FOURTH REPUBLIC
8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION
NO. 31

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 26 October, 2016

1. The House met at 11.23 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 Tuesday, 25 October, 2016.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. **Announcements**
(*i*) *Visitors in the Gallery*:
Mr Speaker recognized the presence of the following visitors:

(*i*) Members of the Law Students' Representative Council (LSRC) of the ***Law Students' Society***, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State;

(*ii*) Staff and Students of the ***New Christian Power Centre International Schools***, Dawaki Extension, Abuja; and

(*iii*) Staff and Students of ***St Michael's Anglican Diocesan College***, Kaduna, Kaduna State.

(*ii*) *Bereavement*:
Mr Speaker read a communication announcing the demise of Hon. Adoyi Samuel Ojogbane, a former Member (*Okpokwu West Federal Constituency*, 1979 - 1983), who passed away on Tuesday, 27 September, 2016.

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

4. **Petitions**
(*a*) A petition from the family of Izu Reuben Martin, on the alleged killing of their son, Joseph Izu, by men of the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Nnam-Obi Uchechukwu (*Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni/Ahoada West Federal Constituency*);

(*b*) A petition from CSP Ukajede Felix O., on his dismissal from service by the Civil Defence, Fire, Immigration, and Prisons Service Board (CDFIPB), was presented and laid by Hon. Emmanuel Egwu (*Idah/Igalamela/Ibaji/Ofu Federal Constituency*);

(*c*) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Ali Isa JC (*Balanga/Biliri Federal Constituency*):

(*i*) HRM Eze Chinedu Nnabugo Igwe — the Eze Igburu of Ogbaland, on the neglect of his person and his community by the Nigeria Agip Oil Company (NAOC);

(*ii*) R. O. Nnah & Co., on behalf of the family of Mrs Patricia Ezeanekwe whose two children were allegedly injured in an accident caused by a truck belonging to ZEBERCED Ltd;

(*iii*) Comrade Christopher Chukwuka Emelifeonwu, on allegation of conspiracy, trespass to his property and breach of his fundamental human rights by Navy Warrant Officer II - Daisi Shonibare, Toyin Shonibare, and Fumilayo Shonibare;

(*iv*) Okolie Emmanuel, on his interdiction by the management of the Federal Polytechnic, Oko, Anambra State;

(*v*) Okere Kingdom Nnamdi Esq. on behalf of Kingdom Human Rights Foundation International, and Save Nigeria Group, seeking to be joined as interested parties in a Petition on the competence of the Appointment of the Secretary of the Code of Conduct Tribunal;

(*vi*) Dr Onwubiko N. Dike and Dr IK Ajuzieogu, on behalf of Asa Development Union, Asa, Ukwa Local Government Area, Abia State, on the deliberate exclusion of Ukwa Local Government Area from the list of beneficiaries of the Niger Delta Development Commission's (NDDC's) Post Graduate Foreign Scholarship;

(*vii*) Okere Kingdom Nnamdi Esq. on behalf of Abia Unity Forum on allegations of corruption, breach of the Constitution and abuse of statutory responsibilities by officials of the Code of Conduct Bureau;

(*d*) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Abubakar Chika Adamu (*Shiroro/Rafi/Munya Federal Constituency*):

(*i*) Nanzing D. Sallah, on the use of a wrong effective date of promotion, and subsequent denial of his promotion by the Chief Executive Officer of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Kamba Area Command, Kebbi State;

(*ii*) Christopher Chukwuka Emelifeonwu, on behalf of Human Rights League of Nigeria, on alleged assault and threat to the life of Shakine Sumonia Wera, by Iya Abuja and 10 others;

(*iii*) Okere Kingdom Nnamdi Esq. of Kingdom Human Rights Foundation International, on behalf of Istifanus Daniel, on the abuse of office by the Chairman, Code of Conduct Bureau and his Special Assistant;

(*iv*) Lai Solarin, on behalf of SOLBEC Ltd, on the non-payment of the Company's outstanding entitlement of ₦36,542,876.00 by Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC);

(*v*) Seliwei Willy Baidi & Co. (Barristers and Solicitors), on behalf of Ogbudugbudu Community, Warri North Local Government Area of Delta State, on the neglect by the Federal Government, Delta State Government and Chevron Nigeria Ltd, in providing Sustainable Economic Development, and failure to address crude oil pollution in the community;

(*vi*) Seliwei Willy Baidi & Co. (Barristers and Solicitors), on behalf of William Igbiriki and one other, for Ogbudugbudu community, Warri North Local Government Area of Delta State, on the demand for reconstruction of Ogbudugbudu town, allegedly burnt down by the Nigerian Army in 2004.

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
The Need to Investigate Extra Judicial Killings in Bayelsa State:
Hon. Diri Douye (*Yenagoa/K/Opokuma 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.*

The Need to Investigate Extra Judicial Killings in Bayelsa State:

The House:

Notes that the Nigeria Police is a creation by Law which principal function is the protection and well-being of the citizens and visitors who are within the territorial jurisdiction of Nigeria;

Also notes that while it is the duty of the Police to maintain civil law in our society, it is expected that such function is to be carried out with utmost care and respect for human life;

Aware that the police has tried in their own way to keep our society safe from criminals;

Concerned that while carrying out their constitutional role in Bayelsa State, Ekeki community in Yenagoa Local Government to be precise, the Police is alleged to have engaged in extra-judicial killings;

Also concerned that in the last two weeks, the Nigeria Police, Bayelsa State Command and the Joint Task Force (JTF) had shot and killed four innocent Nigerians; namely: Innocent Kokorifa, 17 years old, Izu Joseph, footballer with 3SC of Ibadan, Inyan, 30 years old man and Godgift Oduku, 5 years old girl;

Worried that the trend, if not checked may lead to a breakdown of Law and order, and a situation where the people will be forced to defend themselves from attacks by the Police who have been paid by the tax payers to protect them;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Commiserate with the families of the victims whose lives were brutally ended by the Police/JTF and also observe a minute silence in their honour;

(*ii*) investigate the circumstances of the Killings; and

(*iii*) invite the Inspector General of Police and any other culpable agency to appear before the Committees on Police Affairs, and Human Rights, to give an insight into these extra-judicial killings and the steps taken to prevent such reckless and avoidable killings in future (*Hon. Douye Diri — Yenagoa/Kolokuma Opokuma Federal Constituency and 4 Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Nigeria Police is a creation by Law which principal function is the protection and well-being of the citizens and visitors who are within the territorial jurisdiction of Nigeria;

Also noted that while it is the duty of the police to maintain civil law in our society, it is expected that such function is to be carried out with utmost care and respect for human life;

Aware that the Police has tried in their own way to keep our society safe from criminals;

Concerned that while carrying out their constitutional role in Bayelsa State, Ekeki community in Yenagoa Local Government to be precise, the police is alleged to have been engaged in extra-judicial killings;

Also concerned that in the last two weeks, the Nigeria Police, Bayelsa State Command/JTF has shot and killed four innocent Nigerians namely: Innocent Kokorifa, 17 years old, Izu Joseph, footballer with 3SC of Ibadan, Inyan, 30 years old man and Godgift Oduku, 5 years old girl;

Worried that the trend if not checked may lead to a breakdown of Law and order, in a situation where the people will be forced to defend themselves from attacks from the Police who have been paid by the tax payers to protect them;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Commiserate with the families of the victims whose lives were brutally ended by the Police/JTF and also observe a minute silence in their honour;

(*ii*) investigate the circumstances of the Killings; and

(*iii*) invite the Inspector General of Police and any other culpable agency to appear before the Committees on Police Affairs, and Human Rights, to give an insight into these extra-judicial killings and the steps taken to prevent such reckless and avoidable killings in future (**HR. 147/2016**).

The House observed a minute silence in honour of the departed souls.

6. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the FCT Resettlement, Compensation and Rehabilitation Board which shall be responsible for Formulating Policies and Guidelines for Proper Resettlement and for Other Related Matters (HB. 309), and a Bill for an Act to Establish the FCT Resettlement, Compensation and Development Commission which shall be responsible for Formulating Policies and Guidelines for Proper Resettlement and for Other Related Matters (HB. 404) be now consolidated" (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

7. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Defence Space Administration, Develop Satellite Technology, Ensure Security of the Nation's Cyber Activities and for Other Related Matters (HB. 816) — *Second Reading*.**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Defence Space Administration, Develop Satellite Technology, Ensure Security of the Nation's Cyber Activities and for Other Related Matters (HB. 816) 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.

8. **A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment and for Other Connected Purposes (HB. 702) 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.

9. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) — *Second Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science and for Other Related Matters (HB. 703) 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.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Tourism of Nigeria Charged with the Responsibility for Regulating the Profession of Tourism by Prescribing the Standard of Academic Qualifications and Practical Skills to be Attained by Persons Seeking to be Registered as Members of the Profession in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 712) — *Second Reading***

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. Need to Rehabilitate the Okija-Ihiala-Uli-Egbema Federal Road
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the deplorable Okija-Ihiala-Uli-Egbema Road, links communities in both Anambra and Imo States;

Concerned that the failure to provide drainage along the road when it was constructed many years ago results in flooding whenever it rains, thereby making the road not only impassable but a threat to the lives of the predominantly rural dwellers who make use of it;

Worried that the lack of drainage along the dilapidated road is aggravating environmental degradation and erosion scourge in the vicinity because the accumulated rainwater is not channeled properly and ends up flowing into people's farmlands and homes;

Informed that the continued abandonment of this vital link road inhibits movement and hampers the transportation of agricultural produce from the predominantly farming communities who reside in the area, to the urban centres;

Observes that the drive to diversify the nation's economy from over reliance on crude oil to other sectors like agriculture will be retarded if roads like the Okija-Ihiala-Uli-Egbema road, as well as others across the country that would assist farmers to ferry their farm produce to the urban areas, are not rehabilitated;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Mandate the Committee on FERMA to liaise with the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) with a view to bringing about rehabilitation of the road; and

(*ii*) also mandate the Committee on Environment and Habitat to visit the Road and its environs so as to make an assessment of the environmental hazard occasioned by failure to rehabilitate the road has been causing to the Communities and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chukwuemeka Anohu Reginald — Ihiala Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 148/2016).

Motion referred to the Committee on Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

12. Need to Complete the Construction of the Dawaki Dam in Kanke Local Government Area of Plateau State
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Dawaki Dam, located in Dawaki Village in Kabwir district of Kanke Local Government Area, has been abandoned for many years, resulting in increased scarcity of drinking water for the people of Kanke, Kanam, Pankshin, Wase and Langtang in Plateau State and Bogoro and Tafawa Balewa in Bauchi State, and loss of benefits derivable from irrigation activities;

Recalls that about two decades ago, the Federal Government constructed an earth dam on the Dawaki River, but due to the enormous volume and velocity of the water which the dam could not withstand it therefore broke down and not been reconstructed since then even the paltry sum that was budgeted about a decade ago for the feasibility studies of the project was not released;

Aware that sometime in 2011, a Technical Inspection Team (TIT) from the Federal Ministry of Water Resources (FMWR), Abuja, visited the site and suggested that only a concrete dam is appropriate and reliable for construction on the Dawaki River;

Convinced that the Dam will provide potable water for the areas and thus assure good health and higher productivity of the people, afford the children and women adequate time for educational pursuits and house chores, provide employment for the youth at the Water Treatment Plant, ensure irrigation for farming and hydropower plant and also boost the sales of agricultural produce and other diverse commercial activities in the Dawaki and Bogoro markets, reduce rural-urban migration as the upscale population will be fully engaged in commerce and many Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) will spring up and blossom, due to the hydro-based electricity source;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Water Resources to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ascertain the level of work done on the Dam Project with a view to including it in the 2017 budget for completion (*Hon. Golu Timothy Simon — Paskshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 149/2016).

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

13. Urgent Need to Address the Erosion Menace at Amauzam-Umueze in Enugu North/South Federal Constituency of Enugu State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the effects of urbanization and climate change have resulted in huge erosion menace across the nation, particularly in the South-East geo-political zone;

Also notes that Ngwo Community is home to some coal mines and one of the impacts of mining activities is environmental degradation being manifested in erosion which has washed away about six (6) houses, thus rendering the people homeless;

Concerned that the unabating erosion has, in its path, about forty (40) houses which would succumb to its fury at any moment if not checked, and it would also cut off the single lane expressway that serves as the alternative route to the Enugu-Onitsha expressway, with grave socio-economic consequences, including hampering access to the coal mines that have been privatized as part of the efforts to diversify the nation's economy;

Resolves to:

(*i*) Urge the Nigerian Erosion and Watershed Management Programme (NEWMAP) to take urgent steps to control the erosion in order to prevent further washing away of houses and roads with the attendant socio-economic consequences of displacements and hardships;

(*ii*) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to send relief materials to the displaced people; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committees on Environment and Habitat, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Works, to ensure implementation and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Chime Oji Agu — Enugu North/Enugu South Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 150/2016).

Motion referred to the Committees on Environment and Habitat, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Works, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

14. **Need to Prioritize and Integrate Fertility Treatment into the Existing Reproductive Health Policies in Nigeria**
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House

Notes that marriage and procreation are intertwined in Nigeria in particular and Africa in general as child bearing is highly valued in all communities indigenous to Africa, given that children are seen as insurance for their parents in their old age;

Aware that infertility has been defined as the inability of desiring couples to achieve pregnancy after one year of regular unprotected sex without any known reproductive problems;

Also aware that Nigeria accounts for about 30% of the estimated 70 million married couples suffering from infertility globally, thus making over 60% of gynecological clinic consultation in Nigeria, infertility related;

Worried that regardless of the medical cause of infertility, women receive the blame for reproductive setbacks and as such, they suffer personal grief, frustration, depression, social stigma, ostracism and economic deprivation;

Also worried that because infertility is a major cause of marital disharmony and divorce in Nigeria, 98% of wives in marriages with infertility challenges, live in continuous fear of abandonment, domestic violence and divorce by their husbands;

Disturbed that some couples with infertility challenges who cannot afford modern reproductive techniques after series of failed traditional and spiritual treatments now resort to engaging in sex with multiple partners regardless of its attendant risks, just to prove their fertility, thereby creating a more difficult challenge to public health in Nigeria;

Also disturbed that although infertility has become a hydra-headed monster threatening a good number of marriages in Nigeria, it has not received any attention from policy makers, rather reproductive health policies of successive governments only focused on infant and maternal care and birth control without a look at the challenges of childlessness as a result of curable infertility;

Concerned that although advancement in medical science has made it possible that couples with fertility problems who desire to have their own biological children can seek alternative reproductive techniques like IVF, ICSI, Donor egg or embryo, surrogacy, GIFT or ZIFT, etc. to achieve their dreams, the cost of these techniques are beyond the reach of 80% of infertile couples as the cheapest cost of IVF treatment across the globe is between ₦800,000.00 to ₦1 million, thus making countries like Argentina, Norway, South Africa etc to subsidize the treatment for their citizens;

Also concerned that these modern medical techniques have completely been left for private hospitals alone to handle without any public hospital in any part of Nigeria rendering any of these services, thereby making them inaccessible to a greater number of Nigerians living with this challenge of infertility;

Further concerned that in a country where manhood and womanhood are tied to fatherhood and motherhood respectively and childless couples are treated in some communities as outcasts, infertility should not be seen as a means of population control but rather as a public health emergency which must be attended to urgently;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its agencies to include and prioritize fertility treatment in the national reproductive health policies and train adequate manpower in that sector;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to establish fertility centers in at least one Federal Institution in each of the six geopolitical zones and equip them with state of the art facilities and also to subsidize the cost of infertility treatment generally for childless couples; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to ensure implementation and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Anayo Edwin — Ezza-North/Ishielu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House

Noted that marriage and procreation are intertwined in Nigeria in particular and Africa in general as child bearing is highly valued in all communities indigenous to Africa, given that children are seen as insurance for their parents in their old age;

Aware that infertility has been defined as the inability of desiring couples to achieve pregnancy after one year of regular unprotected sex without any known reproductive problems;

Also aware that Nigeria accounts for about 30% of the estimated 70 million married couples suffering from infertility globally, thus making over 60% of gynecological clinic consultation in Nigeria, infertility related;

Worried that regardless of the medical cause of infertility, women receive the blame for reproductive setbacks and as such, they suffer personal grief, frustration, depression, social stigma, ostracism and economic deprivation;

Also worried that because infertility is a major cause of marital disharmony and divorce in Nigeria, 98% of wives in marriages with infertility challenges, live in continuous fear of abandonment, domestic violence and divorce by their husbands;

Disturbed that some couples with infertility challenges who cannot afford modern reproductive techniques after series of failed traditional and spiritual treatments now resort to engaging in sex with multiple partners regardless of its attendant risks, just to prove their fertility, thereby creating a more difficult challenge to public health in Nigeria;

Also disturbed that although infertility has become a hydra-headed monster threatening a good number of marriages in Nigeria, it has not received any attention from policy makers, rather reproductive health policies of successive governments only focused on infant and maternal care and birth control without a look at the challenges of childlessness as a result of curable infertility;

Concerned that although advancement in medical science has made it possible that couples with fertility problems who desire to have their own biological children can seek alternative reproductive techniques like IVF, ICSI, Donor egg or embryo, surrogacy, GIFT or ZIFT, etc. to achieve their dreams, the cost of these techniques are beyond the reach of 80% of infertile couples as the cheapest cost of IVF treatment across the globe is between ₦800,000.00 and ₦1 million, thus making countries like Argentina, Norway, South Africa etc to subsidize the treatment for their citizens;

Also concerned that these modern medical techniques have completely been left for private hospitals alone to handle, without any public hospital in any part of Nigeria rendering any of these services, thereby making them inaccessible to a greater number of Nigerians living with this challenge of infertility;

Further concerned that in a country where manhood and womanhood are tied to fatherhood and motherhood respectively and childless couples are treated in some communities as outcasts, infertility should not be seen as a means of population control but rather as a public health emergency which must be attended to urgently;

Resolved to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and its agencies to include and prioritize fertility treatment in the national reproductive health policies and train adequate manpower in that sector;

(*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to establish fertility centers in at least one Federal Institution in each of the six geopolitical zones and equip them with state of the art facilities and also to subsidize the cost of infertility treatment generally for childless couples; and

(*iii*) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to ensure implementation and report back to the House within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 151/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Healthcare Services.

15. **Urgent need to Reconstitute the Boards of Parastatals and Agencies in Order to Hasten Good Governance**

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Section 5 (1) (*a*) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 vests executive powers of the Federation in the President which he can exercise either directly or through the Vice President and Ministers of the Government of the Federation or officers in the public service of the Federation;

Also notes that Boards of Parastatals are saddled with the daunting tasks of setting out broad economic, financial, operational and administrative guidelines and targets for their various Agencies as well as managing policy issues, monitoring of institutional projects, programmes and ensuring that the parastatals' mandates are realized;

Recalls that President Muhammadu Buhari dissolved the Governing Boards of Government Agencies and Parastatals on July 16, 2015 and the Chief Executive Officers of the affected agencies/parastatals were directed to refer all matters requiring the attention of the Boards to the President, through the Permanent Secretaries, until the Boards are reconstituted;

Aware that the absence of the Boards of these Parastatals, including the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Security and Exchange Commission (SEC), Federal Inland Revenue Services (FIRS), National Universities Commission (NUC), among others has created major challenges to the operations of these agencies since critical decisions that need the Board's attention in the face of the current economic recession are left unattended to;

Concerned that the continued failure to reconstitute the Boards poses great economic disservice to the nation and the directive for matters requiring the attention of the Boards to be referred to the President is unwieldy and will tend to overlabour the President, thereby slowing the pace of the work of the parastatals;

Resolves to:

(*i*) urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, reconstitute the Boards of Agencies and Parastatals, so as to facilitate good governance in the country; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to ensure implementation, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Abdullahi Umar Faruk — Bunza/Birnin Kebbi/Kalgo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 5 (1) (*a*) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 vests executive powers of the Federation in the President which he can exercise either directly or through the Vice President and Ministers of the Government of the Federation or officers in the public service of the Federation;

Also noted that Boards of Parastatals are saddled with the daunting tasks of setting out broad economic, financial, operational and administrative guidelines and targets for their various Agencies as well as managing policy issues, monitoring of institutional projects, programmes and ensuring that the parastatals' mandates are realized;

Recalled that President Muhammadu Buhari dissolved the Governing Boards of Government Agencies and Parastatals on July 16, 2015 and the Chief Executive Officers of the affected agencies/parastatals were directed to refer all matters requiring the attention of the Boards to the President, through the Permanent Secretaries, until the Boards are reconstituted;

Aware that the absence of the Boards of these Parastatals, including the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Security and Exchange Commission (SEC), Federal Inland Revenue Services (FIRS), National Universities Commission (NUC), among others has created major challenges to the operations of these agencies since critical decisions that need the Board's attention in the face of the current economic recession are left unattended to;

Concerned that the continued failure to reconstitute the Boards poses great economic disservice to the nation and the directive for matters requiring the attention of the Boards to be referred to the President is unwieldy and will tend to overlabour the President, thereby slowing the pace of the work of the parastatals;

Resolved to:

(*i*) Urge the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, reconstitute the Boards of Agencies and Parastatals, so as to facilitate good governance in the country; and

(*ii*) mandate the Committee on Governmental Affairs to ensure implementation, and report back to the House within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (**HR. 152/2016**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

16. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 27 October, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Jibril Umar Buba — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.34 p.m.

Yakubu Dogara
Speaker