



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 30 March, 2017

1. The House met at 11.09 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, 29 March, 2017.

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 *Wind of Glory International School*, Karu, Nasarawa State;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of *Lekced International School*, Jikwoyi, Karu, Abuja;
 - (iii) Staff and Students of *Sancta Virgo International Academy*, Mararaba, Nasarawa State.
4. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Mire Legals (Legal Practitioners & Consultants), on behalf of 329 disengaged staff of Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria (DICON), on the non-payment of their arrears of their salaries and entitlements by the Agency, was presented and laid by Hon. Jagaba Adams Jagaba (*Kachia/Kagarko Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) A petition from Ibigwa Field Management Board, on behalf of Dr Vitalis C. Nwulu and 13 others, on the refusal by the Waltersmith Petroman Nigeria Limited, to implement the provisions of the memoranda of understanding entered into with the various communities in 2014, was presented and laid by Hon. Opiah Goodluck Nanah (*Ohaji/Egbema/Oguma /Oru West Federal Constituency*);
 - (iii) A petition from Topmedia Communications Limited, on behalf of Reginald Akuchie, on the refusal by Atlantic Shrimpers Limited to comply with the agreement signed with the company, was presented and laid by Hon. Soyinka Olatunji (*Surulere II Federal Constituency*);

- (iv) A petition from Muhammad Haruna, on the non-implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee to re-instate him into the Nigeria Immigration Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Salisu Garba Koko (*Koko-Besse/Maiyama Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from HRH Eze Malachy O., on the total neglect of Agbala Autonomous community, Owerri North Local Government Area by the Anambra, Imo River Basin Development Authority, was presented and laid by Hon. Ezenwa Francis (*Owerri Municipal/Owerri North/Owerri West Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)
Need to Invite the Hon. Minister of Planning and Budget, the Hon. Minister of Finance, to Appear and Brief the House on Measures the Federal Government is taking to Address the Challenges Facing Nigerian Pensioners:

Hon. Hassan Adamu Shekarau (*Birnin/Gwari/Giwa Federal Constituency and 5 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.

Need to Invite the Hon. Minister of Planning and Budget, the Hon. Minister of Finance to Appear and Brief the House on What Measures the Federal Government Is Taking to Address the Challenges Facing Nigerian Pensioners:

The House:

Notes that challenges facing Nigeria Pensioners is becoming alarming. The challenges cut across both the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and Defined Benefit Scheme (DBS) and that inadequate financial provisions is made in the proposed 2017 budget;

Aware that on Thursday, 23 March, 2017 a motion on the same matter was taken by the House requesting the Committee on Appropriations to include the shortfall in Pension liabilities in the 2017 Budget and further mandating Mr Speaker to liaise with the Senate leadership to get the buy in of executive branch and Mr President, Commander in Chief, for an urgent solution to the problem facing Nigerian pensioners;

Concerned that the total liabilities of both the CPS of about ₦285 billion and that of DBS of about ₦174 billion which accumulated over the years is worrisome;

Cognizant of the fact that Section 173 (1) and (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that Pension is a right of every Nigerian worker without prejudice, and it therefore behoves on the Federal Government to respect and fulfil this constitutional provision;

Resolves to:

Invite the Hon. Minister of Budget and Planning, the Hon. Minister of Finance, to appear before the House on Thursday, 6 April, 2017, at 11.00 am to brief the House on measures being taken by the Executive arm of the Federal Government to address the serious challenges facing Nigeria pensioners with a view to ending the embarrassing situation (*Hon. Hassan Adamu Shekarau — Birnin/Gwari/Giwa Federal Constituency and 5 others*).

*Debate.**Agreed to.*

The House:

Noted that challenges facing Nigeria Pensioners is becoming alarming. The challenges cut across both the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and Defined Benefit Scheme (DBS) and that inadequate financial provisions is made in the proposed 2017 budget;

Aware that on Thursday, 23 March, 2017 a motion on the same matter was taken by the House requesting the Committee on Appropriations to include the shortfall in Pension liabilities in the 2017 Budget and further mandating Mr Speaker to liaise with the Senate leadership to get the buy in of executive branch and Mr President, Commander in Chief, for an urgent solution to the problem facing Nigerian pensioners;

Concerned that the total liabilities of both the CPS of about ₦285 billion and that of DBS of about ₦174 billion which accumulated over the years is worrisome;

Cognizant of the fact that Section 173 (1) and (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that Pension is a right of every Nigerian worker without prejudice, and it therefore behoves on the Federal Government to respect and fulfil this constitutional provision;

Resolved to:

Invite the Hon. Minister of Budget and Planning, the Hon. Minister of Finance, to appear before the House on Thursday, 6 April, 2017, at 11.00 am to brief the House on measures being taken by the Executive arm of the Federal Government to address the serious challenges facing Nigeria pensioners with a view to ending the embarrassing situation (**HR. 131/2017**).

6. Presentation of Reports**(i) Committee on Aviation:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Aviation on the Oversight Visits to Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport and Kaduna International Airport (**HR.111/2017**)" (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.**Report laid.*

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

Report on the Petition by the Firm of Rose and Associates on Behalf of Geospan Marine Services Nigeria Limited:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by the Firm of Rose and Associates on behalf of Geospan Marine Services Nigeria Limited against the Ministry of Defence on the Illegal Act of the Joint Task Forces in Bayelsa State in Disposing of a Dumb Barge Property" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

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

Report on the Petition by the Messrs Mike Ozekhome's Chambers:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Messrs Mike Ozekhome's Chambers on the Unlawful Seizure and Vandalization of two Ships belonging to his Clients by the Nigerian Navy" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. **Consolidation of Bills**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Honours Act, Cap. N43, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 by Subjecting the Nomination for the Award of National Honours to the Confirmation of the Senate and Stipulating Qualifications and Conditions for the Award and a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Honours Act, and the Nigerian National Merit Award Act, Cap. N122, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Re-enact the Nigerian National Honours and Merit Award Commission to, among other things, Provide for the Establishment of a Commission that will Regulate Matters Related to National Honours and Merit Award in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 654 and HB. 559), for further consolidated with a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian National Merit Award Act, Cap. N122, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide Awards to Deserving States and Companies in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 929)" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Forensics 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 Other Related Matters (HB. 856) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Regulate the Medical Residency Training Programme in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 982) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Regulate the Medical Residency Training Programme in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 982) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Betty Apiafi — Ahoada East/Abua/Odual 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 Health Institutions.

10. **A Bill for Act to Amend Section 13 (1) of the Child's Right Act to Provide for the Right to Free and Compulsory Medical Treatment for Every Child below the Age of 5 Years and for Other Related Matters (IIB. 930) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. **Need for Investigation into Allegations of Abuse, Breach and Violation of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by the Federal Inland Revenue Service: Rescission of the Decision of the House, Pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Recalls that on 9 March, 2017 a motion titled "Need for Investigation into Allegations of Abuse, Breach and Violation of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by the Federal Inland Revenue Service" was moved and negatived;

Also recalls that soon thereafter, fresh facts were made available which would have influenced the House to pass the Motion if they had been available then;

Resolves to.

Rescind its decision of Thursday, 9 March, 2017, and reintroduce the matter for reconsideration on the basis of the available fresh facts (*Hon. Chukwuka Onyema — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Motion made and Question proposed. "That the matter be considered immediately, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 8 (6)" (*Hon. Chukwuka Onyema — Ogbaru Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Need for Investigation into Allegations of Abuse, Breach and Violation of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by the Federal Inland Revenue Service:

The House:

Aware that all agencies of the Federal Government are obliged to comply with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 in their procurement of goods, works and services;

Notes that Section 16 (6) (d) and (8) (d) of the Public Procurement Act provides as follows: "(6) All bidders in addition to requirements contained in any solicitation documents shall: (d) have fulfilled all its obligations to pay taxes, pensions and social security contributions. (8) Whenever it is established by a procuring entity or the Bureau that any or a combination of situations set out exist, a bidder may have its bid or tender excluded from any particular procurement proceeding if";

Also notes that Section 6 (3) of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Act, 2011, provides that: "Any supplier, contractor or consultant bidding or soliciting contracts, businesses, goods and services from any Federal Government Ministry, Department, Agency, commercial, industrial and private entity shall fulfill statutory obligations of its employees with respect to payment of training contribution to the fund";

Also aware that on 7 December, 2016, the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) awarded a contract to Active Solutions Integrated Synergy Limited (ASISL) for the "Deployment of Revenue Monitoring Solutions on Telecommunication Companies, specifically for International Voice, Internet and other Value Added Network Services for the FIRS";

Concerned that the FIRS awarded the contract to ASISL notwithstanding the fact that the company was incorporated at the Corporate Affairs Commission on 2 December, 2016, just two working days before the award was made, which is indicative of the fact that the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 and other subsidiary legislations were not complied with;

Further notes that the FIRS recently engaged the services of 100 tax consultants to conduct tax audit and assessment on companies in Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt, however, the engagement process was not made public and was not competitive as required by law;

Also concerned that the current anti-corruption war will be frustrated if statutory breaches like these are allowed to continue unchecked and that it will promote mediocrity, cronyism and may undermine the purpose of inbuilt checks in the procurement system;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Procurement to investigate the above allegations and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chukwuka Onyema — Ogburu Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the word "on", *insert* the word "Finance" (*Hon. Mohammed Umar Bago — Chanchaga Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question on the Motion — Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that all agencies of the Federal Government are obliged to comply with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 in their procurement of goods, works and services;

Noted that Section 16 (6) (d) and (8) (d) of the Public Procurement Act provides as follows: "(6) All bidders in addition to requirements contained in any solicitation documents shall: (d) have fulfilled all its obligations to pay taxes, pensions and social security contributions. (8) Whenever it is established by a procuring entity or the Bureau that any or a combination of situations set out exist, a bidder may have its bid or tender excluded from any particular procurement proceeding if";

Also noted that Section 6 (3) of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Act, 2011, provides that: "Any supplier, contractor or consultant bidding or soliciting contracts, businesses, goods and services from any Federal Government Ministry, Department, Agency, commercial, industrial and private entity shall fulfill statutory obligations of its employees with respect to payment of training contribution to the fund";

Also aware that on 7 December, 2016, the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) awarded a contract to Active Solutions Integrated Synergy Limited (ASISL) for the "Deployment of Revenue Monitoring Solutions on Telecommunication Companies, specifically for International Voice, Internet and other Value Added Network Services for the FIRS";

Concerned that the FIRS awarded the contract to ASISL notwithstanding the fact that the company was incorporated at the Corporate Affairs Commission on 2 December, 2016, just two working days before the award was made, which is indicative of the fact that the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 and other subsidiary legislations were not complied with;

Further noted that the FIRS recently engaged the services of 100 tax consultants to conduct tax audit and assessment on companies in Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt, however, the engagement process was not made public and was not competitive as required by law;

Also concerned that the current anti-corruption war will be frustrated if statutory breaches like these are allowed to continue unchecked and that it will promote mediocrity, cronyism and may undermine the purpose of inbuilt checks in the procurement system;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Public Procurement to investigate the above allegations and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 132/2017**).

12. Business Continued from Assembly to Assembly (Order Twelve, Rule 18 of the House Standing Orders)

Nigerian Academy of Science Establishment Bill, 2017 (IIB. 917):

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 18 of the Standing Orders of the House, legislative business of the House which, though completed and laid in the House by a Committee of the House remain undetermined at the end of the Assembly, shall be resumed and proceeded with in the next Assembly in the same manner as if the tenure of the Assembly had not come to an end, if the House resolves in the affirmative that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted, be reconsidered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the Nigerian Academy of Science Establishment Bill, 2017 was awaiting consideration in the Committee of the Whole before the last Assembly ended;

Aware that the Bill has been re-gazetted and read for the first time accordingly;

Resolves to:

Commit the Bill to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Bill recommitted to the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 18.

14. Call for Rehabilitation of Egbu-Etioha Road

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that Egbu-Etioha Road which connects Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State and Imo State is in a deplorable condition that requires urgent attention to save the communities around it from being cut off from the rest of the States;

Aware that the main economic activity of the communities is farming and the road is the gateway for the conveyance of goods to the markets;

Concerned that the deplorable state of the road has afforded men of the underworld opportunities to perpetrate unimaginable mayhem on natives and travelers;

Cognizant that the rehabilitation of the road will revive economic and socio-political activities in the areas;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Niger Delta and/or the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to commence rehabilitation of Egbu - Etioha Road;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Niger Delta Affairs, and Niger Delta Development Commission to ensure implementation (*Hon. Jerome Amadi Eke — Etche/Omuma Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 133/2017).

Motion referred to the Committees on Niger Delta Affairs, and Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

15. Need for Completion of the Nguru-Gashua and Gashua-Bayamari Federal Road

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the construction of Nguru/Gashua Road was awarded on 14 May, 2009 while the Gashua/Bayamari Road construction was awarded on 21 November, 2012;

Also notes that construction of Nguru/Gashua Road was awarded for the sum of ₦2,318,694,378.03 (two billion, three hundred and eighteen million, six hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and seventy-eight Naira, three Kobo; while that of Gashua/Bayamari Road was awarded for the sum of ₦6,581,999,666.55 (six billion, five hundred and eighty-one million, nine hundred and ninety-nine thousand, six hundred and sixty-six Naira, fifty-five Kobo);

Aware that twenty four (24) months and eighteen (18) months, respectively were approved for the completion of those road projects which are the major gateway from the entire northern part of Yobe State to other parts of Nigeria;

Recalls that the sums of ₦1,020,000,000 (One billion, twenty million Naira) and ₦600,000,000 (six hundred million Naira) were appropriated in 2013 and 2014 for the construction of Nguru/Gashua road, while the sums of ₦600,000,000 (six hundred million Naira) and ₦750,000,000 (seven hundred and fifty million Naira) were appropriated for the Gashua/Bayamari axis during the same period;

Also recalls that the sum of four billion Naira was appropriated in 2016 in respect of those projects;

Further recalls that out of the proposed 65km road network in Nguru/Gashua axis, only 30km was completed, leaving 35km uncompleted, while the contractor handling the Gashua/Bayamari axis has not been mobilized to site to handle the 55km Gashua/Bayamari Road;

Concerned that the sum of 2.3 billion Naira being proposed in the 2017 budget to complete those important roads is grossly inadequate;

Also concerned that non completion of those roads is causing untold hardships on the people as most of their agricultural products cannot be transported for sale at the appropriate time;

Desirous that the remaining 35km stretch along Nguru/Gashua and the 55km stretch along Gashua/Bayamari should be completed without further delay to enhance smooth flow of commercial activities in those areas;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Works, and Appropriations to include funds for the completion of Nguru-Gashua and Gashua - Bayamori Roads in the 2017 Budget (*Hon. Sidi Yakubu Karasuwa — Machina/Nguru/Karasuwa Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 134/2017).

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

16. **Need for the Federal Government to Establish more Colleges of Education (Special)**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that there is only one Federal College of Education (Special) in Nigeria, located in Oyo, Oyo State, which was established for the training of special teachers to teach pupils and students with physical challenges, including the blind, deaf, dumb and other physically challenged;

Concerned that the College does not produce enough teachers to cope with the increasing number of pupils and students with physical challenges in the society as an average of four hundred out of the four thousand candidates admitted annually to study in schools are physically challenged;

Aware that if adequate and proper attention are given to the educational needs and training of students with physical challenges, it would enable them to become useful members of the society who will contribute to the economic, social and educational development of the country;

Also notes that by having more Colleges of Education (Special) to train people with special needs, the rate of destitution and begging across the country will be drastically reduced;

Convinced that there is urgent need for the Federal Government to establish more Colleges of Education (Special) to ensure the training of sufficient special teachers, who could in turn, be employed to train children with physical challenges across the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to establish more Colleges of Education (Special) in various parts of the country in order to raise adequate special teachers to educate people with physical challenges; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services to ensure implementation and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Emmanuel S. Akpan —Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 135/2017).

Referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

17. **Need to Revive Public Library Services in Nigeria**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the National Library Act, 2004 provides for the establishment of the National Library Board, which is charged with the responsibility of establishing and maintaining the National Library and provide services that would promote the library culture;

Aware that most public libraries in Nigeria were established in the 1980s or earlier when many of the existing States of the Federation had not been created, but due to under funding and poor maintenance, most of the reading materials therein have become outdated, the buildings dilapidated and the library not digitally compliant as is expected of modern library facilities;

Mindful that low income families depend on public libraries to access expensive books and computers for their educational needs;

Concerned that the current state of public libraries does not encourage a reading culture among the citizens, especially the youths which is a culture the Government seeks to revive;

Desirous to see that public libraries are given urgent attention in terms of adequate funding for infrastructure and facilities upgrade and modernization, comparable to international best practices;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to interface with the Federal Ministry of Education to revive the library culture among the youths in particular, modernize the existing National libraries and construct new ones in cities that do not have them to enhance the educational needs of Nigerians and report back in eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Joseph Eghoghon Edionwele — Esan Central/Esan West/Igueben Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 136/2017).

Motion referred to the Committee on Basic Education and Services, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

18. **Need to Investigate the Joint Venture Agreement Between University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada and Crystal Thorpe Nigeria Limited**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Federal Government invested millions of Naira through capital budgeting for six years to build a befitting Trauma Centre at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital to improve medical services being offered Nigerians, especially residents of Gwagwalada Area Council and its environs and to improve the facilities of the Teaching Hospital to meet requirements as a residency training institution for medical doctors;

Aware that the Teaching Hospital took over the old Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital, a structure that was quite dilapidated;

Concerned that close to four years after the completion of the well-constructed and spacious Trauma Center, the structure has not been put into use and visible signs of deterioration can be seen on the building because of its having been locked up for years;

Also concerned about the claim by the Teaching Hospital that it has a joint venture agreement with Crystal Thorpe Nigeria Limited to provide equipment and manage the facility but it has failed to do so for over three years now;

Further concerned that despite having the structure locked up for three years already, the Teaching Hospital does not appear to be in a hurry to recover the building and put it into use to serve Nigerians for whom the Trauma Centre was built;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Health Institutions to conduct an investigative hearing on the joint venture agreement between the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital and Crystal Thorpe Nigeria Limited, with a view to returning the Trauma Centre to the Hospital and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency and 11 others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Government invested millions of Naira through capital budgeting for six years to build a befitting Trauma Centre at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital to improve medical services being offered Nigerians, especially residents of Gwagwalada Area Council and its environs and to improve the facilities of the Teaching Hospital to meet requirements as a residency training institution for medical doctors;

Aware that the Teaching Hospital took over the old Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital, a structure that was quite dilapidated;

Concerned that close to four years after the completion of the well-constructed and spacious Trauma Center, the structure has not been put into use and visible signs of deterioration can be seen on the building because of its having been locked up for years;

Also concerned about the claim by the Teaching Hospital that it has a joint venture agreement with Crystal Thorpe Nigeria Limited to provide equipment and manage the facility but it has failed to do so for over three years now;

Further concerned that despite having the structure locked up for three years already, the Teaching Hospital does not appear to be in a hurry to recover the building and put it into use to serve Nigerians for whom the Trauma Centre was built;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Health Institutions to conduct an investigative hearing on the joint venture agreement between the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital and Crystal Thorpe Nigeria Limited, with a view to returning the Trauma Centre to the Hospital and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 137/2017**).

19. **Need to Investigate the Rising Incidents of Non-Qualified Health Personnel Offering the much Needed Health Care Services to Unsuspecting Nigerians and its Disastrous Consequences**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that Section 14 (2) (b) of the of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government;

Also notes that the welfare and indeed the security of the people are tied to their state of health;

Further notes that the economic and social climate of Nigeria make it very difficult for majority of Nigerians to afford and access good and quality care as and when needed, thereby worsening the disease burden on Nigerians;

Concerned that the combination of rising stress occasioned by economic recession and inadequate health infrastructure combine to make health care delivery difficult for most Nigerians;

Also concerned that the near desperate state of Nigeria's health care system has created a large space for people with need for health care delivery, which has also encouraged unscrupulous and unqualified "professionals" to engage in series of malpractices and quackery that have worsened that fate of patients and other health care users;

Further concerned that regulatory control on practices from the diagnostics, therapeutic and rehabilitative levels of patients care has largely been non-existent;

Equally concerned that even some prestigious health care facilities in Nigeria lack the required equipment and manpower for some of the procedures they undertake, thereby leaving some health care users worse than their state before the intervention;

Cognizant that this parlous state has led middle class and affluent Nigerians to seek health care services in other countries of the world, some of which standard of practice are also grossly inadequate. in addition to the attendant capital flight;

Convinced that Nigeria can afford to give the citizenry adequate health care if unscrupulous and unqualified professionals using inadequate equipment are weeded out of the health care system;

Resolves to:

Set-up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to —

- (a) investigate the prevalence of fake and substandard health care facilities and other facilities by unqualified practitioners and to ensure that adequate sanctions are visited on culprits; and
- (b) also investigate the process of registration of both the personnel and facilities as well as monitoring of ownership and operations of health facilities and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Patrick Asadu —Nsukka/Igboeze South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, *leave out* the words "Set-up an *Ad-hoc* Committee" and *insert* the words "Mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services" (*Hon. Leo Ogor — Isoko North/Isoko South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 14 (2) (b) of the of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government;

Also noted that the welfare and indeed the security of the people are tied to their state of health;

Further noted that the economic and social climate of Nigeria make it very difficult for majority of Nigerians to afford and access good and quality care as and when needed, thereby worsening the disease burden on Nigerians;

Concerned that the combination of rising stress occasioned by economic recession and inadequate health infrastructure combine to make health care delivery difficult for most Nigerians;

Also concerned that the near desperate state of Nigeria's health care system has created a large space for people with need for health care delivery, which has also encouraged unscrupulous and unqualified "professionals" to engage in series of malpractices and quackery that have worsened that fate of patients and other health care users;

Further concerned that regulatory control on practices from the diagnostics, therapeutic and rehabilitative levels of patients care has largely been non-existent;

Equally concerned that even some prestigious health care facilities in Nigeria lack the required equipment and manpower for some of the procedures they undertake, thereby leaving some health care users worse than their state before the intervention;

Cognizant that this parlous state has led middle class and affluent Nigerians to seek health care services in other countries of the world, some of which standard of practice are also grossly inadequate, in addition to the attendant capital flight;

Convinced that Nigeria can afford to give the citizenry adequate health care if unscrupulous and unqualified professionals using inadequate equipment are weeded out of the health care system;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Healthcare Services to —

- (a) investigate the prevalence of fake and substandard health care facilities and other facilities by unqualified practitioners and to ensure that adequate sanctions are visited on culprits; and
- (b) also investigate the process of registration of both the personnel and facilities as well as monitoring of ownership and operations of health facilities and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 138/2017).

20. Need to Carry out Personnel and Infrastructure Audit in the Nigeria Police Force before the Deployment of the 10,000 Recruits

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria Police Force is primarily charged with the responsibility of ensuring the internal security of the country which entails the prevention and detection of crime, preservation of law and order and protection of lives and property, among other statutory duties;

Also notes the extant delicate security situation in the country, thus giving rise to the pertinent need to help the Force reposition itself to checkmate acts of terrorism, armed robbery, kidnaping, and other sundry crimes threatening the corporate existence of the nation;

Commends the recent bold strides by the Federal Government to increase the policing capacity through the ongoing recruitment exercise aimed at engaging ten thousand (10,000) officers and men;

Observes that due to rapid urban migration, certain cities and locations seem to have excess police personnel allocated to them to the detriment of a more equitable deployment of manpower to provide security for the common man, particularly in the rural areas, such as Unyeada, Inyoron, Ibotirem and Oyoroko communities in Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency, which are home to at least 150,000 residents, yet not as many as twenty (20) Police personnel are serving there, and worse of all, Oyorokoto, arguably the biggest fishing port in West Africa has no single Police personnel or security infrastructure;

Concerned that the gains of the recent recruitment exercise may be lost if an adequate personnel and infrastructure audit of the Police Force is not carried out to guide a more equitable deployment and policing so as to improve the overall security architecture of the country;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to liaise with the appropriate institutions of government to carry out a personnel and infrastructure audit of the Nigeria Police Force in order to guide the deployment of new recruits as well as revamping, for increased inclusiveness the security/policing architecture of the country and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek D. Abiante — Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency and 17 others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Police Force is primarily charged with the responsibility of ensuring the internal security of the country which entails the prevention and detection of crime, preservation of law and order and protection of lives and property, among other statutory duties;

Also noted the extant delicate security situation in the country, thus giving rise to the pertinent need to help the Force reposition itself to checkmate acts of terrorism, armed robbery, kidnaping, and other sundry crimes threatening the corporate existence of the nation;

Commended the recent bold strides by the Federal Government to increase the policing capacity through the ongoing recruitment exercise aimed at engaging ten thousand (10,000) officers and men;

Observed that due to rapid urban migration, certain cities and locations seem to have excess police personnel allocated to them to the detriment of a more equitable deployment of manpower to provide security for the common man, particularly in the rural areas, such as Unyeada, Inyoron, Ibotirem and Oyoroko communities in Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency, which are home to at least 150,000 residents, yet not as many as twenty (20) Police personnel are serving there, and worse of all, Oyorokoto, arguably the biggest fishing port in West Africa has no single Police personnel or security infrastructure;

Concerned that the gains of the recent recruitment exercise may be lost if an adequate personnel and infrastructure audit of the Police Force is not carried out to guide a more equitable deployment and policing so as to improve the overall security architecture of the country;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to liaise with the appropriate institutions of government to carry out a personnel and infrastructure audit of the Nigeria Police Force in order to guide the deployment of new recruits as well as revamping, for increased inclusiveness the security/policing architecture of the country and report back in six (6) weeks for further legislative action (IRR. 139/2017).

21 **Consideration of Reports**

That items 14 to 17 on the Order Paper be deferred to another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (2) (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency).

22. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 4 April, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.34 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

