



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 10 May, 2017

1. The House met at 11.12 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Closed Session**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do resolve into a Closed Session" (Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency) — Agreed to.

House in Closed Session — 11.17 a.m.

House in Open Session — 11.50 a.m.

3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 9 May, 2017.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcements**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

- (i) Staff and Students of the Social Studies and Civic Educators Association of Nigeria (SOSCEAN), *Federal College of Education*, Zaria, Kaduna State;
- (ii) Staff and Students of *Brilliant Impact International Children Academy*, Gauraka, Tafa, Niger State; and
- (iii) Members of the Students Union Parliamentary Council, *Lagos State University Students Union*, Ojo, Lagos State.

(b) **Bereavement:**

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of a former Member, Hon. Charles Udogwu Onyekweli (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*, 2008 - 2011) on Thursday, 6 April, 2017.

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

5. Presentation and First Reading of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Institute of Environmental Practitioners of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2017(HB. 1022).
- (2) Federal Capital Territory, Kidnaping and Hostage Taking (Prohibition) Bill, 2017(HB. 1023).
- (3) Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1024).
- (4) Estate Surveyors and Valuers (Registration, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (HB. 1025).
- (5) Sheriffs and Civil Process Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017(HB. 1026).

6. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Works:*

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Works on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. S18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Review the Fines Upwards and for Other Related Matters (HB. 545)" (*Hon. Toby Okechukwu — Aninri/Agwu/Oji-Rivers Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) *Ad-hoc Committee on the Accidental Air Strike on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Site:*

Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Accidental Air Strike on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Site at Rann, Kala Balge, Local Government Area, Borno State (HR. 13/2017).

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

7. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electoral Act, No. 6, 2010 and for Other Related Matters (HB.1013) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

8. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Ministers Statutory Powers and Duties (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Act, Cap. M14, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Delete the Provision Requiring a Minister who Delegates any of his Powers or Duties under the Act to Notify of such Delegation in a Federal Gazette and Replace the Requirement with a Written Notice and for Other Related Matters (HB. 662) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Ministers Statutory Powers and Duties (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Act, Cap. M14, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Delete the Provision Requiring a Minister who Delegates any of his Powers or Duties under the Act to Notify of such Delegation in a Federal Gazette and Replace the Requirement with a Written Notice and for Other Related Matters (HB. 662) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Umar Buba Jibril — Kogi/Konton-Karfi/Lokoja Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate adjourned for further consultation.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act to Provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria; Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority, a Bill for an Act to Amend the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act, Cap. O5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 with a view to Providing for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Sub-Zones in Nigeria and a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act to Provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria, Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority and for Other Related Matters (HB. 64, HB. 332 and HB. 400) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act to Provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria; Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority, a Bill for an Act to Amend the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act, Cap. O5, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 with a view to Providing for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Sub-Zones in Nigeria and a Bill for an Act to Repeal and Re-enact the Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority Act to Provide for the Designation and Establishment of Oil and Gas Free Zones and Special Investment Areas in Nigeria, Establishment of the Oil and Gas Investment and Free Zones Authority and for Other Related Matters (HB. 64, HB. 332 and HB. 400) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency and 3 others*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Commerce.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Amend Sections 2, 4, 7, 11 and 15 of the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap. C52, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for the Return of Unused Federal Government Book Grant, make Provision for Rehabilitation of Delinquent Children, Provide a Comprehensive Definition for Services, Stakeholders and Child or Ward as Captured in the Enabling Act and to Enhance the Welfare of Teachers by Ensuring that before States access the Federal Government Grant, the States are required to fulfill their Obligations to Teachers by ensuring that Eligible Teachers due for Promotion and Salary Increment are Promptly Paid their Entitlements to Encourage Efficiency and for Other Related Matters (HB. 994 and HB. 995) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend Sections 2, 4, 7, 11 and 15 of the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap. C52, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 to Provide for the Return of Unused Federal Government Book Grant, make Provision for Rehabilitation of Delinquent Children, Provide a Comprehensive Definition for Services, Stakeholders and Child or Ward as Captured in the Enabling Act and to Enhance the Welfare of Teachers by Ensuring that before States access the Federal Government Grant, the States are required to fulfill their Obligations to Teachers by ensuring that Eligible Teachers due for Promotion and Salary Increment are Promptly Paid their Entitlements to Encourage Efficiency and for Other Related Matters (HB. 994 and HB. 995) be now read a Second Time" (*Hon. Mohammed Abdulkadir Mahmud — Agaie/Lapai Federal Constituency and 1 other*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Basic Education and Service.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Statutory Corporations Pensionable Officers (Retiring Age Limit) Act, Cap. S13, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 691) — Second Reading.**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Agricultural Produce Price Control Agency of Nigeria to Ensure Distribution and Sale of Fertilizers, Plants, Crops and Other Agricultural Produce to Farmers at Subsidized Rate and for Other Related Matters (HB. 848) — Second Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Agricultural Produce Price Control Agency of Nigeria to Ensure Distribution and Sale of Fertilizers, Plants, Crops and Other Agricultural Produce to Farmers at Subsidized Rate and for Other Related Matters (HB. 848) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Ali Isa J. C. — Balanga/Biliri 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 Agricultural Production and Services.

13. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Statutory Corporations (Modification, etc.) Act, Cap. S12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Other Related Matters (HB. 651) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

14. **Rescission of Seventeen (17) Clauses in the Bill for an Act to Establish North-East Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2017, Pursuant to Order 9, Rule 1 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that a Bill for an Act to Establish the North-East Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2017 (NEDC Bill) was passed by the National Assembly and transmitted to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on 12 January, 2017 for assent;

Aware that on 7 February, 2017, the National Assembly withdrew the NEDC Bill, after issues, some of which border on constitutional prescriptions were observed;

Desirous of rescinding the decision of the House in the Explanatory Memorandum, Arrangement of Sections — Part IV (Sections 13 and 20), Long Title, Sections 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25 and 26 of the NEDC Bill;

Resolves to:

- (i) rescind its decisions in the Explanatory Memorandum, Arrangement of Sections - Part IV (Sections 13 and 20), Long Title, Sections 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25 and 26 of the NEDC Bill;
- (ii) amend the NEDC Bill by replacing the rescinded Sections with the proposed amendments being sought; and

- (iii) re-commit the proposed amendments to the Committee of the Whole for further legislative action (*Hon. Muhammed Sani Zorro — Gumel/Maigatari/S/Tankar/Gagarawa Federal Constituency and 35 others*).

Agreed to.

15. Need to Rehabilitate Umukelebulu-Umueze-Ogwe Road

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Umukelebulu -Umueze -Ogwe Road that traverses Omuma Local Government Area of Rivers and Abia States is in a deplorable state;

Also notes that the road is a short cut to the famous Ariaria market in Aba and houses the popular Ogwe market that provides great commercial endeavours to the territory;

Concerned that the deplorable state of the road is disrupting the flow of traffic and causing hardships to the people as hoodlums take advantage of the situation to rob travelers;

Conscious of the urgent need to rehabilitate the road to improve the economic and living standards of the people of the States;

Resolves to:

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

Agreed to.

(HR. 187/2017).

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

16. Call for Construction of Okpasimini Road/Bridge in Omoku in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the contract for the construction of the 4-kilometer Okpasimini Road/Bridge was awarded by the Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in 2005, to serve as a link connecting Ogbogene, Utuechi, Isiukwa, Abor Ator and Osekewene Communities to the Oil fields in Omoku and Obrikom in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State;

Also notes that since the award of the contract, only 65% of the road project has been completed and construction of the bridge to connect Orashi River and River Niger has been abandoned;

Concerned that a road of such economic importance could be abandoned when it has the potential to boost economic and industrial activities around an area that hosts the largest onshore oil deposits in the area;

Aware that the abandonment of the project is short changing the country as over \$3 million is deployed in maintenance of Pontoon across the Orashi River, and the area also hosts the largest Independent Power Project (IPP) in Rivers State and is also the take off point of Obrikom/Oben gas transmission line and is equally the source of the feed store for Oben Power Project in Edo State;

Also concerned that the failure to complete the road is affecting effective policing of the Oil installations scattered around the area and is also causing financial loss to the Federal Government and its Joint Venture partners;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on NDDC to interface with the Niger-Delta Development Commission to ensure the completion of the Okpasimini Road and bridge at Omoku, Rivers State (*Hon. Uchechuku Nnam-Obi — Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni/Ahoada West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 188/2017).

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

17. Need to Address the Non-Payment of Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) Allowances to Students by the Industrial Training Fund (ITF)

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes the failure of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) to pay allowances to students who participated in the SIWES which is one of the core mandates for which the Fund was set up;

Also notes that the Fund was also established to encourage the acquisition of skills needed for manpower training in the country, and under the SIWES Scheme, students undertake six (6) months, and in some cases, one (1) year Industrial Training (IT);

Aware that Section 1 (c) of the ITF (Establishment) Act states that the Federal Government shall provide funds for the Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme;

Also aware that it is unpatriotic and unconscionable for the ITF or any Government agency to deliberately bring untold hardship to Students by withholding funds that have been released for payment of their SIWES Allowances;

Believes that unless urgent action is taken to check the prevailing sharp practices in the operations of the ITF, Students will continue to be ripped off;

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate allegations of sharp practices and fraud in the operations of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), especially on the utilization of its funds from 2010 to date, and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Kingsley Chinda — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, *leave out* the words "Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee" and *insert* the words "Mandate the Committee on Industry" (*Hon. Adamu Abubakar Chika — Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the failure of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) to pay allowances to students who participated in the Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) which is one of the core mandates for which the Fund was set up;

Also noted that the Fund was also established to encourage the acquisition of skills needed for manpower training in the country, and under the SIWES Scheme, students undertake six (6) months, and in some cases, one (1) year Industrial Training (IT);

Aware that Section 1 (c) of the ITF (Establishment) Act states that the Federal Government shall provide funds for the Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme;

Also aware that it is unpatriotic and unconscionable for the ITF or any Government agency to deliberately bring untold hardship to Students by withholding funds that have been released for payment of their SIWES Allowances;

Believed that unless urgent action is taken to check the prevailing sharp practices in the operations of the ITF, Students will continue to be ripped off;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committee on Industry to investigate allegations of sharp practices and fraud in the operations of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), especially on the utilization of its funds from 2010 to date, and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 189/2017**).

18. Need to Investigate the Failure of Bureau of Public Procurement to Enforce its Powers

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Aware that the Bureau of Public Procurement was established in 2007 and vested with powers to harmonize existing government policies and practices on public procurement in order to ensure probity, accountability and transparency in the procurement process, establish pricing standards and benchmarks and ensure the application of fair, competitive, transparent, value-for-money standards and practices in the procurement process;

Notes the situation where government contracts and projects that are of similar nature and content sited in the same vicinity are given out by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) at prices that are at variance with what can be considered as standardized prices or thresholds under the principle of international best practices, thus inhibiting Government's efforts in fighting corruption;

Cognizant that the widespread breach of the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by the MDAs without any proven corrective measures taken or sanctions imposed by the Bureau of Public Procurement renders its existence a waste on the finances of Government;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Public Procurement, and Anti-Corruption to investigate the allegation of failure of the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) to exercise its powers on public procurement processes and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Ajisafe Olowookere — Akure North/Akure South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Aware that the Bureau of Public Procurement was established in 2007 and vested with powers to harmonize existing government policies and practices on public procurement in order to ensure probity, accountability and transparency in the procurement process, establish pricing standards and benchmarks and ensure the application of fair, competitive, transparent, value-for-money standards and practices in the procurement process;

Noted the situation where government contracts and projects that are of similar nature and content sited in the same vicinity are given out by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) at prices that are at variance with what can be considered as standardized prices or thresholds under the principle of international best practices, thus inhibiting Government's efforts in fighting corruption;

Cognizant that the widespread breach of the provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2007 by the MDAs without any proven corrective measures taken or sanctions imposed by the Bureau of Public Procurement renders its existence a waste on the finances of Government;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Public Procurement, and Anti-Corruption to investigate the allegation of failure of the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) to exercise its powers on public procurement processes and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 190/2017**).

- 19. Call on the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to Postpone the Planned Elections into the National Sports Federations and Recall Members of the Boards that were Dissolved:**
Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports recently dissolved the Boards of the various National Sports Federations and issued guidelines for elections into the Federations;

Also notes that the guidelines provide that prospective candidates who had spent two terms of four (4) years each would not be eligible to contest elections into the Sports Federations;

Aware that each Federation derives its powers from its Constitution and is autonomous and any attempt to tamper with the Constitutions without due process or by fiat is unlawful;

Also aware that the National Federation is part of the Olympic Movement which has its own Code and Governance Ethics and the supreme instrument is the Olympic Charter;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to postpone the planned elections into the Boards of the National Sports Federations and recall all members of the Boards of the various Sports Federations that were dissolved; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Sports to investigate the role of the Ministry of Youth and Sports in interfering and issuing the guidelines for elections into the Sports Federations and report back within three (3) weeks (*Hon. Ayodeji Adebayo Joseph — Apapa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“Also mandate the Committee on Sports to investigate the Ministry of Youth and Sports on non-release of fund appropriated to Sports Federations in 2016 budget” (*Hon. Mohammed Nur Sheriff — Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports recently dissolved the Boards of the various National Sports Federations and issued guidelines for elections into the Federations;

Also noted that the guidelines provide that prospective candidates who had spent two terms of four (4) years each would not be eligible to contest elections into the Sports Federations;

Aware that each Federation derives its powers from its Constitution and is autonomous and any attempt to tamper with the Constitutions without due process or by fiat is unlawful;

Also aware that the National Federation is part of the Olympic Movement which has its own Code and Governance Ethics and the supreme instrument is the Olympic Charter;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports to postpone the planned elections into the Boards of the National Sports Federations and recall all members of the Boards of the various Sports Federations that were dissolved;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Sports to investigate the role of the Ministry of Youth and Sports in interfering and issuing the guidelines for elections into the Sports Federations and report back within three (3) weeks; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Sports to investigate the Ministry of Youth and Sports on non release of fund appropriated to Sports Federations in 2016 budget (**HR. 191/2017**).

20. Call on the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and International Oil Companies (IOCs) to stop Gas Flaring which is Harmful to the Economy and the Environment

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that gas flaring is the burning of natural gas that is associated with extraction of oil, and according to data obtained from the World Bank, Nigeria ranks second among countries that are the largest gas flaring nations in the world, as the country emits over four(4) billion dollars' worth of gas annually;

Also notes that the Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI), in its 2014 Nigerian Oil and Gas report disclosed that in 2008, the Federal Government, in its fiscal regime for the petroleum sector, set a penalty of \$3.5 per 1000 SCF of gas flared by oil companies, observing, however that the companies have refused to comply with the directive;

Aware that gas flaring results in the release of methane which is accompanied by other greenhouse gases that account for about 50% of all industrial emissions in the country and 30% of the total CO₂ emissions which are harmful to humans, the economy and the environment as the failure of the Government to enforce the laws against gas flaring has exposed humans to various respiratory disorders, harmed the environment and cost the country over three (3) trillion Naira in revenues over a five year period;

Also aware that as much as conversion of gas that is currently flared into cash is not just about penalties, there is need to provide a conducive legal and regulatory environment, and also the infrastructure to take the gas harnessed to end users which is obtainable in other climes where 90% of associated gas is used or re-injected into the ground, rather than flared;

Cognizant of the figure from the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) that gas flared in 2015 alone was capable of generating about 3,500 MW of electricity or an equivalent of three (3) trains of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), representing a loss of over one (1) billion dollars revenue or over 60 million barrels of oil equivalent;

Concerned that lack of political will on the part of the Government to enforce the laws on gas flaring is capable of thwarting Governments projected exit date of 2020 to end gas flaring, and given that the year is almost at hand, there may be need for increased fines and penalties to achieve the exit date, however doubts have been expressed by industry players that Government officials are not taking aggressive steps that are required to actualize the 2020 exit date;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to interface with the Ministry of Petroleum Resources and the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) on Government's policies and regulatory rules towards actualizing the exit date of 2020 for gas flaring in Nigeria and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Ehiozuwa Johnson Agbonayinma — Egor/Ikpoba /Okha Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that gas flaring is the burning of natural gas that is associated with extraction of oil, and according to data obtained from the World Bank, Nigeria ranks second among countries that are the largest gas flaring nations in the world, as the country emits over four(4) billion dollars' worth of gas annually;

Also noted that the Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI), in its 2014 Nigerian Oil and Gas report disclosed that in 2008, the Federal Government, in its fiscal regime for the petroleum sector, set a penalty of \$3.5 per 1000 SCF of gas flared by oil companies, observing, however that the companies have refused to comply with the directive;

Aware that gas flaring results in the release of methane which is accompanied by other greenhouse gases that account for about 50% of all industrial emissions in the country and 30% of the total CO2 emissions which are harmful to humans, the economy and the environment as the failure of the Government to enforce the laws against gas flaring has exposed humans to various respiratory disorders, harmed the environment and cost the country over three(3) trillion Naira in revenues over a five year period;

Also aware that as much as conversion of gas that is currently flared into cash is not just about penalties, there is need to provide a conducive legal and regulatory environment, and also the infrastructure to take the gas harnessed to end users which is obtainable in other climes where 90% of associated gas is used or re-injected into the ground, rather than flared;

Cognizant of the figure from the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) that gas flared in 2015 alone was capable of generating about 3,500 MW of electricity or an equivalent of three (3) trains of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), representing a loss of over one (1) billion dollars revenue or over 60 million barrels of oil equivalent;

Concerned that lack of political will on the part of the Government to enforce the laws on gas flaring is capable of thwarting Governments projected exit date of 2020 to end gas flaring, and given that the year is almost at hand, there may be need for increased fines and penalties to achieve the exit date, however doubts have been expressed by industry players that Government officials are not taking aggressive steps that are required to actualize the 2020 exit date;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Gas Resources, Petroleum Resources (Upstream), and Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to interface with the Ministry of Petroleum Resources and the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) on Government's policies and regulatory rules towards actualizing the exit date of 2020 for gas flaring in Nigeria and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 192/2017).

21. **Need to Deploy Security Personnel to Stem Incidences of Kidnappings at Balmo Forest in Bauchi State**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

22. Need to Beef up Security and Provide Assistance for Victims of Violence in Takum and Ussa Local Government Areas of Taraba State

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Notes that for over a week now, Kwesati, Atxomtsir, Lumbu, Konkan, Kpambo- Puri, Tati Kumbo, Gangum, Muji 1 and Muji 2, among others in Ussa and Takum Local Government Areas have been engulfed in violent attacks that have resulted in the deaths of several people and destruction of properties and livestock;

Aware that for over two years now, Suntai and Kadarko wards as well as Ananum in nearby Donga Local Government Area have been facing attacks that have resulted in massive displacement of people and destruction of properties;

Also aware that Kashimbilla and Bete wards in Takum Local Government Area have been enduring similar attacks in the last two years, resulting in disruption of the farming business of people;

Cognizant that despite the displacement of people from their farms and houses, those communities have not received any meaningful assistance from the Government as they have been left to rebuild their homes entirely by themselves;

Conscious of the fact that presence of security personnel is needed to stem these attacks;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn the spate of violence that have led to loss of lives and destruction of properties;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police Force and other security agencies to send personnel to the areas to restore normalcy;
- (iii) also urge the Chief of Army Staff to urgently deploy more personnel and resources to the Army Battalion in Takum to secure the Area;
- (iv) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide assistance to the people displaced by the attacks; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Army, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation (*Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum — Donga/Takum/Ussa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that for over a week now, Kwesati, Atxomtsir, Lumbu, Konkan, Kpambo- Puri, Tati Kumbo, Gangum, Muji 1 and Muji 2, among others in Ussa and Takum Local Government Areas have been engulfed in violent attacks that have resulted in the deaths of several people and destruction of properties and livestock;

Aware that for over two years now, Suntai and Kadarko wards as well as Ananum in nearby Donga Local Government Area have been facing attacks that have resulted in massive displacement of people and destruction of properties;

Also aware that Kashimbilla and Bete wards in Takum Local Government Area have been enduring similar attacks in the last two years, resulting in disruption of the farming business of people;

Cognizant that despite the displacement of people from their farms and houses, those communities have not received any meaningful assistance from the Government as they have been left to rebuild their homes entirely by themselves;

Conscious of the fact that presence of security personnel is needed to stem these attacks;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn the spate of violence that have led to loss of lives and destruction of properties;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police Force and other security agencies to send personnel to the areas to restore normalcy;
- (iii) also urge the Chief of Army Staff to urgently deploy more personnel and resources to the Army Battalion in Takum to secure the Area;
- (iv) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide assistance to the people displaced by the attacks; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Army, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure implementation (**HR. 193/2017**).

23. Need to Appreciate the Federal Government on the Defeat of Boko Haram Insurgency and Seek for Compensation and Re-building of Communities Destroyed by the Insurgents

Motion made and Question proposed;

The House:

Recalls that President Muhammad Buhari and the All Progressive Congress (APC) during the electioneering campaigns, promised to end the Boko Haram insurgency if voted into power;

Cognizant that the Federal Government provided the enabling environment and resources for the military to take on the insurgents which resulted in their being brought to their knees and the gradual return of peace to areas once taken over and under the control of the insurgents;

Concerned that so far, the President has not visited Yobe State or sent a high powered delegation to visit and sympathise with the people and Government of the State for the immense sufferings and losses they suffered in the course of the insurgency;

Aware that some other areas affected by the insurgency have received some relief materials and succor from the Federal Government without a modicum of assistance to Yobe State;

Also aware that Gaidam, Yunusari, Tarmuwa, Gujba and Gulani Local Government secretariats and Yobe State Government facilities were destroyed by the insurgents;

Further aware that Yobe State Government alone lost more than ₦10bn, apart from losses suffered by individuals and the destruction of farm lands, schools, markets, houses, mosques and churches;

Also cognizant of the efforts of Yobe State Government in the provision of ₦500,000 cash donation to each of the families of wounded soldiers and policemen and also families of officers who lost their lives were granted cash donations of ₦1 million each;

Resolves to:

- (i) commend the efforts of the Yobe State Governor, His Excellency Alh. (Dr) Ibrahim Gaidam in rehabilitating the victims of the insurgency and rebuilding infrastructure destroyed during the mayhem;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to pay compensation to owners of properties destroyed and re-build the five (5) Local Government Areas that were also destroyed;
- (iii) also urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to pay a visit to Yobe State as this will go a long way in pacifying the people; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees and Initiatives on the North East to embark on a tour of destroyed Communities and Government properties in Yobe State and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Goni Bukar Lawan — Bursari/Geidam /Yunusari Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.**Agreed to.**The House:*

Recalled that President Muhammad Buhari and the All Progressive Congress (APC) during the electioneering campaigns, promised to end the Boko Haram insurgency if voted into power;

Cognizant that the Federal Government provided the enabling environment and resources for the military to take on the insurgents which resulted in their being brought to their knees and the gradual return of peace to areas once taken over and under the control of the insurgents;

Concerned that so far, the President has not visited Yobe State or sent a high powered delegation to visit and sympathise with the people and Government of the State for the immense sufferings and losses they suffered in the course of the insurgency;

Aware that some other areas affected by the insurgency have received some relief materials and succor from the Federal Government without a modicum of assistance to Yobe State;

Also aware that Gaidam, Yunusari, Tarmuwa, Gujba and Gulani Local Government secretariats and Yobe State Government facilities were destroyed by the insurgents;

Further aware that Yobe State Government alone lost more than ₦10bn, apart from losses suffered by individuals and the destruction of farm lands, schools, markets, houses, mosques and churches;

Also cognizant of the efforts of Yobe State Government in the provision of ₦500,000 cash donation to each of the families of wounded soldiers and policemen and also families of officers who lost their lives were granted cash donations of ₦1 million each;

Resolved to:

- (i) commend the efforts of the Yobe State Governor, His Excellency Alh. (Dr) Ibrahim Gaidam in rehabilitating the victims of the insurgency and rebuilding infrastructure destroyed during the mayhem;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to pay compensation to owners of properties destroyed and re-build the five (5) Local Government Areas that were also destroyed;

- (iii) also urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to pay a visit to Yobe State as this will go a long way in pacifying the people; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees and Initiatives on the North East to embark on a tour of destroyed Communities and Government properties in Yobe State and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 194/2017**).

24. Consideration of Report

Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Reuben E. Wanogho and Company on behalf of Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Reuben E. Wanogho and Company on behalf of the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)/Pipelines and Products Marketing Company Limited (PPMC) on the Present position in the leadership crisis within the association and the need for urgent intervention and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Question agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"Urge for the recognition of Chief Obasi Lawson as the National President of IPMAN in line with:

- (a) the collective agreement of the parties,
- (b) judgment of the Federal High Court, Port Harcourt, and
- (c) the Inter-Ministerial Panel" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) should give the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) petroleum product allocations forthwith, to benefit end users as IPMAN has settled and agreed to work as one body" (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceeding.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Reuben E. Wanogho and Company on behalf of the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) against the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)/Pipelines and Products Marketing Company Limited (PPMC) on the Present position in the leadership crisis within the association and the need for urgent intervention and approved Recommendations (i) and (ii) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

25. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 11 May, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. (Hon. Mohammed Tahir Monguno — Monguno/Marte/Nganzai Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.18 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker