



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

NOTICE PAPER

Monday 22 January, 2018

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- 1. Need to Address the Under Utilization of Ikorodu Lighter Terminal and Make It an Export Gateway**
Hon. Babajimi Benson:
The House:

Notes that Ikorodu Lighter Terminal (IKLT), with two large warehouses, and adjudged to be one of the largest in the country, is among the three lighter terminals constructed by the Nigerian Ports Authority to decongest major Ports in Nigeria, particularly the Apapa and Tin Can Island Ports in Lagos State;

Also notes that the multi – billion Naira investment is almost moribund as it is operating below capacity, thus contributing nothing significant to the nation's economy;

Aware that though the Nigeria Customs Service took over the operation of the Lighter Terminal sometimes in 2008 with a view to securing overtime Cargoes and facilitating release of same to the owners, little or nothing has been done to designate the Ikorodu Cargo Terminal as a major export gateway by the Service as a means of reducing traffic to the Apapa and Tin Can ports, and the facilities have therefore continued to rot away owing to lack of patronage;

Further notes that while the staff strength of the Ikorodu Lighter terminal has increased over the years, there is little or no activity whatsoever in the Terminal with overtime cargoes that were transferred to the facilities from the Apapa and Tin Can Island Ports lying fallow and wasting for over Ten years now.

Cognizant that given the huge economic challenges confronting the nation which are manifested in reduced job opportunities, business collapses etc, expanding the capacity of the Ikorodu Terminal to be an export

gateway and putting its facilities to maximum use will open up the economy by increasing Nigeria's non-oil export volume, create jobs, decongest other ports and further earn foreign exchange for the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Ministries of Transport and Interior to direct the relevant agencies to submit memorandum to the House Committees on Ports, Harbours and Waterways, Customs and Excise and Legislative Compliance on the current state of the Ikorodu Lighter Terminal and realistic efforts being made to restructure the Terminal to ensure its effective utilization;
- (ii) Also urge the Nigeria Ports Authority and the Nigeria Customs Service to put proper terminal operational procedures in place at the Ikorodu Lighter Terminal (IKLT) to ensure that overtime cargo containers are released to the owners with 50% waiver of all charges so as not to completely undermine Federal Government's income and in the best interest of businesses and the Nigeria economy;
- (iii) Mandate the Committees on Ports, Harbours and Waterways, Customs and Excise and Legislative Compliance to visit the Ikorodu Lighter Terminal (IKLT) for on the spot assessment and liaise with necessary stakeholders with a view to bringing the Terminal to effective use and report back in 6 weeks for further legislative action.

2. Need to Investigate the Huge Debts Owed Indigenous Contractors by International Oil and Gas Companies (IOCS:)

Hon. O.K. Chinda:

The House:

Notes that several Indigenous Companies that had rendered services, executed contracts and/or supplied items to International Oil and Gas Companies (IOCS) operating in the country are being owed huge sums of money by those IOCs, as a result of which those Companies are going through difficult times;

Aware of the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, Cap. N124A, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 which among other things provides for the development of Nigerian content, as well as supervision, co-ordination, monitoring and implementation of Nigerian content in the Oil and Gas industry in the country;

Also aware that those contracts which run into millions of Naira or Dollars and can span over short or long durations are very significant to and serve as the life wire to several of those companies and the main source of livelihood for the contractors;

Cognizant that there is an urgent need to save those indigenous firms and contractors from likely bankruptcy and liquidation by reason of the huge debts being owed them, a development that would lead to job losses with the attendant hardship it will bring in its wake;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Local Content to investigate the huge debts being owed local companies and indigenous contractors by International Oil and Gas Companies with a view to ensuring that such debts are paid promptly, and report back in four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

3. Call for a Phased Ban on the Importation of Fish and Fish Products into Nigeria:
Hon. Tasir Olawale Raji:
The House:

Notes that the diversification of the economy away from crude oil through key sectors such as agriculture remains pivotal to the realization of the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan of the present administration;

Also notes that the Fisheries sub-sector, which is a vital component of Nigerian Agriculture and the national economy, accounting for about 4% of the country's Gross Domestic Product, has remained largely under-developed despite having the potential to provide cheap sources of protein, income, employment and foreign exchange;

Aware that local production from artisanal fishing, aquaculture and industrial captures estimated at about 800,000 metric tonnes accounts for only 30% of the total annual fish demand estimated at 2.7 million metric tonnes;

Also aware that Nigeria has over the years resorted to importation to meet the deficit of about 1.9 million metric tonnes in domestic fish supply at an estimated cost USD625 million in foreign exchange annually;

Further notes that the escalating demand for foreign exchange for fish importation is not sustainable in the light of the huge pressure on the country's foreign reserves and fluctuating earnings from crude oil;

Concerned that Nigeria has now become a dumping ground for all manners of frozen fish, most of which are unwholesome in quality and highly detrimental to the health of the consumers;

Cognizant that with the abundant marine and inland fisheries resources comprising 923,768 km² land area, 47,934 km² continental shelf, 853 km of coastline, network of rivers, flood plain, natural and man-made lakes, Nigeria has all it takes to become self-sufficient in fish production and also become a major hub of fish exportation in the West African Sub-region;

Convinced that the Federal Government needs to vigorously pursue the goal of self-sufficiency in fish production so as to ensure food security and reserve for export;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Agricultural Production and Services and Water Resources to collaborate with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Nigerian Customs Service and other stakeholders to:
- (i) develop a policy framework for the implementation of a phased ban on the importation of fish and fish products so as to create an enabling environment for increased private sector investments in the fisheries sub-sector such that Nigeria can become self-sufficient in fish production within a period of four (4) years and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.