



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 28 May, 2020

1. The House met at 11.28 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **The House recited the National Pledge**
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 19 May, 2020.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
4. **Messages**
Mr Speaker read the following messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:
(i)



PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

May 19, 2020

Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabamila
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Femi Gbajabamila,

**SUBMISSION OF THE REVISED FGN 2020-2022 MEDIUM-TERM
EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK AND FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER
AND REVISED APPROPRIATION BILL, 2020**

It is with pleasure that I submit the revised 2020-2022 Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper (MTEF/FSP), and the revised Appropriation Bill 2020, for the kind consideration and approval of the House of Representatives.

Let me seize this opportunity, to express my deep gratitude for the patriotism, cooperation and support of the Leadership and Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, in our collective efforts to amend the Appropriation Act 2020 and accelerate its implementation.

It has become necessary to revise the 2020-2022 MTEF/FSP and amend the Appropriation Act 2020, in view of the sharp decline in crude oil prices and the cut in Nigeria's crude oil production quota occasioned by the COVID-19 Pandemic. In effect, the assumptions underlying the 2020 Appropriation Act are no longer sustainable.

It is also imperative to adjust expected revenues, considering the widespread disruptions in other domestic economic activities, as well as international trade and transportation, due to the measures implemented across the world to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Furthermore, it is necessary to reallocate resources in the Appropriation Act 2020, to ensure effective implementation of required emergency measures, and other actions necessary to mitigate the negative socioeconomic effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Accordingly, I hereby forward as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 respectively, being the revised 2020-2022 MTEF/FSP and the revised Appropriation Bill 2020. Given the urgency of the requested amendments, I seek the cooperation of the National Assembly, for expeditious legislative action on these submissions.

Please accept, Mr Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

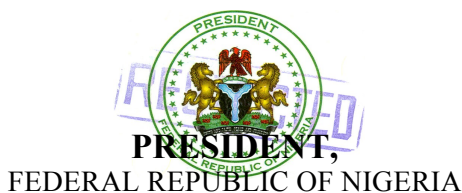
Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

Request referred to the Committees on Appropriations, and Finance.

(ii)



May 19, 2020

Rt Hon. Femi Gbajabamila
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,
 National Assembly Complex,
 Three Arms Zone,
 Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. Femi Gbajabamila,

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR EXTERNAL BORROWING:

1. TO FINANCE THE PROPOSED REVISED 2020 BUDGET;

2. FOR PRIORITY PROJECTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; AND.

3. FOR PROJECTS TO SUPPORT THE STATE GOVERNMENTS

In accordance with the provisions of Section 21 of the Debt Management Office (Establishment, etc.) Act, 2003 and Section 41 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007, I wish to request the approval of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for External Borrowing to finance the following:

- (a) *The Draft Revised 2020 Budget;*
- (b) *Priority Projects of the Federal Government of Nigeria; and*
- (c) *Projects to support the State Governments.*

FINANCING THE PROPOSED REVISED 2020 BUDGET

2. *As the House of Representatives may be aware, the COVID-19 Pandemic has resulted in economic and fiscal challenges for many countries. Nigeria has also been affected in this regard, especially with the lower demand for Crude Oil, which has affected our sales and the sharp decline in the price of Oil below USD25 per barrel, which is much lower than the USD57 per barrel benchmark in the 2020 Appropriation Act. The COVID-19 Pandemic has also created the need for additional expenditure in the health sector. All of these have necessitated a review of the 2020 Budget and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (2020 - 2022).*

3. *Following from Paragraph 2, the Draft Revised Budget proposed by the Executive for 2020 has a higher Deficit. In order to finance this Deficit, the Federal Government is planning to raise funds from both Domestic and External Sources. For the External component, the Government is negotiating with Multilateral Institutions for funding on concessionary terms. The facilities, totalling USD5.513 billion, being arranged in this regard are detailed in Table 1.*

Table 1: Proposed External Loans to Finance Revised 2020 Budget Deficit

S/N	Lender	Amount
1.	<i>International Monetary Fund</i>	<i>USD3,400,000,000.00</i>
2.	<i>World Bank</i>	<i>USD1,500,000,000.00</i>
3.	<i>African Development Bank</i>	<i>USD500,000,000.00</i>
4.	<i>Islamic Development Bank</i>	<i>USD113,000,000.00</i>
	Total	USD5,513,000,000.00

PRIORITY PROJECTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

4. *In addition to the financing required for the Revised 2020 Budget, financing is also required for some priority projects of the Federal Government to address the COVID-19 Pandemic and improve Nigeria's Food Security. The proposed loans and associated projects in this regard are detailed in Table 2.*

Table 2: Priority Projects of the Federal Government

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Lender</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1.	<i>Islamic Development Bank</i>	<i>Support of Nigeria's Response to Challenges posed by COVID-19</i>	<i>USD600,000,000.00</i>
2.	<i>African Development Bank</i>	<i>Strengthening of Healthcare System to improve Response to COVID-19</i>	<i>USD125,000,000.00</i>
		<i>Financing Smallholder Farmers to mitigate Food Security Impact of COVID-19</i>	<i>USD23,000,000.00</i>
3.	<i>African Export-Import Bank</i>	<i>Provision of Critical Medical Supplies to combat COVID-19</i>	<i>USD500,000,000.00</i>
4.	<i>Export-Import Bank of Brazil</i>	<i>Green Imperative to Enhance Mechanisation of Agriculture and Agro-Processing in Nigeria</i>	<i>Euro995,000,000.00</i>

**** The Islamic Development Bank has indicated that only \$113,000,000.00 (One hundred and thirteen Million US Dollars) of financing will be available to the FGN in the 2020 fiscal year to finance the government's COVID-19 response, which will come from restructuring of previously approved but inactive facilities for Nigeria.**

FACILITIES FOR PROJECTS TO SUPPORT STATE GOVERNMENTS

5. *The State Governments are also experiencing fiscal challenges as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic and in order to support the States, facilities from the World Bank are being negotiated as detailed in Table 3.*

Table 3: Facilities to Support State Governments

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Lender</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1.	<i>The World Bank</i>	<i>State Fiscal Transparency Accountability and Sustainability Program to provide fiscal support to the States</i>	<i>Between USD500 million and USD750 million</i>
2.	<i>The World Bank</i>	<i>COVID-19 Action Recovery and Economic Stimulus Program to support state-level efforts to protect livelihoods, ensure food security and stimulate economic activity</i>	<i>Between USD500 million and USD750 million.</i>

6. Please find attached relevant documents for the Facilities. The Honourable Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning shall provide any additional information that may be required for your consideration of the request.

7. Whilst looking forward to your timely consideration and approval, please accept, Mr Speaker, the assurances of my high regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

Enclosures:

Annexure I: Letter and Press Heleuse from the International Monetary Fund on approval of Rapid Financing Instrument.

Annexure II: LetJer from the World Bank on Proposed Facilities for the Federal Government and States.

Annexure III: Letter from the African Development Bank on Proposed Facilities.

Annexure IV: Request Letter to the Islamic Development Bank.

Annexure V: Term Sheet from the African Export-Import Bank.

Annexure VI: Brief on Facility for the Green Imperative Programme.

Request referred to the **Committee Aids, Loans and Debt Management**.

5. Announcement

Bereavement:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Ahmed Madaki Gololo (*Gamawa Federal Constituency*), announcing the death on Friday, 22 May, 2020 of the mother of Hon. Yakubu Shehu Abdullahi (*Bauchi Federal Constituency*).

6. Executive Session

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do resolve into a Closed Session" (*Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader*) — **Agreed to.**

Closed Session: — 11.42 a.m.

House in Open Session: — 12.03 p.m.

7. Petitions

(i) Petitions from the following persons were presented and laid by Hon. Sylvester Ogbaga (*Abakaliki/Izzi Federal Constituency*) from:

(a) Julius Ibere and 1 other, on behalf of Izzi Development Union (IDU), on the alleged criminal neglect and marginalization of Ebonyi North zone in the siting of Federal Institutions in the State;

(b) Comrade Ben Nwosu and 10 others, on behalf of Izzi Nwodo Youth Forum on the establishment of the Federal College of Education in Ebonyi South Senatorial zone and praying the House to ensure equity; and

(c) HRH Sunday Oketa and 3 others, on behalf of Izzi Forum, on the siting of the newly approved Federal College of Education in Ebonyi State and praying for equity; and

- (ii) A petition from Osifoh Ozoya Austine, on his alleged travail and unlawful dismissal from the service of the Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State by the Rector, was presented and laid by Hon. Julius Ihonvebere (*Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

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

- (i) ***Need for Effective Enforcement of the Interstate Travels by Security Agents:***
Hon. Ndudi Elumelu (*Aniocha/Oshimili Federal Constituency and 11 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.

Need for Effective Enforcement of the Interstate Travels by Security Agents:

The House:

Notes that after due consultations with Governors of the States of the Federation on 27 April, 2020, the Federal Government announced, among several regulations:

- (i) the need to ban non-essential interstate passenger travels until further notice,
- (ii) overnight curfew from 8 pm to 6 am, except movement for essential services and controlled interstate movement of goods and services from producers to customers,
- (iii) the mandatory use of face masks in public places, as well as maintenance of physical distancing and personal hygiene,
- (iv) restrictions on social and religious gatherings;

Also notes that while the restriction on interstate travels is still in force, Nigerians are assailed daily with troubling images and videos of people traveling across the length and breadth of different States of the country, which is a clear violation of the presidential order banning interstate travels;

Aware that on several occasions, Task Forces set up by the various States Governments have intercepted trailer loads of people moving in the middle of the night in a bid to sneak into other States in this lockdown period, despite the presence of security agents at States borders implementing the Presidential Orders;

Also aware that at a time like this when movement is being restricted world wide, there are videos of massive movements of travellers being smuggled in trucks carrying food items or livestock from one part of the country to another, a development that amounts to a drawback on the COVID-19 containment efforts;

Further aware that there are serious and credible reports of complicity by security agents who are supposed to be enforcing compliance with the orders of the President on interstate travels;

Concerned that the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 has raised an alarm over what it described as increased level of interstate movement, worsened by the dubious concealment of people in vehicles carrying food items, which if not immediately curtailed, will further increase the number of COVID-19 cases to an alarming rate, that can put the country in a precarious state;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to interface with the Nigeria Police Force and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSDC) to investigate the alleged complicity of their personnel in the violation of the Presidential Order banning interstate travels; and
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to set up an a Special Task Force to monitor and implement the ban on interstate travels (*Hon. Ndudi Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency and Nine Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that after due consultations with Governors of the States of the Federation on 27 April, 2020, the Federal Government announced, among several regulations:

- (i) the need to ban non-essential interstate passenger travels until further notice,
- (ii) overnight curfew from 8 pm to 6 am, except movement for essential services and controlled interstate movement of goods and services from producers to customers,
- (iii) the mandatory use of face masks in public places, as well as maintenance of physical distancing and personal hygiene,
- (iv) restrictions on social and religious gatherings;

Also noted that while the restriction on interstate travels is still in force, Nigerians are assailed daily with troubling images and videos of people traveling across the length and breadth of different States of the country, which is a clear violation of the presidential order banning interstate travels;

Aware that on several occasions, Task Forces set up by the various States Governments have intercepted trailer loads of people moving in the middle of the night in a bid to sneak into other States in this lockdown period, despite the presence of security agents at States borders implementing the Presidential Orders;

Also aware that at a time like this when movement is being restricted world wide, there are videos of massive movements of travellers being smuggled in trucks carrying food items or livestock from one part of the country to another, a development that amounts to a drawback on the COVID-19 containment efforts;

Further aware that there are serious and credible reports of complicity by security agents who are supposed to be enforcing compliance with the orders of the President on interstate travels;

Concerned that the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 has raised an alarm over what it described as increased level of interstate movement, worsened by the dubious concealment of people in vehicles carrying food items, which if not immediately curtailed, will further increase the number of COVID-19 cases to an alarming rate, that can put the country in a precarious state;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and National Security and Intelligence to interface with the Nigeria Police Force and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSDC) to investigate the alleged complicity of their personnel in the violation of the Presidential Order banning interstate travels; and
 - (ii) urge the Federal Government to set up an a Special Task Force to monitor and implement the ban on interstate travels (**HR. 162/05/2020**).
- (ii) ***Need to Stop the Regular Invasion and Destruction of Communities in Bayelsa State by the Nigerian Military:***
Hon. Preye Influence Goodluck Oseke (*Southern Ijaw 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.

Need to Stop the Regular Invasion and Destruction of Communities in Bayelsa State by the Nigerian Military:

The House:

Notes that Section 217 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) creates the Nigerian Armed Forces for the purpose of:

- (a) defending Nigeria from external aggression,
- (b) maintaining its territorial integrity and securing its borders from violation on land, sea, or air,
- (c) suppress insurrection and act in aid of civil authorities to restore order when called upon to do so by the President but subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and other internationally prescribed rules of civil engagement,
- (d) perform such other functions as may be prescribed by an act of the National Assembly;

Also notes that as a result of the problem of Pipeline vandalism in the Niger Delta region, the late President Umaru Yar'adua Administration Commissioned a Joint Military Task Force known as Operation Polo Shield (now Operation Delta Save) which was stationed to protect oil installations, personnel and curb the menace of pipeline vandalism in the region, which

has continued to address the problem of militancy, kidnapping, sea Piracy and other general insecurity issues as they occur;

Further notes that recently there was a military operation near Foropa in Southern Ijaw Federal constituency, Bayelsa State; further heightening the fear of the people with the information that the military will return to burn down the community as has been done to several communities such as Odi, Ezetu, Letugbene, Agge, Bilabiri I and 2, Azagbene, etc in Bayelsa State and the Niger Delta region;

Informed that the invasion and destruction of communities is now the pattern of the Military in Bayelsa State whenever indigenes are suspected to have carried out any act of vandalism against oil installations. This puts the innocent and law-abiding citizens of the area in double jeopardy of attacks and reprisal attacks by both miscreants and the military;

Convinced that a globally respected Force such as the Nigerian Military cannot afford to exhibit such uncivilized acts even when provoked by the citizens, instead of engaging them in an efficient and intelligent manner through investigation in order to avoid the killing of innocent citizens;

Worried that if the pattern now adopted by the Military in Bayelsa State is not checked, the population of the State will be greatly reduced.

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn in strong terms the recurring attacks on oil & gas installations and facilities;
- (ii) also condemn the continuous sea piracy/kidnapping activities youths in the State, and resorting to using communities as hideouts, thereby jeopardizing the peace in the communities;
- (iii) call on community leaders, to at all times, prevail on their youths to explore lawful means of pursuing their demands; as well as desist from acts tantamount to aiding and abetting criminal activities in their domain;
- (iv) further condemn in strong terms these acts of destruction perpetrated by the Military in Bayelsa State;
- (v) urge the Chief of Defence Staff to order the immediate halt and further invasion and destruction of communities in Bayelsa State in whatever guise; and
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Defence to investigate the actions of the Military and report back within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Preye Influence Oseke — Southern Ijaw Federal Constituency and Four Others*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayers (i), (ii), and (iv) in the Motion (Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Notes that Section 217 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) creates the Nigerian Armed Forces for the purpose of:

- (a) defending Nigeria from external aggression,
- (b) maintaining its territorial integrity and securing its borders from violation on land, sea, or air,
- (c) suppress insurrection and act in aid of civil authorities to restore order when called upon to do so by the President but subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly and other internationally prescribed rules of civil engagement,
- (d) perform such other functions as may be prescribed by an act of the National Assembly;

Also notes that as a result of the problem of Pipeline vandalism in the Niger Delta region, the late President Umaru Yar'adua Administration Commissioned a Joint Military Task Force known as Operation Polo Shield (now Operation Delta Save) which was stationed to protect oil installations, personnel and curb the menace of pipeline vandalism in the region, which has continued to address the problem of militancy, kidnapping, sea Piracy and other general insecurity issues as they occur;

Further notes that recently there was a military operation near Foropa in Southern Ijaw Federal constituency, Bayelsa State; further heightening the fear of the people with the information that the military will return to burn down the community as has been done to several communities such as Odi, Ezetu, Letugbene, Agge, Bilabiri I and 2, Azagbene, etc in Bayelsa State and the Niger Delta region;

Informed that the invasion and destruction of communities is now the pattern of the Military in Bayelsa State whenever indigenes are suspected to have carried out any act of vandalism against oil installations. This puts the innocent and law-abiding citizens of the area in double jeopardy of attacks and reprisal attacks by both miscreants and the military;

Convinced that a globally respected Force such as the Nigerian Military cannot afford to exhibit such uncivilized acts even when provoked by the citizens, instead of engaging them in an efficient and intelligent manner through investigation in order to avoid the killing of innocent citizens;

Worried that if the pattern now adopted by the Military in Bayelsa State is not checked, the population of the State will be greatly reduced.

Resolves to:

- (i) call on community leaders, to at all times, prevail on their youths to explore lawful means of pursuing their demands; as well as desist from acts tantamount to aiding and abetting criminal activities in their domain;
- (ii) urge the Chief of Defence Staff to order the immediate halt and further invasion and destruction of communities in Bayelsa State in whatever guise; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Defence to investigate the actions of the Military and report back within six (6) weeks (**HR. 163/05/2020**).

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance” (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante — Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(iii) *Mysterious Deaths in Bonny Island, Rivers State:*

Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante (*Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro 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.

Mysterious Deaths in Bonny Island, Rivers State:

The House:

Recalls that in the last week of March 2020, there was incidence of large numbers of dead fishes around the Bonny-Andoni shores and indeed several communities in the Niger Delta region stretching up to Ondo, and Akwa Ibom States, which was brought before it for urgent attention;

Aware that less than 6 weeks later, mysterious deaths have started occurring in Bonny Island, Rivers State, which have claimed about thirteen (13) lives;

Also aware that officials of the Rivers State Ministry of Health, and the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) have collected samples from people in the area for testing to determine what was responsible for the strange deaths as some of the dead were said to have exhibited symptoms that included loss of the sense of smell, taste, fever, weakness, vomiting and stooling;

Notes that those symptoms exhibited by the victims are not exactly same as those of COVID-19 as they neither presented coughing or respiratory issues;

Also notes that Bonny is home to Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Limited and various multinational oil companies, including Royal Dutch Shell, Mobil, Chevron, Agip and Elf;

Observes that Bonny Island is a major export point for oil and it has the biggest LNG Gas Plant in Nigeria with six (6) trains, which is the main stay of the Nigerian economy.

Also observes that despite Bonny's significant contribution to the national economy, the Island can only be accessed by boats and ferries as there is no link road connecting it to other parts of Rivers State, and medical facility;

Cognizant that due to the challenges of transportation and communication in the area, it is usually difficult to get help or even access medical facilities in Port Harcourt or other parts of the State;

Believes that if the health issue is not contained, it could affect the residents and workforce of the NLNG as well as the economy of the country and could also spread from there to other parts of the Country especially in this era of COVID-19;

Also cognizant that the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Limited has been contributing to the economy and revenue profile;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) to immediately brief the Committees of the House currently investigating the incidences of washing up of dead fishes in Bonny and other Niger Delta coastal communities on their findings with regards to the strange deaths in Bonny for necessary intervention of other relevant government agencies and further legislative action;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the people of Bonny Island as an interim relief;
- (iii) call on the Federal Government to establish a Federal Medical Center in Bonny to cater for the medical needs of workers of the multinational oil and gas companies and indigenes of the area (*Hon. Awaji-Inombek Dagomie Abiante — Andoni-Opobo/Nkoro Federal Constituency and Twelve Others*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (iii) (Hon. Chinyere Igwe — Port Harcourt II Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that in the last week of March 2020, there was incidence of large numbers of dead fishes around the Bonny-Andoni shores and indeed several communities in the Niger Delta region stretching up to Ondo, and Akwa Ibom States, which was brought before it for urgent attention;

Aware that less than 6 weeks later, mysterious deaths have started occurring in Bonny Island, Rivers State, which have claimed about thirteen (13) lives;

Also aware that officials of the Rivers State Ministry of Health, and the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) have collected samples from people in the area for testing to determine what was responsible for the strange deaths as some of the dead were said to have exhibited symptoms that included loss of the sense of smell, taste, fever, weakness, vomiting and stooling;

Noted that those symptoms exhibited by the victims are not exactly same as those of COVID-19 as they neither presented coughing or respiratory issues;

Also noted that Bonny is home to Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Limited and various multinational oil companies, including Royal Dutch Shell, Mobil, Chevron, Agip and Elf;

Observed that Bonny Island is a major export point for oil and it has the biggest LNG Gas Plant in Nigeria with six (6) trains, which is the main stay of the Nigerian economy.

Also observed that despite Bonny's significant contribution to the national economy, the Island can only be accessed by boats and ferries as there is no link road connecting it to other parts of Rivers State, and medical facility;

Cognizant that due to the challenges of transportation and communication in the area, it is usually difficult to get help or even access medical facilities in Port Harcourt or other parts of the State;

Believed that if the health issue is not contained, it could affect the residents and workforce of the NLNG as well as the economy of the country and could also spread from there to other parts of the Country especially in this era of COVID-19;

Also cognizant that the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Limited has been contributing to the economy and revenue profile;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials for the people of Bonny Island as an interim relief; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Environment, Healthcare Services, and Agricultural Production and Services to invite the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) to brief the House on its findings with regards to the strange deaths in Bonny for necessary intervention of other relevant government agencies and further legislative action (**HR. 164/05/2020**).

9. Personal Explanation (Order Eight, Rule 5)

Hon. Ben Igbakpa Rollands (*Ethiophe East/Ethiophe West Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to its resolution (**HR.20/02/2020**) *vide Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 6 February, 2020, which amongst other things urged the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA), and the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to undertake urgent repairs and maintenance of Oghara - Masagar bridge to forestall imminent collapse and noted that despite the resolution of the House on the subject matter, no step had been taken to address the challenge. He prayed the House to mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to step in to avert the looming carnage on the bridge.

Mr Speaker noted his explanation.

10. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Appropriations Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 842).
- (2) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 844).

11. Presentation of Report

Ad-hoc Committee on the \$10 Million Bribery Allegations against the House of Representatives: Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the \$10 Million Bribery Allegations against the House of Representatives" (*Hon. Henry Ndochukwu Nwawuba — Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Appropriations Act, 2020 to Authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦10,509,654,033,053 (Ten Trillion, Five Hundred and Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Fifty - Four Million, Thirty-Three Thousand, Fifty-Three Naira) only, of which ₦398,505,979,362 (Three Hundred and Ninety Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixty-Two Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦2,951,710,000,000 (Two Trillion, Nine Hundred and Fifty-One Billion, Seven Hundred and Ten Million Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦4,928,525,467,849 (Four Trillion, Nine Hundred and Twenty- Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Five Million, Four Hundred and Sixty-Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Nine Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,230,912,585,842 (Two Trillion, Two Hundred and Thirty Billion, Nine Hundred and Twelve Million, Five Hundred and Eighty-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Two Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending on 31 December, 2020 (HB. 842) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Appropriations Act, 2020 to Authorize the issue from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation the total sum of ₦10,509,654,033,053 (Ten Trillion, Five Hundred and Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Fifty - Four Million, Thirty-Three Thousand, Fifty-Three Naira) only, of which ₦398,505,979,362 (Three Hundred and Ninety Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Five Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixty-Two Naira) only, is for Statutory Transfers, ₦2,951,710,000,000 (Two Trillion, Nine Hundred and Fifty-One Billion, Seven Hundred and Ten Million Naira) only, is for Debt Service, ₦4,928,525,467,849 (Four Trillion, Nine Hundred and Twenty- Eight Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Five Million, Four Hundred and Sixty-Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Nine Naira) only, is for Recurrent (Non-Debt) Expenditure while the sum of ₦2,230,912,585,842 (Two Trillion, Two Hundred and Thirty Billion, Nine Hundred and Twelve Million, Five Hundred and Eighty-Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-Two Naira) only, is for contribution to the Development Fund for Capital Expenditure for the year ending on 31 December, 2020 (HB. 842) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committees on Appropriations, and Finance.

13. **Adjournment of First Sitting**

That the House do adjourn the First Sitting till 2.25 p.m. (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.16 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker