

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 3 July, 2018

1. The House met at 11.21 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 7 June, 2018.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Address by Mr Speaker**
Mr Speaker presented the following address to commence the 4th Session of the 8th Assembly:

Protocols:

I warmly welcome all Members back to the Chambers after our short break to observe the Eid El Fitri holiday. I congratulate our Muslim brothers and sisters, once again, on the successful completion of the Ramadan fast, and the rites that followed. This short break also marked the end of the 3rd session and the beginning of the 4th session of the House of Representatives. I believe that we are fully prepared to conclude the legislative journey we started in June 2015.

2. *Let me also reiterate my congratulations to all the members of our party, the All Progressives Congress (APC), on the successful conduct of our elective National Convention, and to wish the new National Chairman and his team a successful tenure of office.*

3. *Honourable Members, we are well aware of the intense outpouring of grief on a national scale on account of senseless and barbaric killings of our citizens, notably in Benue, Adamawa, Kaduna, Zamfara and now Plateau States. Tragedy struck also in Bauchi State. Azare market was gutted by fire and a ravaging windstorm occasioned the death of dozens of citizens, destroyed goods and properties worth billions shattering livelihoods of many of our constituents. Once again, may I on behalf of the House, offer our condolences to families of the victims and may God rest the gentle souls of the departed in perfect peace.*

4. *Hon colleagues, what jolted the conscience of our dear nation most during the recess was the gruesome, heartless and senseless killing of about 200 people in some Local Government Areas of Plateau State, between 23rd and 24th June, 2018. This is obviously one needless destruction of lives and property too many. It is a national shame. I have, on behalf of the House, paid a condolence visit*

to Plateau State Governor, the Gbong Gwom, Jos, as well as some of the injured in hospitals and other victims who are in Internally Displaced Persons Camps in Jos. You may be aware also that the President of the Senate and I visited His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, to offer our condolences and to interact with him on finding lasting solutions to these incessant and very unfortunate killings.

5. There is no gainsaying the fact that the most fundamental and basic responsibility of any government is the security of lives and property. History will have a harsh verdict for us as a Government if we fail to live up to this responsibility and it won't matter if we succeed in other areas. Unfortunately, the stark reality now is that our citizens are fast losing confidence in our security system. This must not be the case. Before we ebb to the realm of anarchy, we must rise up as true representatives of the Nigerian people to salvage the situation and defend our hard-won democracy.

6. Hon. Members, you will no doubt agree with me that the unresolved issue of rampant killing of defenceless people, including innocent and vulnerable children and women, in various parts of the country, calls for a sober reflection and more concerted efforts by the National Assembly to exploit all our Constitutional powers and privileges to ensure the protection of lives and property in the entire country by our security agencies. It is obvious that with the unrestrained killings being witnessed in the country, our security agencies have fallen short of the demands of their offices and the expectations of the nation. We must urgently work with the Executive Arm to facilitate the re-engineering of our security architecture to serve our collective interests and aspirations.

7. Let me seize this opportunity to again call on all Nigerians to give peace a chance, and to have respect for the sanctity of life. Our citizens must never lose hope in project Nigeria because evil, no matter how viciously prosecuted, will never triumph over Nigeria.

8. The whole world is watching us with apprehension. I read a report in the newspaper recently where Lord Alton of the UK House of Lords said, during a debate on the Nigerian situation, that the world should wake up for Nigeria, and not "watch one of Africa's greatest countries go the way of Sudan". What readily comes to mind therefore, is the question what happens if the world does not wake up for Nigeria? This is the question all patriots must answer.

9. On other fronts, we are happy to note that Mr President signed the 2018 Appropriations Bill into law during this period. However, while signing the Bill, Mr President made some remarks that bothered on the powers and procedures of Appropriations in Nigeria. It is important to reiterate once again, that the National Assembly has the Constitutional powers, duty and responsibility to intervene in the budgeting process to ensure equity, federal character and even distribution of projects and amenities to all nooks and crannies of this great country as direct Representatives of the people. It is also important to emphasize that the 2018 budget benefitted from active cooperation and consultation between the Executive and Legislature during the Appropriation process. No doubt, Nigeria's budgeting processes is in need of further reforms and that is why the National Assembly took the bold initiative to introduce the Budget Process Bill that is expected to lay out, timelines that will guide the appropriations process from conception to passage. But for this Bill to be passed, section (81) subsection (1) which gives the President power to prepare and lay before each House of the National Assembly AT ANY TIME estimates of revenue and expenditure in the financial year must be amended.

10. It is as a result of this that the National Assembly proposed an amendment to the section to require the President to submit the Appropriation Bill not later than 90 days to the end of the financial year. The President has not yet signed this Bill which is so critical to an orderly Appropriations process. Let me use this opportunity to remind Mr President of the fact that if this Bill does not become law, any talk of an orderly appropriations process would be mere cheap talk.

11. I will urge all relevant Committees of the House to increase their oversight activities to ensure implementation of the 2018 budget for the benefit of our people. In this regard also we await Mr President's supplementary budget proposals which we promise to dispassionately consider in the overall interest of our people.

12. Honourable colleagues, permit me to, at this juncture, remind us that we have entered the final year of our tenure as a Parliament. The implication of which is that we have very limited time but we must not be carried away by politics of 2019 as we still have constitutional responsibilities to discharge our mandate faithfully to our people to the very end.

Thus, House Committees should process all pending legislative measures before them and ensure expeditious consideration as we enter the twilight of our legislative mandate. We already have a record number of Bills, resolutions and public petitions passed more than any other Assembly before us and we can do even more in the remaining period of our tenure.

13. As we enter the period of elections, let me use this opportunity to caution all actors namely the INEC, security agencies, political parties and politicians to play by the rules of the game and ensure that our primaries and general elections are free, fair and credible. For this to be achieved the political environment must be free from violence and intimidation of whatever nature and we have the moral and legal responsibility to ensure this. We must do all within our powers to maintain and improve on the gains of the 2015 elections. Anything less or short of this will amount to betrayal of the trust reposed on us by our citizens.

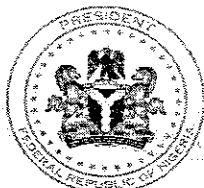
14. The National Assembly stands ready to provide any financial, logistics or legislative support required to ensure that the 2019 elections are successful and better organized than the 2015 elections.

15. Finally, I want to conclude by thanking you all for your continued cooperation and, support to the leadership of the House and the preservation of the bond of unity and comradeship across Party and geopolitical divides. I urge you to sustain same at this period as I sincerely wish us all success in all our endeavours.

16. Thank you all. May God bless you, and bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

4. **Message**

Mr Speaker read the following message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

19th June, 2018

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.

Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,

**2018 STATUTORY BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR
FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (F.C.T.), ABUJA**

Pursuant to Sections 121 and 299 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), I forward herewith the 2018 Budget Proposal of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, for the kind consideration and passage by the Honourable House of Representatives.

While looking forward for the expeditious consideration of this submission, please accept, Right Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

5. Announcement

Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:

- (i) Staff and Students of ***Kingdom Heritage Model Schools***, Living Faith Church, AMAC Housing Estate, Aco, Airport Road, FCT, Abuja; and
- (ii) Staff and Students of ***Army Children School***, Mambilla Barracks, Maitama, Abuja.

6. Admittance into the Chamber

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, Participants of the 2-Day Interactive Session between Legislators and Security Agencies on the emerging security challenges in the West African Sub-Region, pursuant to Order Nineteen, Rule 8 (xi) of the Standing Orders" (*Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

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

(i) *Massacre of Over 215 Persons in Plateau State:*

Hon. Istifanus Dung Gyang (*Barkinladi/Riyom Federal Constituency and 4 others*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Massacre of over 215 Persons in Plateau State:

The House:

Notes with shock and disbelief the massacre by killer herdsmen of over 215 persons, young and old, men and women as well as children and toddlers, as barbaric acts of man's inhumanity to man, ethnic cleansing and genocide which constituted the worst form of wickedness and cruelty;

Also notes that the outpouring of outrage and condemnations by Nigerians and the international community, the Secretary General of the United Nations, the United States of America and the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, who expressed worries at the huge loss of lives and property and consequent bereavement by many families and communities;

Concerned that not less than 15 villages were destroyed in the well coordinated attacks and mass killings, namely, Gana Ropp, Bet, Rankwok, Rapwomol, Ratatis, Bwom-Hei Ropp, Nghar, Rukku, Soi, Tisan, Katchin, Kezok, Zargok, Kura Worom, Ex Lands, Shonong and others in Bassa, Bokkos and Mangu;

Also concerned that analysis of previous killer herdsmen attacks show that they were usually gucrilla in nature using sophisticated arms to attack and sack the villages in Plateau State;

Worried that the attacks have a pattern where once a community is attacked, it is a form of ethnic cleansing, whereby the native inhabitants are killed, the houses burnt and destroyed, and the lands taken over for occupation; a cycle repeated and replicated in what has clearly manifested as a land grabbing agenda;

Also worried that the attacks, mass killings and land grabbing is being perpetrated without an appropriate response of the security agencies and that this indecisiveness, inadequate response and seeming apathy by the government has emboldened the killer herdsmen to continue in their barbaric acts;

Disturbed by the malicious destruction of hundreds of hectares of farm crops belonging to the native inhabitants in their bid to cause hunger and economic strangulation to the communities;

Also disturbed by the slow and ineffective response of NEMA which aggravated the humanitarian tragedy;

Perturbed that even while the President and Vice-President visited Plateau State and gave assurances of security and safety, the attacks and killings persisted and extended to the burning down of not less than 5 Churches all in a bid to provoke a religious crisis;

Also perturbed that virtually all theories known to peace building and dialogue have been experimented on the Plateau, yet it has neither restrained nor stopped the land grabbing motivated attacks and killings. It is therefore glaring that it is not the absence of dialogue but the fact that engendering lasting peace will defeat the intendment of the killings which is the land grabbing agenda;

Applauds the rare display of humane nature and value for human life by the Chief Imam of Nghar, Mallam Tsoho of Hausa extraction who along with one Abbas a Yoruba Muslim graciously shielded and kept many natives in a mosque at the risk of losing their own lives to the rampaging killer herdsmen;

Aware that the Constitution in Section 41 (1) permits every Nigerian citizen to reside in any location of his choice without let or hindrance and that the exercise of this right however does not extinguish the right of other citizens, especially host communities to ownership of their ancestral lands and customary heritages or to peaceful co-habitation;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the killing and massacre in the strongest terms;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to take decisive action to stop the killings and secure communities that have been under persistent attacks;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to recover over 52 villages currently under illegal and forceful occupation in Barkin Ladi, Riyom, Bokkos, Bassa and Mangu Local Governments and the displaced owners resettled on their ancestral land;

- (iv) further urge Security Agencies to arrest and prosecute the masterminds and perpetrators of the attacks and massacre;
- (v) again urge relevant authorities to conduct a Coroner's Inquest and Forensic examination of the weapons and ammunition used to determine the course of deaths, caliber and source of the weapons used;
- (vi) still urge the President to go beyond verbal condemnation of the attacks to taking decisive and practical steps to give effect to section 14 (2) (b) of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);
- (vii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide immediate relief to the IDPs to avert a humanitarian crisis and a Special Reconstruction Fund should be set up by the Federal Government in this regard;
- (viii) also urge the Federal Government to overhaul NEMA so that it can respond effectively in emergency situations;
- (ix) implore the National Assembly to immediately revisit the Constitution Review exercise to empower states to establish State Police for effective community policing and maintenance of law and order. This is as a result of the fact that the current Security Architecture has failed to bring an end to violent attacks across the Federation;
- (x) mandate the Committees on Army, Air Force, Police, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation and report back within three weeks for further legislative action; and
- (xi) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the departed (*Hon. Istifanus Dung Gyang — Barikinladi/Riyom Federal Constituency and 4 Others*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (xii) as follows:
“implore the Federal Government to build government run orphanages in the affected areas to cater for the teeming number of children that have become orphans as a result of the carnage” (*Hon. Henry Nwawuba — Mbaitolu Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (xiii) as follows:
“also implore the Federal Government to declare the heartless killings of women and children in Plateau State and other parts of the country as a genocide” (*Hon. Ogbeide-Ihama Omoregie — Oredo Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (xiv) as follows:
“further implore the Federal Government to give State protection to Hon. Idris Wase, who made a remark to the effect that he has documentary evidence of sponsors of the terrorist attacks in Plateau State” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with shock and disbelief the massacre by killer herdsmen of over 215 persons, young and old, men and women as well as children and toddlers, as barbaric acts of man's inhumanity to man, ethnic cleansing and genocide which constituted the worst form of wickedness and cruelty;

Also noted that the outpouring of outrage and condemnations by Nigerians and the international community, the Secretary General of the United Nations, the United States of America and the House of Lords of the United Kingdom, who expressed worries at the huge loss of lives and property and consequent bereavement by many families and communities;

Concerned that not less than 15 villages were destroyed in the well coordinated attacks and mass killings, namely, Gana Ropp, Bet, Rankwok, Rapwomol, Ratatis, Bwom-Hei Ropp, Nghar, Rukku, Soi, Tisan, Katchin, Kczok, Zargok, Kura Worom, Ex Lands, Shonong and others in Bassa, Bokkos and Mangu;

Also concerned that analysis of previous killer herdsmen attacks show that they were usually guerilla in nature using sophisticated arms to attack and sack the villages in Plateau State;

Worried that the attacks have a pattern where once a community is attacked, it is a form of ethnic cleansing, whereby the native inhabitants are killed, the houses burnt and destroyed, and the lands taken over for occupation; a cycle repeated and replicated in what has clearly manifested as a land grabbing agenda;

Also worried that the attacks, mass killings and land grabbing is being perpetrated without an appropriate response of the security agencies and that this indecisiveness, inadequate response and seeming apathy by the government has emboldened the killer herdsmen to continue in their barbaric acts;

Disturbed by the malicious destruction of hundreds of hectares of farm crops belonging to the native inhabitants in their bid to cause hunger and economic strangulation to the communities;

Also disturbed by the slow and ineffective response of NEMA which aggravated the humanitarian tragedy;

Perturbed that even while the President and Vice-President visited Plateau State and gave assurances of security and safety, the attacks and killings persisted and extended to the burning down of not less than 5 Churches all in a bid to provoke a religious crisis;

Also perturbed that virtually all theories known to peace building and dialogue have been experimented on the Plateau, yet it has neither restrained nor stopped the land grabbing motivated attacks and killings. It is therefore glaring that it is not the absence of dialogue but the fact that engendering lasting peace will defeat the intendment of the killings which is the land grabbing agenda;

Applauded the rare display of humane nature and value for human life by the Chief Imam of Nghar, Mallam Tsoho of Hausa extraction who along with one Abbas a Yoruba Muslim graciously shielded and kept many natives in a mosque at the risk of losing their own lives to the rampaging killer herdsmen;

Aware that the Constitution in Section 41 (1) permits every Nigerian citizen to reside in any location of his choice without let or hindrance and that the exercise of this right however does not extinguish the right of other citizens, especially host communities to ownership of their ancestral lands and customary heritages or to peaceful co-habitation;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the killing and massacre in the strongest terms;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to take decisive action to stop the killings and secure communities that have been under persistent attacks;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Government to recover over 52 villages currently under illegal and forceful occupation in Barkin Ladi, Riyom, Bokkos, Bassa and Mangu Local Governments and the displaced owners resettled on their ancestral land;
- (iv) further urge Security Agencies to arrest and prosecute the masterminds and perpetrators of the attacks and massacre;
- (v) again urge relevant authorities to conduct a Coroner's Inquest and Forensic examination of the weapons and ammunition used to determine the course of deaths, caliber and source of the weapons used;
- (vi) still urge the President to go beyond verbal condemnation of the attacks to taking decisive and practical steps to give effect to section 14 (2) (b) of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);
- (vii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide immediate relief to the IDPs to avert a humanitarian crisis and a Special Reconstruction Fund should be set up by the Federal Government in this regard;
- (viii) also urge the Federal Government to overhaul NEMA so that it can respond effectively in emergency situations;
- (ix) implore the National Assembly to immediately revisit the Constitution Review exercise to empower states to establish State Police for effective community policing and maintenance of law and order. This is as a result of the fact that the current Security Architecture has failed to bring an end to violent attacks across the Federation;
- (x) mandate the Committees on Army, Air Force, Police, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation and report back within three weeks for further legislative action
- (xi) observe a minute silence for the repose of the souls of the departed;
- (xii) implore the Federal Government to build government run orphanages in the affected areas to cater for the teeming number of children that have become orphans as a result of the carnage;
- (xiii) also implore the Federal Government to declare the heartless killings of women and children in Plateau State and other parts of the country as a genocide; and
- (xiv) further implore the Federal Government to give State protection to Hon. Idris Wase, who made a remark to the effect that he has documentary evidence of sponsors of the terrorist attacks in Plateau State (HR. 01/07/2018).

The House observed a minute silence in honour of the deceased.

(ii) ***Need to Investigate the Rising Cases of Petroleum Tanker Accidents Leading to Wanton Destruction of Lives and Property in Nigeria:***

Hon. Johnson Johnny Egwakhide Oghuma (*Etsako East/Etsako West/Etsako Central Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Investigate the Rising Cases of Petroleum Tanker Accidents Leading to Wanton Destruction of Lives and Property in Nigeria:

The House:

Alarmed by the frequency of accidents involving petroleum tankers in the country;

Concerned that the Petroleum Industry which is expected to operate under complete safety, due to the inflammable nature of its products, is experiencing a total lack of adherence to the Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) regulations;

Also concerned that most of the accidents are caused by the increasing use of vehicles that cannot pass the HSE regulations, yet allowed to load the products from depots without regard to the operational regulations by the Depot Owners, Petroleum Marketers, Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and even the law enforcement agencies such as the Police, Federal Road Safety Corps, National Vehicle Inspection Office and National Security and Civil Defense Corps;

Regrets that records have revealed that 79% of the accidents are caused by human factors with about 70% likelihood of spillage, fire and explosion and 81% injury or fatality;

Also regrets that these loss of lives and property is unfortunate and unacceptable;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government through its agencies such as DPR, FRSC and NVIO to, as a matter of urgency, work out an improved safety policy in the sector to curb this increasing menace;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of exigency take over the medical bills of victims of the recent Lagos tanker explosion; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to liaise with DPR to investigate the rising cases of Petroleum Tanker Accidents and recommend steps to curb the menace, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Johnson Egwakhide Oghuma — Etsako Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Agreed to.

The House:

Alarmed by the frequency of accidents involving petroleum tankers in the country;

Concerned that the Petroleum Industry which is expected to operate under complete safety, due to the inflammable nature of its products, is experiencing a total lack of adherence to the Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) regulations;

Also concerned that most of the accidents are caused by the increasing use of vehicles that cannot pass the HSE regulations, yet allowed to load the products from depots without regard to the operational regulations by the Depot Owners, Petroleum Marketers, Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and even the law enforcement agencies such as the Police, Federal Road Safety Corps, National Vehicle Inspection Office and National Security and Civil Defense Corps;

Regretted that records have revealed that 79% of the accidents are caused by human factors with about 70% likelihood of spillage, fire and explosion and 81% injury or fatality;

Also regretted that these loss of lives and property is unfortunate and unacceptable;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government through its agencies such as DPR, FRSC and NVIO to, as a matter of urgency, work out an improved safety policy in the sector to curb this increasing menace;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of exigency take over the medical bills of victims of the recent Lagos tanker explosion; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to liaise with DPR to investigate the rising cases of Petroleum Tanker Accidents and recommend steps to curb the menace, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 02/07/2018).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Osé Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Need to Investigate the Perennial Communal Clash Between the People of Imfuma in Cross River State and the People of Izzi of Ebonyi State:***

Hon. Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe (Ogoja/Yala Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Need to Investigate the Perennial Communal Clash Between the People of Mfuma in Cross River State and the People of Izzi of Ebonyi State:

The House:

Notes that the ongoing communal clash between the people of Mfuma of Cross River State and the people of Izzi of Ebonyi State, which broke out on 22 June, 2018, due to a land dispute is avoidable;

Informed that similar dispute between the two communities in 2005, had led to the loss of lives and wanton destruction of property;

Also informed that more than two hundred (200) lives have been lost in the crisis rendering the vulnerable and the poor helpless and hopeless;

Worried that Government has not attended to the incessant killings and has made the dilemma faced by the people a perennial one, which may lead to proliferation of small arms for self defence.

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to investigate the Issues Surrounding the Communal clash and compel the National Boundary Commission to Immediately embark on a proper Boundary Delineation Process within two (2) weeks and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to liaise with National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected people in order to ameliorate the suffering of the people in these communities (*Hon. Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe — Ogoja/Yala Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the ongoing communal clash between the people of Mfuma of Cross River State and the people of Izzi of Ebonyi State, which broke out on 22 June, 2018, due to a land dispute is avoidable;

Informed that similar dispute between the two communities in 2005, had led to the loss of lives and wanton destruction of property;

Also informed that more than two hundred (200) lives have been lost in the crisis rendering the vulnerable and the poor helpless and hopeless;

Worried that Government has not attended to the incessant killings and has made the dilemma faced by the people a perennial one, which may lead to proliferation of small arms for self defence.

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Special Duties to investigate the Issues Surrounding the Communal clash and compel the National Boundary Commission to Immediately embark on a proper Boundary Delineation Process within two (2) weeks and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
 - (ii) also mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to liaise with National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to the affected people in order to ameliorate the suffering of the people in these communities (HIR. 03/07/2018).
- (iv) ***Call on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to Rescue Victims of Fire Disaster in Akure Computer Village:***
 Hon. Ajisafe Olowookere (Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
 - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Call on National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to Rescue Victims of Fire Disaster in Akure Computer Village:

The House:

Notes the unfortunate incident of fire disaster that occurred on 21 June, 2018 which razed the computer village along Oba-Adesida road, Akure;

Also notes that more than 1000 computers and other properties worth millions of Naira were consumed in the inferno;

Worried that few days after this incident the Chairperson of the village, Mrs Orogun Aina Elizabeth died of shock and many others were hospitalized for same reason;

Concerned that the victims of the fire incident numbering over three hundred (300) people are now displaced and deprived of their means of livelihood;

Disturbed over the persistent failure of the Fire Service to combat fire outbreak in both public and private institutions and homes even when given timely alert and distress calls;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to take statistics of the victims of this disaster and provide relief that will salvage their hopeless situation in order to save lives;
- (ii) also urge NEMA to arrange to settle them back to their occupation by providing them with computers; and

- (iii) mandate the Committee on Interior to investigate the persistent failure of fire service in combating fire outbreaks in the country and recommend solutions (*Hon. Ajisafe Olowookere — Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency*).

Debate

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the unfortunate incident of fire disaster that occurred on 21 June, 2018 which razed the computer village along Oba-Adesida road, Akure;

Also noted that more than 1000 computers and other properties worth millions of Naira were consumed in the inferno;

Worried that few days after this incident the Chairperson of the village, Mrs Orogun Aina Elizabeth died of shock and many others were hospitalized for same reason;

Concerned that the victims of the fire incident numbering over three hundred (300) people are now displaced and deprived of their means of livelihood;

Disturbed over the persistent failure of the Fire Service to combat fire outbreak in both public and private institutions and homes even when given timely alert and distress calls;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to take statistics of the victims of this disaster and provide relief that will salvage their hopeless situation in order to save lives;
- (ii) also urge NEMA to arrange to settle them back to their occupation by providing them with computers; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Interior to investigate the persistent failure of fire service in combating fire outbreaks in the country and recommend solutions (**HR. 04/07/2018**).

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Factoring (Assignment of Receivables) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1499).
- (2) National Centre for Women Development Act (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1500).
- (3) Public Procurement Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1501).
- (4) Age Discrimination Eradication Bill, 2018 (HB. 1502).
- (5) National Tobacco Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (HB. 1503).
- (6) Chartered Institute of Fraud Examiners Bill, 2018 (HB. 1504).
- (7) Joint Service Board Bill, 2018 (HB. 1505).

9. **Presentation of Report**

Committee on Basic Education and Services:

That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Basic Education and Services on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap. C52, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Increase the Functions of the Commission; and for Related Matters (HB. 155, HB. 419 and HB. 420).

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

10. **A Bill For an Act to Provide for Establishment of the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism for Training, Certification and Registration of Personnel in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1316) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill For an Act to Provide for Establishment of the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism for Training, Certification and Registration of Personnel in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1316) be now read the Third Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and Passed.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to Promote, Coordinate and Facilitate the Prevention, Detection and Control of Communicable Diseases in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1199) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to Promote, Coordinate and Facilitate the Prevention, Detection and Control of Communicable Diseases in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1199) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — 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.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for Compulsory Compensation of Victims of Road Accident by Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers or Motor Vehicle Owners and Establish the Road Accident Victims Compensation Department under the Federal Road Safety Commission; and for Related Matters (HB. 1442) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. **Call to Investigate the Criteria for the Varied Cut- Off-Marks for Admission into Unity Schools by the National Common Entrance Examination Board (NCEEB)**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that recently, the National Common Entrance Examination Board (NCEEB) published the cut-off marks for admission into Unity Schools for the next academic session;

Also notes that the published cut-off marks drastically varies from State to State;

Cognizant that the quality of education in Nigeria has dropped to an alarming rate and this portends great danger for the future of the country;

Aware that a falling standard in education in any country is like an epidemic and all relevant authorities must consciously work towards redeeming such a situation;

Also aware that Section 15 (1) (2) (a) - (b) of the Child's Rights Act, 2003, places a duty on the government to provide free, compulsory and universal basic education for every Nigerian child, hence the importance of education cannot be undermined;

Concerned that the trend of varied cut-off marks for students who ought to study the same courses in the future and practice the same professions is dangerous for our already epileptic educational system and will no doubt affect the development of the country in the long run;

Also concerned that most of the compromised cut-off marks do not make up to 50% of the requisite 100%, while in some cases the marks do not make up to even 20% of the requisite percentage;

Further concerned that some students who have to meet a cut-off mark of 65% will be expected to end up in the same university, study the same courses as their contemporaries that had to meet up the cut-off mark of 14% for males and 12% for females respectively;

Worried that if this situation is not reversed, the Nigerian educational system would gradually collapse and the country will become largely underdeveloped;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to investigate the basis for the cut-off marks set by the NCEEB for admission of pupils into Nigerian Unity Schools and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Randolph Iwo Oruene Brown — Degema/Bonny Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that recently, the National Common Entrance Examination Board (NCEEB) published the cut-off marks for admission into Unity Schools for the next academic session;

Also noted that the published cut-off marks drastically varies from State to State;

Cognizant that the quality of education in Nigeria has dropped to an alarming rate and this portends great danger for the future of the country;

Aware that a falling standard in education in any country is like an epidemic and all relevant authorities must consciously work towards redeeming such a situation;

Also aware that Section 15 (1) (2) (a) - (b) of the Child's Rights Act, 2003, places a duty on the government to provide free, compulsory and universal basic education for every Nigerian child, hence the importance of education cannot be undermined;

Concerned that the trend of varied cut-off marks for students who ought to study the same courses in the future and practice the same professions is dangerous for our already epileptic educational system and will no doubt affect the development of the country in the long run;

Also concerned that most of the compromised cut-off marks do not make up to 50% of the requisite 100%, while in some cases the marks do not make up to even 20% of the requisite percentage;

Further concerned that some students who have to meet a cut-off mark of 65% will be expected to end up in the same university, study the same courses as their contemporaries that had to meet up the cut-off mark of 14% for males and 12% for females respectively;

Worried that if this situation is not reversed, the Nigerian educational system would gradually collapse and the country will become largely underdeveloped;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to investigate the basis for the cut-off marks set by the NCEFB for admission of pupils into Nigerian Unity Schools and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 05/07/2018).

14. Need to Prevent Counterfeiting of Drugs in Nigeria through NAFDAC Mobile Authentication Service (MAS)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that fake drugs undermine every aspect of medical treatment and healthcare delivery and are a major cause of suffering and death;

Concerned that Drug adulteration and counterfeiting has contributed negatively to the wellbeing of Nigerians and its illicit trade has escalated within the Nigerian health care system in recent times;

Aware that in 2010, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), in its effort to combat counterfeit drugs, initiated the Mobile Authentication Service (MAS), which allows consumers to send by text message, an authentication code to a designated number approved by NAFDAC to confirm the genuineness of purchased drugs;

Also aware that the MAS allowed consumers seeking to buy genuine drugs to scratch a coating on the packaging of the drug to reveal a unique 12 or 13 digit PIN that could be sent by SMS text to a short code of 38353 and get a response within seconds indicating if the drug is genuine, or potentially fake or stolen;

Observes that in recent times, there has been a reduced campaign on the authentication process and most of the drugs over the counter and infant syrups do not have the unique 12 or 13 digit PIN;

Worried that the negligence on the part of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has led to the influx of fake and counterfeit drugs into Nigeria's drug markets in particular and the health sector in general;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) to ensure that the Mobile Authentication Service (MAS) is re-activated and applied to all drugs purchased in Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge NAFDAC to, as a matter of urgency, begin a national wide publicity on MAS for the education and enlightenment of the public; and

- (iii) mandate the Committee on Health Care Services to ensure Compliance (Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that fake drugs undermine every aspect of medical treatment and healthcare delivery and are a major cause of suffering and death;

Concerned that Drug adulteration and counterfeiting has contributed negatively to the wellbeing of Nigerians and its illicit trade has escalated within the Nigerian health care system in recent times;

Aware that in 2010, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), in its effort to combat counterfeit drugs, initiated the Mobile Authentication Service (MAS), which allows consumers to send by text message, an authentication code to a designated number approved by NAFDAC to confirm the genuineness of purchased drugs;

Also aware that the MAS allowed consumers seeking to buy genuine drugs to scratch a coating on the packaging of the drug to reveal a unique 12 or 13 digit PIN that could be sent by SMS text to a short code of 38353 and get a response within seconds indicating if the drug is genuine, or potentially fake or stolen;

Observes that in recent times, there has been a reduced campaign on the authentication process and most of the drugs over the counter and infant syrups do not have the unique 12 or 13 digit PIN;

Worried that the negligence on the part of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has led to the influx of fake and counterfeit drugs into Nigeria's drug markets in particular and the health sector in general;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) to ensure that the Mobile Authentication Service (MAS) is re-activated and applied to all drugs purchased in Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge NAFDAC to, as a matter of urgency, begin a national wide publicity on MAS for the education and enlightenment of the public; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Health Care Services to ensure Compliance (HR. 06/07/2018).

15. *Motion made and Question proposed*, "That items 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on the Order Paper be deferred to the next legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3). (Hon. Idisi Lovette — Burutu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

16. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 4 July, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Idisi Lovette — Burutu Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.40 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker

