Worried that the problems of militancy in the Niger Delta region occasioned by age-long neglect of the area by the government and Oil producing companies have affected the economy of the country and the social well-being of the people of the Niger Delta area while previous measures as means of solving the problem have not yielded satisfactory result;

Commends the recent efforts by the Federal Government in finding solution to the problems of Niger Delta region;

Notes that the problem of the Niger Delta is not about a mere concern of problem of a geographical or geopolitical area but rather the problem of the oil producing States of Nigeria;

Also notes that Imo State has been an oil producing are since 1955. In fact, the first oil discovery was in Iho Dimeze in the present day Ikeduru Local Government Area of Imo State, though not in commercial quantity before the subsequent discoveries in Oloibiri in commercial quantity, and other areas in the Nger Delta, Imo State in 1956 including Egbema and Oguta;

Further notes that the problem of environmental pollution and degradation associated with oil exploration and exploitation is the same in the nine (9) Oil Producing States;

Observes that the oil producing local government areas of Ohaji/Egbema and Oguta were among the areas designated as special are by the colonial administration via the famous Willinks Commission of 1953 because of its peculiar terrain, underdevelopment, deprivations and natural endowments;

Worried that Imo State has always been ignored or excluded in the scheme of things in matters relating to the problems of the Oil Producing States. Indeed, it has always struggled to belong to the special Federal Government Developmental programmes and policies aimed at addressing the issues of the oil producing areas of the Niger Delta such as the establishment of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in 1999/2000, the creation of the Coastal States Committee of the Niger Delta in 2005/2006, and the Amnesty Programme of 2010;

Also worried that there is major tension in the oil producing communities of Imo State following the recent stakeholders parley with the Federal Government which once again excluded the oil producing stakeholders of Imo State thereby denying them the possible gains of that initiative;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to immediately include all oil producing communities in Imo State and all oil producing stakeholders in the current steps aimed at finding lasting solution to the problems of the Niger Delta region; and

(*ii*) also urge the Ministries of Petroleum Resources and that of Niger Delta Affairs to ensure the inclusion of Imo State in all matters relating to oil producing communities (*Hon. Goodluck Nanah Opiah — Ohaji/Egbema/Oguta/Oru West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:
Leave out all the words in Prayer (*i*) and *insert* as follows:
"Urge the Federal Government to immediately include all oil producing communities in Imo State, Ndokwa/Ukwuani communities, Delta State, and all other oil producing communities in the country" (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndkowa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

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

*Question on the Motion as amended — **Agreed to.***

The House:

Worried that the problems of militancy in the Niger Delta region occasioned by age-long neglect of the area by the government and Oil producing companies have affected the economy of the country and the social well-being of the people of the Niger Delta area while previous measures as means of solving the problem have not yielded satisfactory result;

Commended the recent efforts by the Federal Government in finding solution to the problems of Niger Delta region;

Noted that the problem of the Niger Delta is not about a mere concern of problem of a geographical or geopolitical area but rather the problem of the oil producing States of Nigeria;

Also noted that Imo State has been an oil producing are since 1955. In fact, the first oil discovery was in Iho Dimeze in the present day Ikeduru Local Government Area of Imo State, though not in commercial quantity before the subsequent discoveries in Oloibiri in commercial quantity, and other areas in the Nger Delta, Imo State in 1956 including Egbema and Oguta;

Further noted that the problem of environmental pollution and degradation associated with oil exploration and exploitation is the same in the nine (9) Oil Producing States;

Observed that the oil producing local government areas of Ohaji/Egbema and Oguta were among the areas designated as special are by the colonial administration via the famous Willinks Commission of 1953 because of its peculiar terrain, underdevelopment, deprivations and natural endowments;

Worried that Imo State has always been ignored or excluded in the scheme of things in matters relating to the problems of the Oil Producing States. Indeed, it has always struggled to belong to the special Federal Government Developmental programmes and policies aimed at addressing the issues of the oil producing areas of the Niger Delta such as the establishment of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in 1999/2000, the creation of the Coastal States Committee of the Niger Delta in 2005/2006, and the Amnesty Programme of 2010;

Also worried that there is major tension in the oil producing communities of Imo State following the recent stakeholders parley with the Federal Government which once again excluded the oil producing stakeholders of Imo State thereby denying them the possible gains of that initiative;

Resolved to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to immediately include all oil producing communities in Imo State, Ndokwa/Ukwuani communities, Delta State, and all other oil producing communities in the country; and

(*ii*) also urge the Ministries of Petroleum Resources and that of Niger Delta Affairs to ensure the inclusion of Imo State in all matters relating to oil producing communities (**HR. 183/2016**).

7. **Presentation of Reports**

(*i*) **Committee on Army:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Army on the Need for the Nigerian Army to Allow Farmers Purchase Fuel in Jerry Cans in Yobe State (**HR. 191/2016**)" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Takun/Dunga/Ussa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*ii*) ***Committee on Army*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Army on the Need to Curb Kidnapings, Armed Robberies and Killings in Aba, Abia State (**HR. 28/2016**)" (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Takun/Dunga/Ussa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iii*) ***Committee on Army*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Army on the Study Visit to the House of Commons, United Kingdom from 10 - 11 May, 2016 " (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Takun/Dunga/Ussa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(*iv*) ***Ad-hoc Committee on the Alleged Misuse, Under-Remittance/Non Remittance and Fraudulent Practices in the Collection, Accounting, Remittance and Expenditure of Internally Generated Revenues by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)*:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Interim Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Alleged Misuse, Under-Remittance/Non Remittance and Fraudulent Practices in the Collection, Accounting, Remittance and Expenditure of Internally Generated Revenues by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)" (*Hon. Chike John Okafor — Ehime Mbano/Ihitte Uboma/Obowo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

8. **Consolidation of Bills:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Officers Protection Act, Cap. P41, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Provide for Suspension from Office of Public Officers Facing Criminal Trials Thereby Stopping the Officers from Discharging any Functions, Collecting Salaries or Allowances Relating to the Offices Occupied During the Period of the Trial and for Other Related Matters (HB. 54), a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Officers Protection Act, Cap. P41, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Expressly Extend the Limitation Period from Three Months to Twelve Months and for Other Related Matters (HB. 157), and a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Public Officers Protection Act, Cap. P41, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 301) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Sadiq Ibrahim — Fufore/Song Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University, Wukari and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Other Related Matters (HB. 810) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University, Wukari and to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Other Related Matters (HB. 810) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Railway Corporation Act, Cap. N129, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Re-enact the Nigerian Railway Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Nigerian Railway Authority, the Framework for Private Sector Participation in the Provision of Rail Services, the Regulation of the Railway Sector and for Other Related Matters (HB. 814) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Railway Corporation Act, Cap. N129, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, and Re-enact the Nigerian Railway Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Nigerian Railway Authority, the Framework for Private Sector Participation in the Provision of Rail Services, the Regulation of the Railway Sector and for Other Related Matters (HB. 814) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned, to enable the Committee on Rules and Business determine if a similar Bill had been read a second time by the House.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Procurement Act of 2007 to Provide for and Adopt a Local Content Policy and Timely Completion of Procurement Processes and for Other Related Matters (HB. 815) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Public Procurement Act of 2007 to Provide for and Adopt a Local Content Policy and Timely Completion of Procurement Processes and for Other Related Matters (HB. 815) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

Debate.

Bill Withdrawn by leave of the House.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Mortgage Brokers and Lenders of Nigeria, to Regulate the Activities and Ensure Professionalism in the System and for Other Related Matters (HB. 465) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Health Act, to Provide for the Regulation of Assisted Birth Technology, for Safe and Ethical Practice of Assisted Reproductive Technology Services, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 610) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act, to Amend the National Health Act to Provide for the Regulation of Assisted Birth Technology, for Safe and Ethical Practice of Assisted Reproductive Technology Services, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 610) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Segun Adekola Alexander — Ekiti Southwest/Ikere/Ise/Orun 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 Healthcare Services.

14. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Debt Recovery Practitioners of Nigeria to Train, Regulate, License and Exercise Control over the Occupation of Collection and Recovery of Debts, Levies, Fees or Remunerations by Registered Debt Collectors and for Other Related Matters (HB. 624)** — *Second Reading*

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

15. **A Bill for an Act to Make History a Core School Subject in Nigeria's Primary and Secondary Schools and for Other Related Matters (HB. 645)** — *Second Reading*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Make History a Core School Subject in Nigeria's Primary and Secondary Schools and for Other Related Matters (HB. 645) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ayodele Oladimeji — Ado Ekiti/Irepodun/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned to enable the sponsor make further consultations.

16. **Call for Completion of all Ongoing Projects across the Federation**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

17. **Calling Attention to the Deploration Condition of Old Ojo Road, Lagos**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the old Ojo road is a Federal road which connects Nigeria to the Republic of Benin, Togo, Ghana and other neighboring countries through the Badagry express way, while passing through three major Federal establishments namely, Kirikiri Prison, Navy and Satellite Towns;

Concerned that the road has suffered more than 40 years of abandonment, as a result of which it has been cut in three major places, thus leaving it in complete state of disrepair, and to make matters worse, the only good portion of the road is now being occupied by trailers heavily laden with containers;

Also concerned that vehicles spend several hours to pass through the road and sometimes containers fall down, thereby making life difficult for the people, and if not urgently repaired, may eventually become impassable;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to carry out remedial repair works on the Road, pending when the Federal Ministry of Power, Works, and Housing would effect a reconstruction of the road; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Works, and Appropriations to ensure the inclusion of money in the 2017 budget proposal for the reconstruction of the road (*Hon. Oghene Emma Egoh — Amuwo Odofin Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 184/2016).

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

18. Need to Provide Electricity in Magamim-Didi, Faruand Kaya Districts In Bakura/Maradun Federal Constituency

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Magamin-Didi, Faru and Kaya in Bakura/Maradun Federal Constituency of Zamfara State with an average population of about eight hundred and fifty-nine thousand people who contribute immensely to the Gross Domestic Product of the nation due to their agricultural and commercial activities, have been in complete darkness since their inception as districts, many decades ago;

Concerned that business activities in the areas have practically collapsed due to lack of power supply as many of the residents have resorted to generators which are costly to maintain;

Also concerned that the blackout being experienced in those districts have brought about a high rate of crime, ranging from armed robbery, kidnappings and rapes which have brought in their wake a lot of pains to the people;

Convinced that if electricity is provided in those locations, their economic potentials will increase and this could result into foreign investments, thus increasing the national income;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing and the Rural Electrification Agency to urgently provide electricity to the districts; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committees on Power, and Rural Development to ensure implementation and report back to the House in three (3) weeks, for further legislative action (*Hon. Yahaya Choda Gora — Bakura/Maradun Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 185/2016).

Motion referred to the Committees on Power, and Rural Development, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

19. Call for Development of Six Geo-Economic Zones

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Aware that Nigeria is currently undergoing economic recession which is owed in large part to the mono-economic system the country has practiced for decades;

Notes that since crude oil was discovered in commercial quantity in Nigeria in the 1950s, other economic sources of income for the country prior to the discovery of crude oil were practically abandoned;

Concerned that despite having earned over $760 billion from exports and sales of crude oil over the years, there have not been commensurate positive impact on the socio-economic growth and development of the country;

Also aware that though the thirty six (36) States structure and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja constitute the Nigerian state, the country still operates a six geopolitical zonal structure administratively, when dealing with the apportioning of political offices and appointments;

Cognizant that fashioning out sound economic principles and mustering the political will by the Federal Government to site strategic and economically vibrant industries in each of the six zones in Nigeria in order to drive and sustain the economy of those zones, and the country in general, will be a sure recipe for pulling the economy out of recession for an enduring development;

Resolves to:

(*i*) call on the Federal Government to urgently explore the possibility of empowering the Six Geopolitical Zones with the strategic domiciling of different industries peculiar to the various zones for economic growth and sustainable development of the country; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to ensure implementation and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chukwuemeka Anohu — Ihiala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that Nigeria is currently undergoing economic recession which is owed in large part to the mono-economic system the country has practiced for decades;

Noted that since crude oil was discovered in commercial quantity in Nigeria in the 1950s, other economic sources of income for the country prior to the discovery of crude oil were practically abandoned;

Concerned that despite having earned over $760 billion from exports and sales of crude oil over the years, there have not been commensurate positive impact on the socio-economic growth and development of the country;

Also aware that though the thirty six (36) States structure and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja constitute the Nigerian state, the country still operates a six geopolitical zonal structure administratively, when dealing with the apportioning of political offices and appointments;

Cognizant that fashioning out sound economic principles and mustering the political will by the Federal Government to site strategic and economically vibrant industries in each of the six zones in Nigeria in order to drive and sustain the economy of those zones, and the country in general, will be a sure recipe for pulling the economy out of recession for an enduring development;

Resolved to:

(*i*) call on the Federal Government to urgently explore the possibility of empowering the Six Geopolitical Zones with the strategic domiciling of different industries peculiar to the various zones for economic growth and sustainable development of the country; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to ensure implementation and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 186/2016**).

20. **The Need to Re-Invent Ethics and Values Driven Society**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the importance of ethics and good value system in the lives and well-being of a people and the development of their communities;

Observes the synergy between law and ethics which helps to create a peaceful, stable and progressive society by ensuring that citizens, both the governed and those in authority live up to their ethical responsibilities as is provided in section 23 of the 1999 Constitution that the national ethics shall be discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-reliance and patriotism;

Acknowledges that Nigeria's pre and post-independence era were a lot more peaceful and crime free than the present time because, in those days, society was more driven by good ethical standards, morals and nationalistic values than by mere legal codes;

Concerned by the retrogression in the society as evidenced in the crime rates in 1980, for instance which stood at 178,842, at 215,788 in 1987, and at 289,156 in 1993;

Worried that in the last four decades, ethics and values have degenerated to a crisis point that there is hardly any clear cut distinction between right and wrong given that there have been a high level of indiscipline characterising our personal and official conducts which is now very visible at homes, in the schools, on the roads, offices, markets, business places, etc.;

Aware that indiscipline breeds immorality, impatience, deception, shamelessness, criminal tendencies, corruption, cutting of corners and institutionalization of mediocrity, degradation of values and bastardization of credibility, integrity and quality in personal and official affairs of a person, people or a nation;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to re-invent ways and strategies for re-orientating the citizens to appreciate the benefits of ethics based and values driven society;

(*ii*) commend the Federal Government for its efforts so far and urge that more publicity on imbibing good ethics and morals be intensified and more support for organizations, whether secular or faith based, that promote values and ethics in the society; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to ensure implementation (*Hon. Blessing Nsiegbe — Port Harcourt II Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the importance of ethics and good value system in the lives and well-being of a people and the development of their communities;

Observed the synergy between law and ethics which helps to create a peaceful, stable and progressive society by ensuring that citizens, both the governed and those in authority live up to their ethical responsibilities as is provided in section 23 of the 1999 Constitution that the national ethics shall be discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-reliance and patriotism;

Acknowledged that Nigeria's pre and post-independence era were a lot more peaceful and crime free than the present time because, in those days, society was more driven by good ethical standards, morals and nationalistic values than by mere legal codes;

Concerned by the retrogression in the society as evidenced in the crime rates in 1980, for instance which stood at 178,842, at 215,788 in 1987, and at 289,156 in 1993;

Worried that in the last four decades, ethics and values have degenerated to a crisis point that there is hardly any clear cut distinction between right and wrong given that there have been a high level of indiscipline characterising our personal and official conducts which is now very visible at homes, in the schools, on the roads, offices, markets, business places, etc.;

Aware that indiscipline breeds immorality, impatience, deception, shamelessness, criminal tendencies, corruption, cutting of corners and institutionalization of mediocrity, degradation of values and bastardization of credibility, integrity and quality in personal and official affairs of a person, people or a nation;

Resolved to:

(*i*) urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to re-invent ways and strategies for re-orientating the citizens to appreciate the benefits of ethics based and values driven society;

(*ii*) commend the Federal Government for its efforts so far and urge that more publicity on imbibing good ethics and morals be intensified and more support for organizations, whether secular or faith based, that promote values and ethics in the society; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to ensure implementation (**HR. 187/2016**).

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 15 *November*, 2016 *at* 11.00 *a.m.* (*Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader*).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.15 *p.m.*

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker