



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 4 July, 2018

1. The House met at 11:19 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, 3 July, 2018.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

3. **Message**  
Mr Speaker read the following message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



**PRESIDENT,  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

18th June, 2018

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

*Dear Rt Hon. Y. Dogara,*

### **PRESIDENTIAL DECISION TO DECLINE ASSENT TO THE RADIOGRAPHERS (REGISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018**

*Pursuant to Section 58 (4) of Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), I hereby convey to the House of Representatives, my decision, on 26th June, 2018 to decline the Presidential Assent to the Radiographers (Registration) (Amendment) Bill recently passed by the National Assembly.*

*This is due to the expansion of the scope of "persons" covered by the Bill which we are concerned will create disharmony in the health sector between radiographers and radiologists (who are regulated separately). I also note that there is a minor error in section 2 (a) of the Amendment Bill, where the word 'substituting' is misspelt as 'substituting'.*

*Please accept, Right Honourable Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.*

*Yours Sincerely,*

*(Signed)*

**Muhammadu Buhari**

**4. Announcement**

**Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of the following:

- (i) Staff and Students of *Mater Misericordiae Secondary School*, Nyanya, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of *Stella Maris College*, Life Camp, Abuja; and
- (ii) Members of *Lagos State University Students Union*, Students' Parliamentary Council, Ojo, Lagos State.

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

- (i) ***Need to Stop the Federal Executive from Expending the Last Tranche of the Abacha Loot or any Recovered Loot without Parliamentary Approval:***

Hon. Karimi Sunday Steve (*Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro 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 Stop the Federal Executive from Expending the Last Tranche of the Abacha Loot or any Recovered Loot without Parliamentary Approval:**

The House:

*Notes* that the Transparency International estimated that about \$5 Billion public revenue was stashed abroad by the Late Military Ruler, Gen. Sani Abacha from 1993 -1998, when he was Head of State;

*Also notes* that in 2014, the Abacha family entered an agreement with the Federal Government to forfeit public funds in several billions of dollars to the Federal Government, following a plea bargain to drop charges against the late military ruler's son; these funds have been released to the Federal Government by the Government of Switzerland and were not disclosed to the public by government;

Aware that recently, the Attorney-General of the Federation signed an agreement on behalf of the Federal Government to release the last tranche of \$322 million dollars, however the Special Adviser to the President on Justice Reforms, Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu was reported to have said that in line with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Nigerian Government and the Government of Switzerland, the \$322 million will be paid directly to the accounts of the poorest Nigerians without recourse to the National Assembly;

Also aware that by virtue of Section 12 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), "No treaty between the Federal Government of Nigeria and any other country shall have the force of law except to the extent to which such treaty has been enacted into law by the National Assembly", therefore no agreement or Memorandum of Understanding purportedly signed by the Federal Government with the Government of Switzerland can have any force of law in Nigeria, except approved and enacted into law by the National Assembly;

Cognizant that by virtue of Section 80 (1)-(3) and 81 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), all revenue raised and received by the Federal Government shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund, while Section 80 (3) stipulates that no monies shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Revenue Fund unless such money has been authorised by the National Assembly.

*Resolves that the:*

- (i) sum of \$322 Million Dollars released by the Government of Switzerland be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation and be distributed to the federating units in line with the current revenue sharing formula;
- (ii) Federal Government should come up with a Supplementary Appropriation Bill, earmarking the Funds due to it from the Abacha Loot for the completion of the Ajaokuta Steel Complex/Project; and
- (iii) Federal Government should present to the National Assembly immediately, the amount that has been released from recovered loot and how they have been expended (Hon. Karimi Sunday Steve — Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out all the Prayers and Insert a new Prayer as follows:*

*"Set up an Ad-hoc Committee to:*

- (i) investigate the total amount recovered from the Abacha loot from 1998 to date;
- (ii) establish the legal fees paid to Lawyers and Consultants;
- (iii) establish how the monies were utilised and if procedures were followed or not; and
- (iv) examine all the agreements relating to the recovered loot and determine their constitutionality and report back within six (6) weeks" (Hon. Abdulmumin Jibrin — Bebeji/Kiru Federal Constituency).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Transparency International estimated that about \$5 Billion public revenue was stashed abroad by the Late Military Ruler, Gen. Sani Abacha from 1993 - 1998, when he was Head of State;

*Also noted* that in 2014, the Abacha family entered an agreement with the Federal Government to forfeit public funds in several billions of dollars to the Federal Government, following a plea bargain to drop charges against the late military ruler's son; these funds have been released to the Federal Government by the Government of Switzerland and were not disclosed to the public by government;

*Aware* that recently, the Attorney-General of the Federation signed an agreement on behalf of the Federal Government to release the last tranche of \$322 million dollars, however the Special Adviser to the President on Justice Reforms, Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu was reported to have said that in line with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Nigerian Government and the Government of Switzerland, the \$322 million will be paid directly to the accounts of the poorest Nigerians without recourse to the National Assembly;

*Also aware* that by virtue of Section 12 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), "No treaty between the Federal Government of Nigeria and any other country shall have the force of law except to the extent to which such treaty has been enacted into law by the National Assembly", therefore no agreement or Memorandum of Understanding purportedly signed by the Federal Government with the Government of Switzerland can have any force of law in Nigeria, except approved and enacted into law by the National Assembly;

*Cognizant* that by virtue of Section 80 (1)-(3) and 81 of the Constitution of the Federal - Republic of Nigeria (as amended), all revenue raised and received by the Federal Government shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund, while Section 80 (3) stipulates that no monies shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Revenue Fund unless such money has been authorised by the National Assembly.

*Resolved to:*

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to:

- (i) investigate the total amount recovered from the Abacha loot from 1998 to date;
- (ii) establish the legal fees paid to Lawyers and Consultants;
- (iii) establish how the monies were utilised and if procedures were followed or not; and
- (iv) examine all the agreements relating to the recovered loot and determine their constitutionality and report back within six (6) weeks (**HR. 07/07/2018**).

(ii) ***Need to Review the Age Barrier in Vacancies Announced by Nigeria Police Force, Federal Road Safety Commission, Nigeria Prisons Service, Federal Fire Service, Standard Organization of Nigeria and other Federal Government Agencies:***

Hon. Babajimi Benson (*Ikorodu 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 Review the Age Barrier in Vacancies Announced by Nigeria Police Force, Federal Road Safety Corps, Nigeria Prisons Service, Fire Service, Standard Organization of Nigeria and Other Federal Government Agencies:**

The House:

*Acknowledges* the efforts by the Federal Government to reduce unemployment in the country through advertised vacancies by the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs);

*Aware* that most of the vacancies require that applicants must not be more than 30 years of age at the time of application for the jobs;

*Concerned* that given the unstable nature of Nigeria's education system, it is difficult to determine and plan the age of graduation, thus restricting eligible applicants on the basis of age, a breach of their fundamental human rights as contained in Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Also concerned* that the National Youth Service Corps Scheme designed to foster national cohesion in the country, pegs the age of eligibility to participate in the scheme at 30 years and only those who possess the discharge or exemption certificate of the scheme are qualified to be employed in the Federal Public Service;

*Worried* that citizens who serve their nation at the age of 30 are being denied the opportunity to be gainfully employed;

*Also worried* that this development will lead to young Nigerians falsifying their ages to benefit from the available vacancies, an action that would further tint the integrity of the individuals and the public service;

*Alarmed* that 55.9 percent of Nigeria's 196 million population is between the ages of 15 and 64, by capping job entry at 30, over half of the said population will be denied the opportunity to be gainfully employed;

*Also alarmed* that data made available by the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics in 2016, shows that unemployment and underemployment continue to be highest for persons aged from 15-34 and that the unemployment rate amongst citizens from 25-34 years increased to 15.4% in 2016;

*Believes* that employment into the Federal Civil Service should be on merit, competence and Federal Character without age barrier;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge all MDAs concerned to consider re-opening their online portals to enable applicants between 30 to 40 to apply and be given equal opportunity;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity, and National Planning and Economic Development to review the employment criteria of all MDAs to ensure no eligible applicant is discriminated against on the basis of age; and

- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure the resolutions of the House are communicated to and implemented by all MDAs concerned (*Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Acknowledged* the efforts by the Federal Government to reduce unemployment in the country through advertised vacancies by the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs);

*Aware* that most of the vacancies require that applicants must not be more than 30 years of age at the time of application for the jobs;

*Concerned* that given the unstable nature of Nigeria's education system, it is difficult to determine and plan the age of graduation, thus restricting eligible applicants on the basis of age, a breach of their fundamental human rights as contained in Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Also concerned* that the National Youth Service Corps Scheme designed to foster national cohesion in the country, pegs the age of eligibility to participate in the scheme at 30 years and only those who possess the discharge or exemption certificate of the scheme are qualified to be employed in the Federal Public Service;

*Worried* that citizens who serve their nation at the age of 30 are being denied the opportunity to be gainfully employed;

*Also worried* that this development will lead to young Nigerians falsifying their ages to benefit from the available vacancies, an action that would further tint the integrity of the individuals and the public service;

*Alarmed* that 55.9 percent of Nigeria's 196 million population is between the ages of 15 and 64, by capping job entry at 30, over half of the said population will be denied the opportunity to be gainfully employed;

*Also alarmed* that data made available by the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics in 2016, shows that unemployment and underemployment continue to be highest for persons aged from 15-34 and that the unemployment rate amongst citizens from 25-34 years increased to 15.4% in 2016;

*Believes* that employment into the Federal Civil Service should be on merit, competence and Federal Character without age barrier;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge all MDAs concerned to consider re-opening their online portals to enable applicants between 30 to 40 to apply and be given equal opportunity;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity, and National Planning and Economic Development to review the employment criteria of all MDAs to ensure no eligible applicant is discriminated against on the basis of age; and

- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure the resolutions of the House are communicated to and implemented by all MDAs concerned (HR. 08/07/2018).

6. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Advertising Practitioner's (Registrations, etc.) Act and Enact the Advertising Practitioner's (Registrations, Licensing, etc.) Bill and Establish Council for Advertising Practitioners as the Apex Regulatory Authority for the Nigerian Advertising Profession and Practice; and for Related Matters (HB. 1445) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Advertising Practitioner's (Registrations, etc.) Act and Enact the Advertising Practitioner's (Registrations, Licensing, etc.) Bill and Establish Council for Advertising Practitioners as the Apex Regulatory Authority for the Nigerian Advertising Profession and Practice; and for Related Matters (HB. 1445) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency).

*Debate.*

*Debate adjourned by leave of the House.*

7. **A Bill for an Act to, among other things, Prohibit the use, Manufacture and Importation of all Plastic Bags used for Commercial and Household Packaging in order to Address its Harmful impact to Oceans, Rivers, Lakes, Forests, Environment, Wildlife as well as Human Beings and also to Relieve Pressure on Landfills and Waste Management; and for Related Matters (HB. 1437) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to, among other things, Prohibit the use, Manufacture and Importation of all Plastic Bags used for Commercial and Household Packaging in order to Address its Harmful impact to Oceans, Rivers, Lakes, Forests, Environment, Wildlife as well as Human Beings and also to Relieve Pressure on Landfills and Waste Management; and for Related Matters (HB. 1437) be now read a Second Time" (Hon. Sergious Ogun — Esan Northeast/Esan Southeast 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 Environment and Habitat.*

8. **Rescission of Clause 2 of the Nigerian Aeronautical Search and Rescue Bill, 2018 Pursuant to Order Nine, Rule 1 (16) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that a Bill for an Act to Incorporate Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944 in to Nigerian Law; to establish the Nigeria Search and Rescue Service; and to provide for matters connected therewith was passed by the House of Representatives and same was concurred by the Senate;

*Aware* that the Bill is being perfected in consonance with the Acts Authentication Act, 2004 at the Directorate, Legal Service of the National Assembly;

*Also aware* that in the course of perfecting the clean copy of the Bill, it was observed that Clause 2 of the Bill as passed did not thoroughly reflect the essence of the Bill;

*Desirous* of amending the observed defect in Clause 2 of the Bill;

*Resolves to:*

Rescind its decision on Clause 2 of the Nigerian Aeronautical Search and Rescue Bill, 2018 and re-commit it to the Committee of the Whole for re-consideration and passage (*Hon. Ayorinde Olabode — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

9. **A Call on the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NAPHCDA) to Establish 24-Hour Medical Clinics in each Orientation Camp of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC)**  
*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that on November 29, 2016, it was reported that a female NYSC member died at the Kano State NYSC orientation camp due to lack of medication and medical personnel to give her proper medical care;

*Also notes* that recently, another NYSC female member died in the NYSC orientation camp in Kwara State because the camp medical clinic was unable to treat her after she sustained a fracture from a fall within the camp;

*Aware* that the medical clinics available within the NYSC orientation camps often lack adequate medication and medical personnel to provide treatment for graduates undergoing the NYSC orientation programme considering that majority of the medical doctors who are responsible for administering such NYSC orientation camp clinics are recent graduates of Medicine and Nursing who are also undergoing the NYSC programme;

*Also aware* that out of the \$194 million reportedly allocated and disbursed by the Federal Government for the upkeep of each batch of corps members, the authorities and government officials that are responsible for the administration of the NYSC programme in the orientation camps expend most of the said sum on payment of corps Members logistics;

*Further aware* that most of the NYSC officials are neither trained medical professionals nor does the scheme have adequate budgetary allocation to purchase medical equipment or hire qualified and experienced medical professionals who would be willing to reside in the remote villages and local government areas where most of the orientation camps are located;

*Observes* that Section 3 (b) (i) of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency Act made it a duty for the Agency to provide primary health care within Local Government Areas where NYSC orientation camps are located;

*Convinced* that the National Primary Health Care Development Agency is the relevant agency to provide adequate health and medical care in NYSC orientation camps;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, and Youth Development to liaise with the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to:

- (i) provide a database and medical needs assessment of all NYSC orientation camps across the country; and
- (ii) establish Medical Clinics at all the permanent orientation camps, and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Isiaka Ayokunle Ibrahim — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out all the Prayers, and insert a new Prayer as follows:*

Mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Youth Development to:

- (i) liaise with the Ministry of Health and the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to establish Medical Clinics with standby Ambulances in all the 37 permanent NYSC orientation camps under the auspices of the Federal University Teaching Hospitals and Federal Medical Centres” (*Hon. Ayorinde Olabode — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

- (ii) also liaise with the NYSC to provide a database and medical needs assessment of all the permanent orientation camps and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action” (*Hon. Ayorinde Olabode — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that on November 29, 2016, it was reported that a female NYSC member died at the Kano State NYSC orientation camp due to lack of medication and medical personnel to give her proper medical care;

*Also noted* that recently, another NYSC female member died in the NYSC orientation camp in Kwara State because the camp medical clinic was unable to treat her after she sustained a fracture from a fall within the camp;

*Aware* that the medical clinics available within the NYSC orientation camps often lack adequate medication and medical personnel to provide treatment for graduates undergoing the NYSC orientation programme considering that majority of the medical doctors who are responsible for administering such NYSC orientation camp clinics are recent graduates of Medicine and Nursing who are also undergoing the NYSC programme;

*Also aware* that out of the \$194 million reportedly allocated and disbursed by the Federal Government for the upkeep of each batch of corps members, the authorities and government officials that are responsible for the administration of the NYSC programme in the orientation camps expend most of the said sum on payment of corps Members logistics;

*Further aware* that most of the NYSC officials are not trained medical professionals nor does the scheme have adequate budgetary allocation to purchase medical equipment or hire qualified and experienced medical professionals who would be willing to reside in the remote villages and local government areas where most of the orientation camps are located;

*Observed* that Section 3 (b) (i) of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency Act made it a duty for the Agency to provide primary health care within Local Government Areas where NYSC orientation camps are located;

*Convinced* that the National Primary Health Care Development Agency is the relevant agency to provide adequate health and medical care in NYSC orientation camps;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, and Youth Development to:

- (i) liaise with the Ministry of Health and the NYSC to establish Medical Clinics with standby Ambulances in all the 37 permanent NYSC orientation camps under the auspices of the Federal University Teaching Hospitals and Federal Medical Centres; and
- (ii) also liaise with the NYSC to provide a database and medical needs assessment of all the permanent orientation camps and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (HR. 09/07/2018).

**10. Need to Complete the Armed Forces Physical and Health School, and Games Village, Esa-Oke, Osun State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Federal Government through the Ministry of Defence conceived the idea for the development of an Armed Forces Physical and Health School, and Games Village (School) in Esa-Oke, Osun State;

*Also notes* that the idea behind the project was to develop a state of the art institution that will promote the physical fitness, agility and combat readiness of members of the Nigerian Armed Forces;

*Recalls* that the School was to be modelled after the United States Army Physical Training School in South Carolina, which focuses on all aspects of Army's Physical Readiness Training System in accordance with Army Doctrine and Regulations;

*Again recalls* that in the 2008 Budget, the National Assembly made provisions for funds for the establishment and development of the Armed Forces Physical and Health School, and Games Village, Esa-Oke, Osun State;

*Worried* that despite the consistent support from the National Assembly towards the development and operationalization of the School, it has practically transformed into an abandoned project and no major progress has been done on the project site;

*Concerned* that the state of affairs of the schools is inimical to the physical conditions of our troops and service personnel and adversely affects their combat readiness and ability to deliver on the constitutional mandate of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which includes to protect the territorial integrity of Nigeria and defend Nigeria from external aggression and internal insurrection;

*Also concerned* that if urgent steps are not taken to complete the project, its absence will continue to affect the physical conditions of our troops and service personnel, especially when peer-reviewed with their contemporaries in other countries, and it will by extension affect our National Security;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Ministry of Defence to complete the project; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Defence to ensure compliance (Hon. Oluwole Oke — Ibokun/Oriade Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

*(HR/10/07/2018).*

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

**11. Need to Probe the Withheld ₦2.8 Billion meant for the Federal Fire Service**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Federal Fire Service is in a terrible condition, being poorly equipped, and thus cannot respond to its current challenges;

*Aware* that the Service was established under the Fire Service Act, 2004, which mandates it to respond to fire disasters, however it is weighed down because it does not have enough equipment to discharge its duties;

*Also aware* that in 2011, the sum of ₦2.8 Billion was appropriated for the Federal Fire Service to purchase trucks and equipment;

*Further aware* that only 15 out of the 36 States of the Federation have functioning Fire Services, which exposes citizens of the 21 States to the consequences of an inferno;

*Recalls* that there have been several fire disasters in public places such as the Ogbete main market Enugu which was gutted by fire and destroyed 35 shops in November 2017, as well as the Sabon Gari market, Kano where 3,800 shops were razed down by fire in 2016;

*Also recalls* that the National Association of Nigerian Traders stated that in the last 17 years, Traders lost about of ₦5.3 billion to fire disasters;

*Disturbed* that oftentimes, people do not give the right of way to fire trucks to pass in the course of a fire incident, and in many cases buildings have been arbitrarily erected in streets, thereby obstructing fire trucks from reaching burning buildings;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Interior to investigate the non-release of the sum of ₦2.8 Billion appropriated for the Federal Fire Service in 2011 budget (*Hon. Ayeola Abayomi Abdul-Kabir — Ibeju-Lekki Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out* the Prayer, and *insert* a new Prayer as follows:

“Mandate the Committee on Interior to investigate the sum of ₦2.8 Billion appropriated to Federal Fire Service in 2011 budget whether it was released or not” (*Hon. Ali Isa JC — Balanga/Biliri Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Federal Fire Service is in a terrible condition, being poorly equipped, and thus cannot respond to its current challenges;

*Aware* that the Service was established under the Fire Service Act, 2004, which mandates it to respond to fire disasters, however it is weighed down because it does not have enough equipment to discharge its duties;

*Also aware* that in 2011, the sum of ₦2.8 Billion was appropriated for the Federal Fire Service to purchase trucks and equipment;

*Further aware* that only 15 out of the 36 States of the Federation have functioning Fire Services, which exposes citizens of the 21 States to the consequences of an inferno;

*Recalled* that there have been several fire disasters in public places such as the Ogbete main market Enugu which was gutted by fire and destroyed 35 shops in November 2017, as well as the Sabon Gari market, Kano where 3,800 shops were razed down by fire in 2016;

*Also recalled* that the National Association of Nigerian Traders stated that in the last 17 years, Traders lost about of ₦5.3 billion to fire disasters;

*Disturbed* that oftentimes, people do not give the right of way to fire trucks to pass in the course of a fire incident, and in many cases buildings have been arbitrarily erected in streets, thereby obstructing fire trucks from reaching burning buildings;

*Resolved to:*

Mandate the Committee on Interior to investigate the sum of ₦2.8 Billion appropriated to Federal Fire Service in 2011 budget whether it was released or not (HR. 11/07/2018).

**12. Suspension of Order Seven, Rule 2 (2)**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do suspend Order Seven, Rule 2 (2) to enable Mr Speaker preside in the Committee of the Whole" (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

**13. Consideration of Reports**

(i) *A Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for the Mainstreaming of Climate Change Responses and Actions into Government Policy Formulation, Implementation and Establishment of the National Council on Climate Change; and for Related Matters (Committee of the Whole):*

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for the Mainstreaming of Climate Change Responses and Actions into Government Policy Formulation, Implementation and Establishment of the National Council on Climate Change; and for Related Matters and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Samuel Onuigbo — Ikwunano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South Federal Constituency).

*Agreed to.*

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

## (HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

*(Mr Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE MAINSTREAMING OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES AND ACTIONS INTO GOVERNMENT POLICY FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

*Debate.**Consideration deferred to enable the Committee re-examine the Bill.**Chairman to report progress:*

## (HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for the Mainstreaming of Climate Change Responses and Actions into Government Policy Formulation, Implementation and Establishment of the National Council on Climate Change; and for Related Matters and re-committed the Bill to the Committee on Climate Change for appropriate legislative action.

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

(ii) **Committee on Tertiary Education and Services:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal University of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for a change of name of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi to J. S. Tarka University of Agriculture, Makurdi; and for Related Matters and approve the recommendations therein" (HB. 528)" (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

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

## (HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

*(Mr Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITIES OF AGRICULTURE ACT, CAP. F22, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO MAKE PROVISION FOR A CHANGE OF NAME OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MAKURDI TO J. S. TARKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MAKURDI AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 528)

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 1: Amendment of the Principal Act.**

The Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Law of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill called "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 2: Amendment of Section 2.**

Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) Paragraph (b) by substituting the name "Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi" with the name JOSEPH TARKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MAKURDI (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 3: Citation.**

This Bill may be cited as the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Explanation Memorandum:**

This Bill seeks to amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Law of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make provision for a change of name of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi to the J. S. TARKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MAKURDI (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Long Title:**

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Make Provision for a Change of Name of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi to J. S. Tarka University of Agriculture, Makurdi and for Related Matters (HB. 528) (*Hon. John Dyegh — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report Bill.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal University of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for a change of name of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi to J. S. Tarka University of Agriculture, Makurdi; and for Related Matters (HB. 528) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

**(iii) Committee on Niger Delta Ministry:**

*Motion made and Question proposed:* "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 482) and approve the recommendations therein" (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

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

**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)**

*(Mr Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME ON REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AMNESTY PROGRAMME IN THE NIGER DELTA AREA OF NIGERIA AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 482)

**PART I — OBJECTIVE**

***Committee Recommendation:***

**Clause 1: Objective.**

The objective of this Bill is to —

- (a) provide legal and institutional framework for the implementation and management of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in Nigeria;
- (b) consolidate the different phases of the programme commencing from the 2009 Presidential Amnesty Proclamation;
- (c) ensure an orderly and efficient completion of the mandate of the programme; and
- (d) provide an exit date for the programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**PART II — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AMNESTY PROGRAMME**

***Committee Recommendation:***

**Clause 2: Establishment of the Programme.**

- (1) There is established a body to be known as the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration (in this Bill referred to as "the Programme").
- (2) The Programme shall be a body corporate —
  - (a) with perpetual succession and a common seal;
  - (b) which may sue or be sued in its corporate name; and
  - (c) which may acquire, hold, purchase, mortgage and deal howsoever with property, movable or immovable, real or personal (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 3: Head office of the Programme.**

The Head Office of the Programme shall be in Abuja fet with field offices in the Niger Delta States as defined in Schedule I to this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 4: Establishment of the Programme Implementation Committee.**

- (1) There is established the National Committee on the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration (in this Bill referred to as "the Committee").
- (2) The Committee shall be the governing body for the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 5: Composition of the Committee.**

- (1) The Committee shall consist of the —
  - (a) the Coordinator as Chairman;
  - (b) one representative each of the Niger Delta States;
  - (c) one representative each of the Stakeholders;
  - (d) three representatives of the Impacted Communities;
  - (e) one person each to represent the following security organizations —
    - (i) Army — Lieutenant Colonel
    - (ii) Navy — Navy Commander
    - (iii) Air Force — Wing Commander
    - (iv) Police — Assistant Superintendent of Police
    - (v) the Civil Defence Corp who shall not be below the rank of Deputy Commandant.
  - (f) one representative of the following Ministries and Commission —
    - (i) Niger Delta Affairs;
    - (ii) Finance;
    - (iii) Environment;
    - (iv) Petroleum Resources;
    - (v) Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), and

- (vi) Local Content Board who shall not be below the rank of Assistant Director.
- (2) Members referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall be persons versed in areas of resource management, internal security management, environmental management or poverty alleviation programmes management
- (3) The Supplementary provisions set out in Schedule II to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Committee and other matters contained therein (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

**Amendment Proposed:**

Leave out all the words in subclause (1) (e), and insert as follows:

"One person each not below the rank of Lieutenant Colonel or its equivalent to represent the following organizations:

- (i) Army;
- (ii) Navy;
- (iii) Air Force;
- (iv) Police; and
- (v) the Nigerian Civil Defence Corps" (*Hon. Kayode Oladele — Egbado North/Imeko Afon Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 5 as amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**PART II — FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE PROGRAMME**

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 6: Functions of the Programme.**

The functions of the Programme are to —

- (a) implement the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the area of disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration;
- (b) provide baseline information to stakeholders for the implementation of the Programme;
- (c) formulate strategies and action plans for the implementation of the programme, deployment of delegates for education, vocational skill acquisition and empowerment;
- (d) coordinate efforts of relevant agencies, organization and institutions towards the attainment of the objectives of the Programme, job placement, internship and sustainable reintegration;
- (e) build capacity, knowledge and skills at Federal, States and local community levels for the effective implementation of the Programme;

- (f) serve as the focal point for the coordination of interventions by regional, sub-regional and international organizations, Academic institutions and agencies involved in the implementation of the Programme;
- (g) ensure compliance with the provisions of International Conventions, Protocols, Agreements and Treaties pertaining to the Programme as may be ratified and domesticated by Nigeria;
- (h) monitor and ensure compliance with laws, rules and regulations on sustainable management of the Programme in consultation with the Niger Delta States;
- (j) ensure uniformity of laws, rules and regulations that impact on the Presidential Amnesty Programme in Nigeria;
- (k) ensure that projects funded by donor agencies to mitigate or eradicate effects of violence, are properly implemented towards the sustainable restoration of peace and security to the Niger Delta States and ensure economic sustainability to the country;
- (l) enter into scientific and technical cooperation with persons and institutions, for the effective implementation of the Programme;
- (m) implement programmes geared towards the rehabilitation of beneficiaries, engage the services of offshore and Nigerian institutions in the pursuit of the educational needs of ex-agitators;
- (n) establish appropriate machinery for monitoring and evaluation of the Programme and put in place appropriate feedback mechanisms for necessary action of implementing institutions and stakeholders;
- (o) establish data bank for effective delivery of the Programme, maintain stipends payroll and exit lists from the payment of stipends;
- (p) create public awareness and provide education on the goals and objectives of the Programme in addition to promoting private sector and stakeholders compliance with guidelines, rules and regulations including new orientation on sustainable reintegration; and
- (q) do any other thing as are expedient for the realization of the functions of the Programme under this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 7: Functions and powers of the Committee.**

The Committee shall carry out the following functions —

- (a) receive and manage funds from allocation of the Federation Account, budgetary allocations and international donors for the settlement, rehabilitation and reintegration of ex - agitators in the Niger Delta States;
- (b) consider and approve policies for the implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme (Programme);

- (c) formulate policies for the attainment of the objectives of the Programme under this Bill;
- (d) ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Programme;
- (e) receive and consider for approval the budget, annual report and audited accounts of the Programme;
- (f) approve staff regulations, rules and operational guidelines; and
- (g) carry out such other functions as are incidental to the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 7 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 8: Powers of the Programme.**

- (1) The Programme shall have powers to —

- (a) receive and disburse funds for the carrying out of approved projects;
- (b) provide guidelines, procedure and strategies for demobilization, disarmament, rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-agitators subject to the approval of the Committee;
- (c) acquire, hold and manage movable and immovable property;
- (d) enter into such contracts as may be contained in approved Programmes;
- (e) purchase or acquire any asset or business considered necessary for the proper conduct of its functions under this Bill; and
- (f) sell, let, lease or dispose of any of the property of the Programme with the approval of the Committee;

- (2) The powers conferred on the Programme may be exercised by it or through any of its employees or agents as may be specifically authorized by a written mandate or policy direction (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 8 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**PART III — STAFF OF THE PROGRAMME**

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 9: The Coordinator of the Programme.**

- (1) There shall be for the Programme, a Coordinator who shall be an indigene of the Niger Delta States and shall be appointed by the President.
- (2) The Coordinator shall be —
  - (a) the Chairman and chief executive and accounting officer of the Programme; and

- (b) responsible for the execution of the policies, programmes and plans as approved by the Committee; and
- (c) responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 9 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 10: Tenure of office and remuneration of the Coordinator.**

- (1) The Coordinator shall hold office —
  - (a) for a period of four years subject to re-appointment by the President for a further term of four years and no more; and
  - (b) on such other terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.
- (2) The office of the Coordinator shall become vacant where —
  - (a) his term of office expires;
  - (b) he resigns his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President;
  - (c) he dies;
  - (d) he is incapable of performing the functions of his office due to mental or physical illness;
  - (e) has been convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty;
  - (f) he is guilty of gross misconduct relating to his duties; or
  - (g) the President directs his removal where he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Programme or the public for the person to continue in office as Coordinator (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 11: Appointment of the Secretary for the Committee.**

- (1) There shall be a Secretary for the Committee who shall be a career Civil Servant not below the rank of a Director.
- (2) The Secretary shall keep the corporate records of the Programme and perform such other functions and duties as the Coordinator may assign to him, from time to time (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 12: Staff of the Programme and their remuneration.**

- (1) The Committee shall appoint for the Programme, directly or on secondment from any public service in the Federation, such number of employees as may, in the opinion of the Committee, be expedient and necessary for the proper and efficient performance of the functions of the Programme under this Bill.
- (2) A person seconded to the Programme under this section may elect to be transferred to the service of the Programme and any previous service that person may have rendered in the public service shall count as service in the Programme for the purpose of any pension or entitlement under the Pension Reform Act.
- (3) The National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission shall be responsible for determining wages and salaries of employees of the Programme.
- (4) The Committee shall make rules relating generally to the conditions of service of employees of the Programme, including rules providing for the appointment, promotion, advancement, determination of appointment, and disciplinary control of those employees.
- (5) Service in the Programme shall be subject to the Pension Reform Act provided that nothing in this section shall exclude the Programme from employing staff on non-pensionable terms and conditions (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 13: The Structure of the Programme.**

- (1) The Programme shall be structured into disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration;
- (2) The Programme shall have powers to establish departments, units and such other administrative outfits as the Programme may deem appropriate with the approval of the Committee from time to time (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 14: Payment of stipends.**

- (1) Ex - agitators undergoing the Programme shall be paid monthly stipends as may be approved by the President, from time to time, take care of their basic necessities as part of the demobilization and rehabilitation process.
- (2) Only Ex-agitators whose names are in the Stipends Roll shall be entitled to receive monthly Stipends or allowances (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 14 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

## PART IV — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 15: Funds of the Programme.**

- (1) The Programme shall establish and maintain a fund ("the Fund") into which monies accruable to the Programme shall be paid and from which all the activities of the Programme shall be funded.
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the Fund —
  - (a) all subventions and annual budgetary allocations appropriated by the Federal Government for the Programme;
  - (b) 3 percent of the Ecological Fund accruable to the Federal Government for the Presidential Amnesty Programme;
  - (c) returns on investments;
  - (d) gifts, loans and grants in-aid from national, bilateral and multilateral organizations, donor International development Agencies, individuals or corporate organizations; and
  - (e) 1 percent of the total annual Budget of oil producing companies operating onshore and offshore in the Niger Delta area, including gas processing companies (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

**Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Leave out subclause (2) (b) (Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency).*

*Question that the amendment made — Agreed to.*

- (ii) *Leave out subclause (2) (e) (Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga — Abakaliki/Izzi Federal Constituency).*

*Question that the amendment made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 15 amended, stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 16: Power to accept gifts.**

- (1) The Programme may accept gifts of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- (2) The Programme shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Programme under this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 17: Power to borrow.**

The Programme may with the approval of the Committee borrow such sums of money as may be required from time to time to execute or complete any special project of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 17 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 18: Estimates of the Programme.**

The Programme shall not be later than 30th September in each financial year submit to the National Assembly, an estimate of income and expenditure of the Programme during the next succeeding year (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 18 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 19: Accounts and audit.**

- (1) The Programme shall keep proper and regular accounts and other records of monies received and paid by the Programme and of the several purposes for which the monies have been received or paid, and of its assets, credits and liabilities.
- (2) The Programme shall do all things necessary to ensure that all payments out of its funds and bank accounts are correctly made and properly authorised and that adequate control is maintained over the assets in its custody and over the expenditures incurred by the Programme.
- (3) The Committee shall cause the accounts of the Programme to be audited quarterly and shall be externally audited once every year.
- (4) The Auditor-General of the Federation shall —
  - (a) inspect and audit the accounts and records of financial transaction of the Programme;
  - (b) inspect records relating to assets of the Programme; and
  - (c) draw the attention of the National Security Adviser to any irregularity disclosed by the inspection and audit.
- (5) The Auditor-General may dispense with all or any part of detailed inspection and audit of any account or record referred to of this section.
- (6) The Auditor-General or an officer authorized by him is entitled at all reasonable time to a full and free access to all accounts, records documents and papers of the Programme relating directly or indirectly to the receipt or payment of money by the Programme or to the acquisition, receipt, custody or disposal of assets by the Programme.

- (7) As soon as the accounts and the financial statements of the Programme have been audited in accordance with the requirement of this Bill, the Committee shall forward a copy of the audited financial statements to the National Assembly, together with any report or observations made by the auditors and the Auditor-General on the statement of accounts.
- (8) The audited accounts of the Programme and the Auditor-General's report on those accounts shall form part of the Auditor-General's overall annual report to the National Assembly (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 19 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 20: Annual Report.**

The Programme shall submit to the National Assembly not later than 30th June of each financial year, a report of its activities during the preceding financial year and it shall include a copy of the audited accounts of the Programme for that year and a copy of auditor's report thereon (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 20 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**PART V — STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEES**

(*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 21: Establishment of States and Local Governments Implementation Committees.**

- (1) For the purpose of executing the Programme in the Niger Delta States, such States may establish Implementation Committees or such other similar institutions to carry out any component of the Programme in their respective States.
- (2) The affected Local Governments in the Niger Delta States may establish Local Government Implementation Committees to carry out any component of the Programme at the Local Government and community levels (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 22: Relationship between the Programme, States and Local Government Implementation Committees.**

- (1) The Programme shall maintain effective liaison with the Implementation Committees established in the Niger Delta States and Local Government areas of such States to —
- (a) ascertain the status of the Programme in the States and Local Government areas concerned;
- (b) review in conjunction with the States or Local Governments matters connected with or expected to affect the progress of the Programme in the States or Local Government areas; and

- (c) consider and advice the States and Local Government areas on the adoption of the best strategies for the realization of objectives of the Programme.
- (2) The Programme, as considered appropriate, may assist a Niger Delta States or Local Government Implementation Committee in the formulation and preparation of strategic plans for the implementation of any component of the Programme in a State or its Local Government or in their local communities.
- (3) The Programme may provide information and render advice to Implementation Committees in the Niger Delta States and their Local Government areas or to any person or body, where it considers that, to do so will assist in achieving the efficient implementation of the Programme.
- (4) The Programme shall provide such technical assistance as may be practicable and also encourage Niger Delta States to provide technical and financial assistance, including training, human capacity development, transfer of any required technology to the local communities in the frontline States for the attainment of the objectives of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 23: Progress Report.**

- (1) For the purpose of monitoring progress in the execution of the Programme, the Programme may obtain quarterly reports from the States and Local Government Implementation Committees on the activities and progress made in the implementation of the Programme.
- (2) The quarterly reports on the progress of implementation of the Programme in the Niger Delta States shall include —
  - (a) the progress of the implementation of the strategic plans;
  - (b) the extent to which the projects set out in the strategic plan are being achieved; and
  - (c) the review of any enforcement mechanism contained in a strategic plan (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:**

**Clause 24: Monitoring of Programme Implementation in Frontline States.**

The Programme shall put in place appropriate machinery for the monitoring of the implementation of the Programme in the Niger Delta States and their respective Local Government Areas (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 24 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

## PART VI — MISCELLANEOUS

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 25: Limitation of suits against the Programme.**

- (1) The provisions of the Public Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against any officer or employee of the Programme.
- (2) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the Committee, the Coordinator, officer or employee of the Programme before the expiration of a period of thirty days after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been served upon the Programme by the intending plaintiff or his counsel.
- (3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section shall state the cause of action, the particulars of the claims, the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he claims (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 26: Service of documents.**

A notice, summons or any other document required or authorized to be served upon the Programme under the provisions of this Bill or any other law or enactment may be served by delivering it to the Coordinator at the principal office of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 27: Restriction on execution against property of the Programme.**

No execution or attachment of process shall be issued against the Programme in any action or suit without the consent of the Attorney-General of the Federation provided that the consent shall not be unreasonably withheld (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 28: Indemnity of officers.**

A member of the Committee, the Coordinator and officers of the Programme shall be indemnified against any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favour, or in which he is acquitted, if any such proceeding is brought against him in his capacity as member of the Committee, the Coordinator, officer or employee of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 29: Engagement of consultants and experts.**

The Coordinator may with the approval of the Committee engage persons with expertise in any area pertaining to the functions of the Programme to assist the Programme otherwise than on the basis of full time employment (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

## PART VI — MISCELLANEOUS

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 25: Limitation of suits against the Programme.**

- (1) The provisions of the Public Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against any officer or employee of the Programme.
- (2) Any contravention of the provisions of a regulation made under this section shall be penalized as may be prescribed in the regulation (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 30 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 31: Power of National Security Adviser to issue directives to the Programme.**

The National Security Adviser may issue to the Programme directives of a general or special nature with respect to any of the functions of the Programme under this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 31 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 32: Duration of Programme.**

- (1) The Programme, from the commencement of this Bill, shall be for a period of four years subject to extension by the President for a further term of four years by an Order published in the Official Gazette.
- (2) At the expiration of the Programme subject to any extension by the President pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Federal Government shall continue to provide training and apprenticeship for anyone who is still in the programme and may charge any Ministry, Department or Agency to conclude existing obligations at the expiration of the Programme (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 33: Transitional provisions.**

- (1) Any agreement or arrangement in existence before the commencement of this Bill shall continue to have effect subject to such modifications as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Bill.
- (2) Any subsidiary legislation in force at the commencement of this Bill shall continue to have effect with such modifications as are necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 34: Interpretation.**

In this Bill —

"Programme" means the Presidential Amnesty Programme established under section 2 of this Bill (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Programme" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Niger Delta States" means affected States of Nigeria listed under Schedule I to this Bill (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the words "Niger Delta States" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"function" includes power and duty (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the word "function" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Government" where the context so admits include the Federal, State and Local Governments of the Federation (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Government" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Implementation Committees" means the Implementation Committees at State and Local Governments level referred under Part V of this Bill (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the words "Implementation Committees" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Member" means a member of the Committee and includes the Chairman and the Coordinator (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Member" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the word "President" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Stakeholders" includes Governments of the affected Niger Delta States, State representatives, traditional institutions, community leaders and leaders of the various ex-militant camps (Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Stakeholders" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 34 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Committee Recommendation:****Clause 35: Short title:**

This Bill may be cited as the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration (Establishment and Implementation) Bill, 2018 (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that Clause 35 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**SCHEDULES****SCHEDULE I****LIST OF NIGER DELTA STATES**

[Section 3]

1. The "Niger Delta States" under this Bill includes—

- (a) Abia State;
- (b) Akwa Ibom State;
- (c) Bayelsa State;
- (d) Cross River State;
- (e) Delta State;
- (f) Edo State;
- (g) Imo State;
- (h) Ondo State; and
- (i) Rivers State.

2. Notwithstanding the meaning of Niger Delta States under section 34 of this Bill, the President may from time to time by order published in the Gazette alter, add, delete or amend the provisions of this Schedule subject to the approval of the National Assembly (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the provisions of Schedule I stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**SCHEDULE II****SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS, ETC.**

[Section 5 (3)]

**1. Proceedings of the Committee.**

- (1) Subject to provisions of this Bill and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, Cap. 123, LFN, 2004 the Committee may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or those of any of its committees.

- (2) The quorum of the Committee shall be the Chairman, or the person presiding at the meeting, and six other members of the Committee, three of whom shall be *ex-officio* members, and the quorum of any committee of the Committee shall be as determined by the Committee.
  - (3) The Committee shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by not less than six other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Committee to be held within twenty-four days from the date on which the notice is given.
  - (4) Where the Committee desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Committee may co-opt him to the Committee for such period as it deems fit, but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this subparagraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Committee and shall not count towards a quorum.
2. **Sub-Committees of the Committee.**
  - (1) The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees to carry out, on behalf of the Committee such functions as the Committee may determine.
  - (2) The sub-committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Committee and a person shall hold office in the Committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
  - (3) A decision of a sub-committee of the Committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Committee.
3. **The seal of the Programme.**
  - (1) The fixing of the seal of the Programme shall be authenticated by the signature of the Coordinator and the Head of the Legal Unit of the Programme
  - (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal may be made or executed on behalf of the Programme by the Coordinator or any person generally or specifically authorized by the Committee to act for that purpose.
4. **Miscellaneous.**
  - (1) The validity of any proceeding of the Committee or its committees shall not be affected by —
    - (a) any vacancy in the membership of the Committee or its committees;
    - (b) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings; or
    - (c) any defect in the appointment of a member.
  - (2) Any member of the Committee or committee who has a personal interest in any arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Committee or any committee shall —
    - (a) disclose his interest to the Committee or committee; and
    - (b) not vote on any question relating to the arrangement.

- (3) A resolution of the Committee is valid, if —
- (a) the resolution is signed or assented to by a simple majority of members of the Committee, including the Coordinator (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the provisions of Schedule II stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Explanatory Memorandum:**

*(This memorandum does not form part of this Bill but it is intended to explain its purport).*

This Bill seeks to provide a legal and institutional framework for the implementation and management of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in Nigeria (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Long Title:**

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration for the Implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 482) (*Hon. Nasiru Ali Ahmed — Nassarawa Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report Bill.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Presidential Programme on Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Implementation of the Presidential Amnesty Programme in the Niger Delta Area of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 482) and approved Clauses 1 - 4, approved Clause 5 as amended, approved Clauses 6 - 14, approved Clause 15 as amended, approved Clauses 16 - 35, the Schedules, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

**14. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 5 July, 2018 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Olabode Ayorinde — Owo/Ose Federal Constituency).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 3.55 p.m.*

**Yakubu Dogara**  
*Speaker*

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