



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 24 January, 2017

1. The House met at 11.13 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 Thursday, 19 January, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcements**
Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Members of the *National Association of Katsina State Students (NAKATSS)*, Katsina State; and
- (ii) Staff and Students of *ARWA Basic Schools*, Zone 4, Wuse, Abuja.

4. **Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Agatu Traditional Council, Benue State, on the alleged ceding of Agatu lands to herdsmen for grazing purposes, was presented and laid by Hon. Adamu O. Entonu (*Apa/Agatu Federal Constituency*); and
- (ii) A petition from Samson Uwanikone and 7 others, on behalf of the Coalition Committee of Pipelines and Products Marketing Company/ MT. J. S. Amazing Oil Impacted Ijaw, Itsekiri and Urhobo Ethnic Nationalities of Delta State, on the effect of the Low Pour Fuel Oil (LPFO) Spill of 6 June, 2009 in Warri, was presented and laid by Hon. Reyenieju Danie. Oritsegbubemi (*Warri South/Warri West Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
Need to Investigate the Resurgence of Avian Influenza Popularly Known as Bird Flu:
Hon. Sergious Ose Ogun (*Esan Northeast/Esan Southwest Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to consider and approve it as one of urgent public importance.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Matter to stand over till next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 4 (3).

6. Consolidation of Bills

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agricultural Land Development Authority Act, Cap. N4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to increase its Membership and Functions for Strategic Operations and Interests and to Vest in the Authority Powers to Establish Farm Settlements across the Country for the Purposes of Attaining Food Sufficiency and a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Farm Settlement and Youth Empowerment Agency to create a Mechanized System of Farming that will be driven by Trained Youths as a means of Creating Job Opportunities, Wealth, Commercial and Sustainable Agricultural System and for Other Related Matters (HBs 458 and 771) for further consolidation with a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Agricultural Land Development Authority Act, Cap. N4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Constituency Farm Schemes in all Federal Constituencies in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 880)" (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- 7. A Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦7,298,507,709,937 (Seven Trillion, Two Hundred and Ninety-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million, Seven Hundred and Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty-Seven Naira) only, of which, ₦419,020,648,000 (Four Hundred and Nineteen Billion, Twenty Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦1,663,885,430,499 (One Trillion, Six Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Five Million, Four Hundred and Thirty Thousand, Four Hundred and Ninety-Nine Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦177,460,296,707 (One Hundred and Seventy-Seven Billion, Four Hundred and Sixty Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seven Naira) only, is for Sinking Fund for Maturing Bonds, ₦2,979,151,756,196 (Two Trillion, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Billion, One Hundred and Fifty-One Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand, One Hundred and Ninety-Six Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,058,989,578,536 (Two Trillion, Fifty-Eight Billion, Nine-Hundred and Eighty-Nine Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure (Exclusive of Capital Expenditure in Statutory Transfers) for the Year Ending on 31st December, 2017 (HB. 884) — *Second Reading***
- Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦7,298,507,709,937 (Seven Trillion, Two Hundred and Ninety-Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million, Seven Hundred and Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty-Seven Naira) only, of which, ₦419,020,648,000 (Four Hundred and Nineteen Billion, Twenty Million, Six Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦1,663,885,430,499 (One Trillion, Six Hundred and Sixty-Three Billion, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Five Million, Four Hundred and Thirty Thousand, Four Hundred and Ninety-Nine Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦177,460,296,707 (One Hundred and Seventy-Seven Billion, Four Hundred and Sixty Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seven Naira) only, is for Sinking Fund for Maturing Bonds, ₦2,979,151,756,196 (Two Trillion, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Billion, One Hundred and Fifty-One Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand, One Hundred and Ninety-Six Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,058,989,578,536 (Two Trillion, Fifty-Eight Billion, Nine-Hundred and Eighty-Nine Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty-Six Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure (Exclusive of Capital Expenditure in Statutory Transfers) for the Year Ending on 31st December, 2017 (HB. 884) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned to the next legislative day.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Industrial Court Act to Provide that Appeals Shall Lie from the Decisions of the National Industrial Court to the Court of Appeal as may be Prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and for Other Related Matters and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C26, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish a Labour Division of the Court to Hear Appeals from the National Industrial Court and for Other Related Matters (HBs 860 and 861) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Industrial Court Act to Provide that Appeals Shall Lie from the Decisions of the National Industrial Court to the Court of Appeal as may be Prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and for Other Related Matters and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C26, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish a Labour Division of the Court to Hear Appeals from the National Industrial Court and for Other Related Matters (HBs 860 and 861) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari 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 Federal Judiciary.

9. **Need to Investigate the Abandonment of Rehabilitation Works on Iseyin-Okeho Road**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that a contract for the rehabilitation of the 26km Iseyin-Okeho Road, which connects Iseyin, Kajola and Iwajowa in Oyo State, was awarded sometime in 2009 to Messrs Pheusite Nigeria Ltd at a cost of ₦998,542,875 with a completion period of six (6) months;

Also notes that the 2015 budget performance report of the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing showed that the project excluded bridges and culverts along the Sudan Savannah Sub-base region;

Aware that less than ten (10) kms of the Road has been rehabilitated to date despite the contractor having collected ₦453,782,850;

Concerned that even though the work has been abandoned since January 2015 and that the firm had gone insolvent following the deaths of all but one of its Directors, the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing recently disbursed funds for the contract;

Also concerned that the Ministry is almost concluding the process of terminating the contract without carrying out proper assessment of the work already done against the amount paid to the contractor;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Works to carry out an assessment of the state of work done on the road and liaise with the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to ensure the inclusion of the road in the 2017 budget; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure implementation (*Hon. Olasupo Abiodun Adeola — Iseyin/Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 24/2017).

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

10. Need to Investigate the ₦9.2 Billion Contract for Clean Stove for Rural Women Scheme under the Last Administration

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Federal Executive Council (FEC) approved a contract for the supply of 20 million units of clean stove and wonder bags under the clean stove scheme for Rural Women at the unit cost of ₦464.00 (Four Hundred and Sixty-Four Naira) only at a total of ₦9,287,250,000 (Nine Billion, Two Hundred and Eighty-Seven Million, Two and Fifty Thousand Naira) only;

Aware that following the approval of the FEC, the Federal Ministry of Finance released the sum of ₦5bn (Five Billion Naira) only to the Federal Ministry of Environment for the execution of the project;

Also notes that as part of the measures in the Climate Change Policy, the clean stoves were meant for distribution to women in the rural areas through the State Ministries of Environment to discourage the use of firewood for cooking which was alluded to be one of the causes of desertification in the country;

Also aware that Messrs Integra Energy Renewable Services Ltd was awarded the contract for the supply of the 20 million units and was paid the sum of ₦1.3bn out of the ₦5bn released by the Federal Ministry of Environment as mobilization fee without due process;

Concerned that less than 750,000 units were said to have been assembled and delivered at the velodrome of the National Stadium, Abuja and commissioned by former Vice President Namadi Sambo without any beneficiary being present or later being given the stove to achieve its intended purpose;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Anti-Corruption and Environment and Habitat to:

- (i) investigate the details of the contract, the number of units supplied, their mode of distribution and names of beneficiaries on a State by State basis;
- (ii) determine the status of the balance of ₦952,000,000 that is with the contractor since 750,000 units of clean stove were supplied at a unit cost of ₦464 at the value of ₦348,000,000 out of the ₦1.3 Billion paid out;
- (iii) find out whether or not the clean stoves and wonder bags projects have, in any exceptional way, assisted or is assisting in eradicating desertification in Nigeria for future consideration; and
- (iv) confirm the status of the balance of ₦3.7bn which was outstanding from the initial payment to the Federal Ministry of Environment and report to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Executive Council (FEC) approved a contract for the supply of 20 million units of clean stove and wonder bags under the clean stove scheme for Rural Women at the unit cost of ₦464.00 (Four Hundred and Sixty-Four Naira) only at a total of ₦9,287,250,000 (Nine Billion, Two Hundred and Eighty-Seven Million, Two and Fifty Thousand Naira) only;

Aware that following the approval of the FEC, the Federal Ministry of Finance released the sum of ₦5bn (Five Billion Naira) only to the Federal Ministry of Environment for the execution of the project;

Also noted that as part of the measures in the Climate Change Policy, the clean stoves were meant for distribution to women in the rural areas through the State Ministries of Environment to discourage the use of firewood for cooking which was alluded to be one of the causes of desertification in the country;

Also aware that Messrs Integra Energy Renewable Services Ltd was awarded the contract for the supply of the 20 million units and was paid the sum of ₦1.3bn out of the ₦5bn released by the Federal Ministry of Environment as mobilization fee without due process;

Concerned that less than 750,000 units were said to have been assembled and delivered at the velodrome of the National Stadium, Abuja and commissioned by former Vice President Namadi Sambo without any beneficiary being present or later being given the stove to achieve its intended purpose;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Anti-Corruption and Environment and Habitat to:

- (i) investigate the details of the contract, the number of units supplied, their mode of distribution and names of beneficiaries on a State by State basis;
- (ii) determine the status of the balance of ₦952,000,000 that is with the contractor since 750,000 units of clean stove were supplied at a unit cost of ₦464 at the value of ₦348,000,000 out of the ₦1.3 Billion paid out;
- (iii) find out whether or not the clean stoves and wonder bags projects have, in any exceptional way, assisted or is assisting in eradicating desertification in Nigeria for future consideration; and
- (iv) confirm the status of the balance of ₦3.7bn which was outstanding from the initial payment to the Federal Ministry of Environment and report to the House within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 25/2017).

11. Need to Avert the Impending Strike Action at the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) and to Investigate the Protracted Face-off between the Management and the Labour Union over Cases of Intimidation, Victimization and Discrimination

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) is the Agency of Government saddled with the responsibility of ensuring effective regulation, control, supervision and administration of insurance business in Nigeria and is consequently expected to uphold the core values of transparency, integrity and efficiency;

Recalls a strike action by the Amalgamated Union of Public Corporations, Civil Service, Technical and Recreational Employees (AUPCTRE) in November 2016 which shut down the activities of the Commission for over a week;

Also notes a seven (7) day notice issued on Thursday, 12 January, 2017 by the Union to the Management of the Commission of its intention to commence a strike action which will lead to the inability of the Commission to carry out its statutory functions;

Aware that the Management, in the past year, has been embroiled in an unending feud with its senior staff under the aegis of AUPCTRE over lack of promotion of staff for several years, absence of staff welfare, unwillingness of the management to carry out promotion exercise into all vacancies originally declared because of alleged discrimination and personal interests, biased criteria adopted in staff evaluation ignoring grades for membership of professional bodies created by law, intimidation and victimization of staff, unconstitutional ban of union membership and forced transfer of the union president and other senior staff out of Abuja;

Concerned that the Management completely ignored the intervention of the Federal Ministries of Finance and Labour and Employment which asked all parties to stay actions until negotiations were conducted;

Also concerned that the continued faceoff has prevented NAICOM from effectively carrying out its regulatory functions and an indefinite strike action will only put this very critical sector of the nation's economy in complete jeopardy;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Insurance and Actuarial Matters, Finance and Labour, Employment and Productivity to interface with the Management of NAICOM, Representatives of the Union, Hon. Ministers of Finance and Labour and Employment and all relevant stakeholders to determine ways to avert the planned strike action, ascertain the facts and explore a permanent resolution of the impasse and report to the House within two (2) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Mark Terseer Gbillah — Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) is the Agency of Government saddled with the responsibility of ensuring effective regulation, control, supervision and administration of insurance business in Nigeria and is consequently expected to uphold the core values of transparency, integrity and efficiency;

Recalled a strike action by the Amalgamated Union of Public Corporations, Civil Service, Technical and Recreational Employees (AUPCTRE) in November 2016 which shut down the activities of the Commission for over a week;

Also noted a seven (7) day notice issued on Thursday, 12 January, 2017 by the Union to the Management of the Commission of its intention to commence a strike action which will lead to the inability of the Commission to carry out its statutory functions;

Aware that the Management, in the past year, has been embroiled in an unending feud with its senior staff under the aegis of AUPCTRE over lack of promotion of staff for several years, absence of staff welfare, unwillingness of the management to carry out promotion exercise into all vacancies originally declared because of alleged discrimination and personal interests, biased criteria adopted in staff evaluation ignoring grades for membership of professional bodies created by law, intimidation

and victimization of staff, unconstitutional ban of union membership and forced transfer of the union president and other senior staff out of Abuja;

Concerned that the Management completely ignored the intervention of the Federal Ministries of Finance and Labour and Employment which asked all parties to stay actions until negotiations were conducted;

Also concerned that the continued faceoff has prevented NAICOM from effectively carrying out its regulatory functions and an indefinite strike action will only put this very critical sector of the nation's economy in complete jeopardy;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Insurance and Actuarial Matters, Finance and Labour, Employment and Productivity to interface with the Management of NAICOM, Representatives of the Union, Hon. Ministers of Finance and Labour and Employment and all relevant stakeholders to determine ways to avert the planned strike action, ascertain the facts and explore a permanent resolution of the impasse and report to the House within two (2) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 26/2017).

12. Call to Congratulate Larry Ekundayo on his Heroics in the Field of Boxing

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Recalls that Larry Ekundayo, the Nigerian born, United Kingdom based boxing champion visited the Speaker, Rt Hon. Yakubu Dogara on 15 March, 2016 to present the African Boxing Union (ABU) Welterweight title he won which event was celebrated;

Notes that Larry Ekundayo won another boxing bout in the United Kingdom on 10 December, 2016 at which I represented the Hon. Speaker;

Aware that the highest title that can be won in boxing is the heavy weight category which has been won only thrice by Africans, namely Gerrie Coetzee and Corrie Sanders of South Africa and Samuel Peters of Nigeria;

Cognizant of the immense potentials in boxing which if harnessed, have the capacity to enhance societal cohesiveness, create ample opportunities for employment and earn revenues for the country;

Concerned that due to lack of seriousness in pursuing goals, the country has recorded low participation in boxing and as a result, some Nigerian boxers had to switch allegiance to other countries as evidenced in the fact that of the eight (8) heavyweight champions Britain has produced, three (3) were Nigerians;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to charge the Nigerian Boxing Federation to revive boxing and to popularize it through hosting continental and international boxing tournaments;
- (ii) commend the Management of Arik Air for its leading role in sponsoring Larry Ekundayo;
- (iii) call on corporate bodies, both public and private, to invest in the development of boxing through provision of infrastructure and sponsorship deals; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Sports and Youth Development to interface with the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to work out modalities for sponsorship of Nigerian boxers to prevent their being lured to change their nationalities (*Hon. Rita Orji — Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), *leave out* the word “boxing” and *insert* the word “sports” (Hon. Aminu Shehu Shagari — Yabo/Shagari Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that Larry Ekundayo, the Nigerian born, United Kingdom based boxing champion visited the Speaker, Rt Hon. Yakubu Dogara on 15 March, 2016 to present the African Boxing Union (ABU) Welterweight title he won which event was celebrated;

Noted that Larry Ekundayo won another boxing bout in the United Kingdom on 10 December, 2016 at which I represented the Hon. Speaker;

Aware that the highest title that can be won in boxing is the heavy weight category which has been won only thrice by Africans, namely Gerrie Coetzee and Corrie Sanders of South Africa and Samuel Peters of Nigeria;

Cognizant of the immense potentials in boxing which if harnessed, have the capacity to enhance societal cohesiveness, create ample opportunities for employment and earn revenues for the country;

Concerned that due to lack of seriousness in pursuing goals, the country has recorded low participation in boxing and as a result, some Nigerian boxers had to switch allegiance to other countries as evidenced in the fact that of the eight (8) heavyweight champions Britain has produced, three (3) were Nigerians;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to charge the Nigerian Boxing Federation to revive boxing and to popularize it through hosting continental and international boxing tournaments;
- (ii) commend the Management of Arik Air for its leading role in sponsoring Larry Ekundayo;
- (iii) call on corporate bodies, both public and private, to invest in the development of sports through provision of infrastructure and sponsorship deals; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Sports and Youth Development to interface with the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to work out modalities for sponsorship of Nigerian boxers to prevent their being lured to change their nationalities (IIR. 27/2017).

13. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 25 January, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.42 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker