



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 4 June, 2020

1. The House met at 11.42 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, 2 June, 2020.

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

4. **Announcement**

***Bereavement:***

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Tijjani Zannah Zakariya (Nguru/Yusufari/Karasuwa/Machina Federal Constituency), announcing the demise of a former Member, Hon. Baba Bukar Machina (Nguru/Yusufari/Karasuwa/Machina Federal Constituency) who died on Thursday, 7 May, 2020.

*A minute in silence was observed in honour of the deceased.*

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

- (i) ***Need to Condemn the Rising Cases of Sexual Violence, Police Brutality, and Other Social Vices Against Women; Justice for Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe, and Others:***

Hon. Agunsoye Oluwarotimi Ojo (Kosofe 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.*

**The Need to Condemn the Rising Cases of Sexual Violence, Police Brutality, and Other Social Vices Against Women: Justice for Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe, and Others:**

The House:

*Recalls* several media reports nationwide of gender-based violence such as rape, sexual harassment, emotional, psychological and socio-economic violence against women and girls in the recent past;

*Notes* that women and the girl child are daily exposed to these gender-based violence in Nigeria with negligible statistics of convictions compared to the prevalence of the dastardly acts;

*Cognizant* that weak institutions, poor enforcement, poverty and unacceptable social practices contribute to the ugly increase in violence against women and girls;

*Also notes* that findings show that an alarming 28% of Nigerian women aged between 25 - 29 years have experienced some form of physical violence against them, many of which remain unreported, and where reported, were not prosecuted or convictions secured;

*Further notes* the rising cases of Police brutality across Nigeria in forms of shooting, harassment, unlawful detention, extortion, etc.;

*Aware* that a few days ago, the media was awash with reports of gory cases of violence against girls, viz:

- (i) Miss Uwa Omozuwa, 22 years old 100 Level Student of University of Benin, who on Wednesday, 27 May, 2020, was found in a pool of her blood after being raped and harmed; she died afterwards,
- (ii) Miss Tina Ezekwe, aged 17, who was killed by two trigger-happy officers of the Nigeria Police Force in Oworonshoki, Lagos on Thursday, 28 May, 2020,
- (iii) the arrest by the Police in Jigawa State, on Saturday, 30 May, 2020, of 11 men (including a 57-year-old man), who lured and raped a 12-year-old minor;

*Also cognizant* of the need for the Government to put in place a policy and legislative framework to stem the rising violence against women as well as improve and support measures aimed at women and girls in Nigeria;

*Concerned* that Nigeria lacks a strong national response to support victims and survivors of violence against women and girls and determined to ensure safety, equality, inclusion and protection of the rights of women and girls in Nigeria;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to immediately cause investigations into the cases of Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe, the reported rape of a minor in Jigawa State, as well as all other reported cases of violence against women, with a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to launch a more effective campaign against rape and other violence against women and girls;

- (iii) mandate Members to dress in black, at the next sitting, in solidarity with late Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe and other victims of rape and violence against women and girls in Nigeria.
- (iv) also mandate Members to dress in black, at the next sitting, in solidarity with late George Floyd and all other victims of racial discrimination and police brutality in the United States of America and the world at large;
- (v) observe a minute silence in honour of late Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe and all other girls and women who had died as a result of rape or Police brutality (*Hon. Rotimi Agunsoye — Kosofe Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendments Proposed:**

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (vi) as follows:  
“Urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA), to embark on an enlightenment programme to educate the public on the evil effects of violence, rape and incest in the society” (*Hon. Lynda Chuba Ikpeazu — Onitsha North/Onitsha South Federal Constituency*)

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

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (vii) as follows:  
“Urge the National Assembly amend the relevant laws to include castration of men who rape minor” (*Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency*)

*Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.*

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (vii) as follows:  
“Urge the Federal Government to direct State Governments to domesticate; the Child’s Rights Act, 2003, Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (VAPA), 2015, and Anti-Rape Law” (*Hon. Ahmed Jaha — Chibok/Damboia /Gwoza Federal Constituency*)

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

- (iv) *Insert* a new Prayer (viii) as follows:  
“Advise women to cultivate the habit of dressing properly and decently to avoid unnecessary harassment and abuse by men” (*Hon. Ahmed Jaha — Chibok/Damboia /Gwoza Federal Constituency*)

*Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.*

- (v) *Insert* a new Prayer (viii) as follows:  
“Urge the Inspector-General of Police to set up units in all Police formations for the investigation of rape cases throughout the country and equip the units” (*Hon. Mohammed Shehu Koko — Koko-Besse/Maiyama Federal Constituency*)

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

- (vi) *Insert* a new Prayer (ix) as follows:  
“Urge the Inspector-General of Police to give priority to the investigation of rape incidences and charge any police officer who intimidates or ridicules victims as an accessory after the act” (*Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe — Oluyole Federal Constituency*)

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

- (vii) *Insert a new Prayer (x) as follows:*  
“Urge the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria to declare a state of emergency on sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria” (*Hon. Taiwo Oluga — Irewole/Ayedaade/Isokan Federal Constituency*)

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

- (viii) *Insert a new Prayer (xi) as follows:*  
“Mandate the Committees on Justice, Human Rights, and Women Affairs and Social Development to interface with the National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, and the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) with a view to providing a detailed report on the sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria” (*Hon. Taiwo Oluga — Irewole/Ayedaade/Isokan Federal Constituency*)

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

- (ix) *Insert a new Prayer (xii) as follows:*  
“Urge the Inspector-General of Police to upgrade the appropriate infrastructure in the forensic department of the Police to aid the investigation of rape incidences” (*Hon. Babajimi Benson — Ikorodu Federal Constituency*)

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

- (x) *Insert a new Prayer (xiii) as follows:*  
“Urge the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) to keep a register of convicted rapists and make same public with photographs” (*Hon. Enitan Dolapo Badru — Lagos Island I Federal Constituency*)

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

- (xi) *Insert a new Prayer (xiv) as follows:*  
“Mandate the Committee on Justice to interface with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), and the Minister of Justice on the effective implementation of sex offenders register as well as finding ways of rewarding persons who vehemently provide information about suspected gender-based violators” (*Hon. Ndudi Elumelu — Aniocha North/Aniocha South/Oshimili North/Oshimili South Federal Constituency*)

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

- (xii) *Insert a new Prayer (xv) as follows:*  
“Urge the Executive Arm of Government to protect with utmost importance, the rights, dignity and privacy of women, and also protect the victims of rape from stigmatization at all stages of prosecution” (*Hon. Abubakar Sulaiman Gumi — Gumi/Bukkuyum Federal Constituency*)

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

- (xiii) *Leave out Prayer (iv) (Hon. Chinedu Obidigwe — Anambra East/Anambra West Federal Constituency)*

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

- (xiv) *In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “against women”, insert the word “men” (Hon. Samuel Chinedu Onwuaso — Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency)*

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

(xii) *Insert a new Prayer (xvi) as follows:*

“Urge the Judiciary as a matter of urgency, to attend to all inconclusive cases in respect of rape to serve as deterrent” (*Hon. Ogunlola Omowumi Olubunmi — Ijero/Ekiti West/Efon Federal Constituency*)

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

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

The House:

*Recalled* several media reports nationwide of gender-based violence such as rape, sexual harassment, emotional, psychological and socio-economic violence against women and girls in the recent past;

*Noted* that women and the girl child are daily exposed to these gender-based violence in Nigeria with negligible statistics of convictions compared to the prevalence of the dastardly acts;

*Cognizant* that weak institutions, poor enforcement, poverty and unacceptable social practices contribute to the ugly increase in violence against women and girls;

*Also noted* that findings show that an alarming 28% of Nigerian women aged between 25 - 29 years have experienced some form of physical violence against them, many of which remain unreported, and where reported, were not prosecuted or convictions secured;

*Further noted* the rising cases of Police brutality across Nigeria in forms of shooting, harassment, unlawful detention, extortion, etc.;

*Aware* that a few days ago, the media was awash with reports of gory cases of violence against girls, viz:

- (i) Miss Uwa Omozuwa, 22 years old 100 Level Student of University of Benin, who on Wednesday, 27 May, 2020, was found in a pool of her blood after being raped and harmed; she died afterwards,
- (ii) Miss Tina Ezekwe, aged 17, who was killed by two trigger-happy officers of the Nigeria Police Force in Oworonshoki, Lagos on Thursday, 28 May, 2020,
- (iii) the arrest by the Police in Jigawa State, on Saturday, 30 May, 2020, of 11 men (including a 57-year-old man), who lured and raped a 12-year-old minor;

*Also cognizant* of the need for the Government to put in place a policy and legislative framework to stem the rising violence against women as well as improve and support measures aimed at women and girls in Nigeria;

*Concerned* that Nigeria lacks a strong national response to support victims and survivors of violence against women and girls and determined to ensure safety, equality, inclusion and protection of the rights of women and girls in Nigeria;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Inspector-General of Police to immediately cause investigations into the cases of Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe, the reported rape of a minor in Jigawa State, as well as all other reported cases of violence against women, and men, with a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to launch a more effective campaign against rape and other violence against women and girls;
- (iii) mandate Members to dress in black, at the next sitting, in solidarity with late Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe and other victims of rape and violence against women and girls in Nigeria.
- (iv) observe a minute silence in honour of late Uwa Omozuwa, Tina Ezekwe and all other girls and women who had died as a result of rape or Police brutality;
- (v) urge the National Orientation Agency (NOA), to embark on an enlightenment programme to educate the public on the evil effects of violence, rape and incest in the society;
- (vi) urge the Federal Government to direct State Governments to domesticate; the Child's Rights Act, 2003, Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (VAPA), 2015, and Anti-Rape;
- (vii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to set up units in all Police formations for the investigation of rape cases throughout the country and equip the units;
- (viii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to give priority to the investigation of rape incidences and charge any police officer who intimidates or ridicules victims as an accessory after the act;
- (ix) urge the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria to declare a state of emergency on sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria;
- (x) mandate the Committees on Justice, Human Rights, and Women Affairs and Social Development to interface with the National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, and the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) with a view to providing a detailed report on the sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria;
- (xi) urge the Inspector-General of Police to upgrade the appropriate infrastructure in the forensic department of the Police to aid the investigation of rape incidences;
- (xii) urge the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) to keep a register of convicted rapists and make same public with photographs;
- (xiii) also mandate the Committee on Justice to interface with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), and the Minister of Justice on the effective implementation of sex offenders register as well as finding ways of rewarding persons who vehemently provide information about suspected gender-based violators;
- (xiv) urge the Executive Arm of Government to protect with utmost importance, the rights, dignity and privacy of women, and also protect the victims of rape from stigmatization at all stages of prosecution;

- (xv) urge the Judiciary as a matter of urgency, to attend to all inconclusive cases in respect of rape to serve as deterrent (**HR. 174/06/2020**).

**Ordered: Committees on Justice, Human Rights, and Women Affairs and Social Development to present to the House Amendment Bills to existing laws on rape and report back within four weeks.**

*A minute in silence was observed in honour of the deceased.*

**(ii) Need for the Relevant Security Agencies to Bring to an End the Spate of Mindless Kidnappings, Killings and Armed Banditry Attacks Across the Country:**

Hon. Sada Soli (*Jibia/Kaita 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 for the Relevant Security Agencies to Bring An End to the Spate of Mindless Kidnappings, Killings, and Armed Banditry Across the Country:**

The House:

*Notes* that in recent times, the security situation in many parts of the country has degenerated;

*Also notes* that cases of kidnapping, killing, and armed banditry have become a daily occurrence across the country, especially in Niger, Sokoto, Zamfara, Kaduna, and Katsina States;

*Cognizant* of the Presidential directives which has not helped to drastically reduce cases of kidnapping, killing and banditry in the country due to lack of sustained tempo in the intervention such that criminals have continued to regroup in different camps across the country;

*Worried* that the magnitude of the attacks on various communities have reached an alarming rate as those criminals have continued to perpetuate their criminal acts unabated and if this criminality is not urgently addressed, there will be an imminent danger to food security in the country;

*Concerned* that any deferment by the security agencies to check the continuous horror and inhumanity will result in enormous loss of lives, destruction of properties and stunting of the socio-economic and educational activities of communities across the country;

*Aware* that the country is battling to contain the high rate and dangerous community infection phase of COVID-19, added to the persistent attacks by criminals on farming communities across the country, especially in the North-West and North-Central Zones of the country, if these are not addressed quickly, it may result to serious food shortage in the coming years;

*Also aware* that about 500 Primary Schools and 2,000 communities were completely destroyed across the affected States as a result of the incessant kidnapping, killing and armed banditry attacks;



*Observes* that those criminals are usually armed to the teeth with weapons supplied by gun runners living in the cosmopolitan cities across the country;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) summon the National Security Adviser, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Director-General, Department of State Security, and the Inspector-General of Police to brief the House within one week on the efforts being made and the way forward to bringing an end to these killings, kidnappings and armed banditry;
- (ii) mandate the Leadership of the House to continue the engagement with all the security agencies and report on monthly basis the progress being made until normalcy is restored (*Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that in recent times, the security situation in many parts of the country has degenerated;

*Also noted* that cases of kidnapping, killing, and armed banditry have become a daily occurrence across the country, especially in Niger, Sokoto, Zamfara, Kaduna, and Katsina States;

*Cognizant* of the Presidential directives which has not helped to drastically reduce cases of kidnapping, killing and banditry in the country due to lack of sustained tempo in the intervention such that criminals have continued to regroup in different camps across the country;

*Worried* that the magnitude of the attacks on various communities have reached an alarming rate as those criminals have continued to perpetuate their criminal acts unabated and if this criminality is not urgently addressed, there will be an imminent danger to food security in the country;

*Concerned* that any deferment by the security agencies to check the continuous horror and inhumanity will result in enormous loss of lives, destruction of properties and stunting of the socio-economic and educational activities of communities across the country;

*Aware* that the country is battling to contain the high rate and dangerous community infection phase of COVID-19, added to the persistent attacks by criminals on farming communities across the country, especially in the North-West and North-Central Zones of the country, if these are not addressed quickly, it may result to serious food shortage in the coming years;

*Also aware* that about 500 Primary Schools and 2,000 communities were completely destroyed across the affected States as a result of the incessant kidnapping, killing and armed banditry attacks;

*Observed* that those criminals are usually armed to the teeth with weapons supplied by gun runners living in the cosmopolitan cities across the country;



*Resolved to:*

- (i) summon the National Security Adviser, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Director-General, Department of State Security, and the Inspector-General of Police to brief the House within one week on the efforts being made and the way forward to bringing an end to these killings, kidnappings and armed banditry;
- (ii) mandate the Leadership of the House to continue the engagement with all the security agencies and report on monthly basis the progress being made until normalcy is restored (HR. 175/06/2020).

**6. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Animal Diseases (Control) Act, Cap. A17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Animal Diseases (Control) Bill for the Purpose of Prevention, Detection, Control, and Eradication of Infectious and Contagious Transboundary and Zoonotic Animal Diseases; the Prevention of Antimicrobial Resistance through the Control and Regulation of the use and Administration of Veterinary Biologics, Veterinary Drugs and Chemicals in Animals, Animal Products, and Medicated Animal Feeds as well as the Sales and Distribution of Pet Foods, Veterinary Medical Devices and Other Veterinary Products; and for the Enhancement of Animal Welfare and Food Safety; and Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 428) — *Third Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Animal Diseases (Control) Act, Cap. A17, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Animal Diseases (Control) Bill for the Purpose of Prevention, Detection, Control, and Eradication of Infectious and Contagious Transboundary and Zoonotic Animal Diseases; the Prevention of Antimicrobial Resistance through the Control and Regulation of the use and Administration of Veterinary Biologics, Veterinary Drugs and Chemicals in Animals, Animal Products, and Medicated Animal Feeds as well as the Sales and Distribution of Pet Foods, Veterinary Medical Devices and Other Veterinary Products; and for the Enhancement of Animal Welfare and Food Safety; and Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 428) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

**7. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Commission for Refugees Act, Cap. N21, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons Act for the Management, Rehabilitation, Return, Reintegration and Resettlement of Refugees, Migrants and Victims of Displacement; and for Related Matters (HB. 171) — *Third Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the National Commission for Refugees Act, Cap. N21, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons Act for the Management, Rehabilitation, Return, Reintegration and Resettlement of Refugees, Migrants and Victims of Displacement; and for Related Matters (HB. 171) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

**8. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Film Corporation Act, Cap. N109, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Nigerian Film Commission Act, 2020, to Regulate and Develop the Film Industry in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 324) — *Third Reading***

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Film Corporation Act, Cap. N109, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Nigerian Film

Commission Act, 2020, to Regulate and Develop the Film Industry in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 324) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

9. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, No. 17, 2017 to Allocate one percent of the Maritime Funds to the Fund Established under Section 6 of the Maritime Operation Coordinating Board Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 477) — Third Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, No. 17, 2017 to Allocate one percent of the Maritime Funds to the Fund Established under Section 6 of the Maritime Operation Coordinating Board Act; and for Related Matters (HB. 477) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Bill read the Third Time and passed.*

10. **Orders of the Day**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That the House do set down the Presentation of First Reading Bills, and item 5 on the Order Paper to another legislative day, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 6 (3)” (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

11. **Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 9 June, 2020 at 11.00 a.m.* (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*The House adjourned accordingly at 3.32 p.m.*

**Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila**  
*Speaker*