



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

STANDING ORDERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ninth Edition



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMPLEX, ABUJA

Ordered to be Printed - 23rd March, 2016



OPENING PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD, Creator and Ruler of Heaven and Earth, we beseech Thee to inspire and guide all our counsels and actions, so that we may always walk in the path of justice, love and charity to one another.

Help us with Thy Grace to do only those things that will promote the peace, unity, happiness and prosperity of Nigeria.

Amen.

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMPLEX
ABUJA**

2016

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Abuja

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents	Page
ORDER ONE - RULES FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS	
1. Business of the House of conducted according to Standing Orders	1
ORDER TWO - MEETING OF NEW PARLIAMENT	
1. First day of meeting of the House	2
ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS	
2. Election to take precedence over any other business	2
3. Election of Speaker	3
4. Election of the Deputy Speaker	5
5. Declaration of Assets and Liabilities and Oaths	5
6. Speaker takes Chair and Mace laid upon the Table	5
7. Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Membership	6
8. Vacancy in the office of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker	6
9. Language	6
ORDER THREE - MEMBERS	
1. Members to leave address with the Clerk	7
2. Journeys abroad	7
3. Attendance at sittings	7
4. Mode of resignation from the House	7
5. Despatch of letter of resignation	8
ORDER FOUR - QUORUM	
1. Quorum	9
ORDER FIVE - SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE	
1. Seats of Members	11
2. Re-assembly of the House	11

ORDER SIX - PRIVILEGES

1. Definition	14
2. Privilege	14
3. Procedure on Matter of Privilege	15
4. Complaints against Publications	15
5. Matter of privilege raised when House is not sitting	17

ORDER SEVEN - DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

1. The Speaker	17
2. Duties of the Deputy Speaker	19
3. Speaker Pro-Tempore	19
4. Majority Leadership	19
5. Whip of the House	23
6. Deputy House Leader	23
7. Deputy Whip of the House	23
8. Minority Leadership	24
9. Minority Leader	24
10. Minority Whip	24
11. Deputy Minority Leader	25
12. Deputy Minority Whip	25
13. Change of Leadership	25
14. Principal Officers of the House	25
15. Duties of the Clerk	26
16. Absence of the Clerk	27
17. Vacancy in the Office of the Clerk	27
18. Duties of the Sergeant-At-Arms	27
19. Jurisdiction of Sergeant-At-Arms	28

ORDER EIGHT - ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

1. Order of Business	29
2. Message from the President	30
3. Petition(s)	30
4. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance	32
5. Personal Explanation	32
6. Order of the Day	33
7. Suspension of Rules	33

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

8.	Notice of Motions	35
9.	Procedure for giving Notices	36
10.	Relevance of Amendments	37
11.	Seconding Motions and Amendments	37
12.	Method of putting the Question on Amendments	37
13.	Withdrawal of Motions or Amendments	38
14.	Dispensing with Notice	38

ORDER NINE - RULES OF DEBATE

1.	Rules of Debate	39
2.	Raising a point of Order	40
3.	Time Limit and Sequence of Speeches	40

BEHAVIOUR OF MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE

4.	Decorum	42
5.	Relevance in Debate	42
6.	Dilatory Motions	42
7.	Closure of Debates	42
8.	Adjournment of Debate	42
9.	If Motion negatived, Mover may speak later	42
10.	Anticipation	42

ORDER TEN - ORDER IN THE HOUSE

1.	The Speaker to be heard in silence	47
2.	Decision of the Chair is final	47
3.	Speaker to advise House when Motion is out of order	47
4.	Member called to Order	47
5.	Contempt in the face of the House or Committee	51
6.	Contempt Ex facie	52
7.	Strangers excluded on Motion	52
8.	No Stranger on Floor, etc during meetings	52
9.	Matter not open to Debate	53

ORDER ELEVEN - VOTING

1.	Voting	54
2.	Division in the House and Committee of the Whole House	54

3.	Division in Committee other than Committee of the Whole House	58
----	---	----

ORDER TWELVE - PROCEDURE ON BILLS

1.	Notice regarding Bills	60
2.	Presentation and First Reading	60
3.	Appointment days for stages of Bills	61
4.	Seconding Reading Bills	61
5.	Committal of Bills	62
6.	Scope of Amendments in Committee	63
7.	Procedure in Standing Committee on Bills	63
8.	Quorum in Committee of the whole House	64
9.	Procedure on Bills in the Committee of the whole House	64
10.	Re-committal and Third Reading	65
11.	Meeting of Conference Committee	68
12.	Assent	69
13.	Withdrawal of Bills	69
14.	Bills on the same subject matter	69
15.	Bills affecting private rights	70
16.	Outstanding Bills from the Preceding Assembly	72
17.	Business continued from session to session	72
18.	Business continued from Assembly to Assembly	72
19.	Procedure on money Bills (Budget)	73

ORDER THIRTEEN - PROCEDURE FOR ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION

1.	Procedure for Altering the Constitution	79
----	---	----

ORDER FOURTEEN - PROCEEDINGS ON TREATIES

1.	Treaties laid before the House	82
2.	Treaties resumed from Session to Session	82

ORDER FIFTEEN - PROCEEDING ON PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

1.	Proclamation of a State of Emergency	83
2.	Receipt of Proclamation Documents	83
3.	Briefing of House	84
4.	Approval of Proclamation	84

ORDER SIXTEEN - ANNUAL REPORTS, SESSIONAL PAPERS AND SECTORAL DEBATES

1.	Time for Presenting Statutory Reports	85
2.	List of Documents tabled and outstanding	86
3.	Sectoral Debates	86

ORDER SEVENTEEN - MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

1.	Membership Appointment	87
2.	Sub-Committees	88
3.	Rules of Procedures for Committees in General	88
4.	Regular Meeting Days	89
5.	Additional and Special Meetings	91
6.	Opening Meeting and Hearing	93
7.	Quorum for taking testimony and certain other actions	95
8.	Calling and Interrogation of Witnesses	96
9.	Investigative Hearing Procedures	96
10.	Limitation on the Jurisdiction of Committees	98

ORDER EIGHTEEN - COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT AND JURISDICTION OF COMMITTEES

A - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1.	Special Committees	99
2.	Committee on Selection	99
3.	Committee on Rules and Business	101
4.	Committee on House Services	102
5.	Committee on Public Petitions	103
6.	Committee on Public Accounts	104
7.	Committee on Ethics and Privileges	105
8.	Committee on Media and Public Affairs	
9.	Other Special Ad-hoc Committees	109

B - STANDING COMMITTEES

10.	Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions	109
11.	Committee on Agricultural Production and Services	112
12.	Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management	114
13.	Committee on Airforce	115
14.	Committee on Anti-Corruption	115
15.	Committee on Appropriations	116
16.	Committee on Army	119

17.	Committee on Aviation	119
18.	Committee on Banking and Currency	120
19.	Committee on Basic Education and Services	121
20.	Committee on Capital Market and Institutions	122
21.	Committee on Civil Society and Development Partners	123
22.	Committee on Climate Change	124
23.	Committee on Commerce	125
24.	Committee on Constituency Outreach	126
25.	Committee on Co-operation and Integration in Africa	127
26.	Committee on Culture and Tourism	127
27.	Committee on Customs and Excise	128
28.	Committee on Defence	129
29.	Committee on Delegated Legislations	131
30.	Committee on Diaspora	133
31.	Committee on Electoral and Political Party Matters	134
32.	Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness	135
33.	Committee on Environment and Habitat	136
34.	Committee on Federal Capital Territory	139
35.	Committee on FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters	141
36.	Committee on Federal Character	143
37.	Committee on Federal Judiciary	144
38.	Committee on FCT Judiciary	145
39.	Committee on Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA)	145
40.	Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC)	146
41.	Committee on Finance	147
42.	Committee on Financial Crimes	148
43.	Committee on FOI (Reform of Government Institutions)	149
44.	Committee on Foreign Affairs	150
45.	Committee on Gas Resources	152
46.	Committee on Governmental Affairs	153
47.	Committee on Healthcare Services	154
48.	Committee on Health Institutions	155
49.	Committee on HIV, AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control	156

50.	Committee on Housing	157
51.	Committee on Human Rights	158
52.	Committee on Industry	159
53.	Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values	161
54.	Committee on Information Technology	162
55.	Committee on Insurance and Actuarial Matters	164
56.	Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North-East Zone	165
57.	Committee on Interior	166
58.	Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations	168
59.	Committee on Justice	170
60.	Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity	171
61.	Committee on Lake Chad	172
62.	Committee on Land Transport	173
63.	Committee on Legislative Budget and Research	173
64.	Committee on Legislative Compliance	174
65.	Committee on Local Content	175
66.	Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration	176
67.	Committee on Narcotic Drugs	177
68.	Committee on National Planning and Economic Development	177
69.	Committee on Navy	178
70.	Committee on National Security and Intelligence	179
71.	Committee on Niger-Delta Development Commission	180
72.	Committee on Niger-Delta Ministry	180
73.	Committee on Pensions	181
74.	Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream)	183
75.	Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)	184
76.	Committee on Police Affairs	186
77.	Committee on Population	186
78.	Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways	188
79.	Committee on Poverty Alleviation	189
80.	Committee on Power	189
81.	Committee on Privatization and Commercialization	190

82.	Committee on Public Procurement	191
83.	Committee on Public Service Matters	193
84.	Committee on Rural Development	193
85.	Committee on Science and Technology	193
86.	Committee on Solid Minerals Development	194
87.	Committee on Special Duties	195
88.	Committee on Sports	197
89.	Committee on Steel	199
90.	Committee on Sustainable Development Goals	200
91.	Committee on Telecommunications	200
92.	Committee on Tertiary Education and Services	201
93.	Committee on Treaties, Protocol and Agreements	206
94.	Committee on Urban Development and Regional Planning	203
95.	Committee on Water Resources	204
96.	Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development	205
97.	Committee on Women in Parliament	206
98.	Committee on Works	207
99.	Committee on Youth Development	208

ORDER NINETEEN - MISCELLANEOUS

1.	Joint Finance Committee	210
2.	Absence of Members	210
3.	Official Reports	210
4.	Employment of Members in Professional Capacity	211
5.	Strangers	211
6.	Press	211
7.	Mode of amending the Rules	212
8.	Privileges of the Floor	212
9.	Executive Session	214

DEFINITIONS

1.	Definitions	215
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INDEX

1.	A - Z	216 - 225
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ORDER ONE**RULES FOR CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

1. (1) The Proceedings in the House of Representatives and in all Committees of the House shall be conducted in accordance with these Standing Orders.

Business of
the House
conducted
according
to Standing
Orders.

(2) In all cases not provided for hereinafter, or by Sessional or other Orders, precedents or practices of the House, the House shall, by resolution, regulate its procedure.

ORDER TWO

MEETING OF NEW PARLIAMENT

First day of
meeting of
the House.

1. (1) On the first day of the meeting of a new House of Representatives pursuant to the Proclamation of the President, members-elect shall assemble at the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the time so appointed.

Clerk reads
Proclamation/
Confirmation
of the
Certificates of
Return.

(2) Members-elect having assembled, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall conduct the proceeding of this session of the House as prescribed in the Standing Orders of the immediate past House of Representatives as follows:

(a) Call the House to order;

(b) Read the proclamation for holding the first session of the House;

(c) Proceed to roll call and confirm receipt of Certificates of Return, acknowledgment of Declaration of Assets and other requisite documents of members-elect in alphabetical order of States.

(3) After the roll call, but before their swearing in, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall preside over the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

Election
takes
precedence
over any
other
business.

2. (1) The election of the Speaker shall take precedence over any other business and no motion for adjournment or any other motion shall be entertained while it is proceeding and the House shall continue to meet, if necessary, beyond its

ordinary daily time of adjournment, notwithstanding any Standing or Special Order, until a Speaker is declared elected.

(2) A member-elect may, before taking the Oaths prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, take part in the elections of Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

3. The election of Speaker shall be conducted in the following manner: **Election of Speaker.**

(a) A Member-elect, addressing the Clerk, shall propose another member-elect with legislative experience as member of the National Assembly to be Speaker and shall move that such member-elect, "Do take the Chair as Speaker of the House of Representatives". **Nomination of member-elect.**

(b) A Member-elect when nominated and seconded shall inform the House whether he accepts or declines the nomination. **Member-elect informs the House if nomination is accepted.**

(c) The member-elect so nominated may address the House for a maximum period of 5 minutes for the purpose of (b) above.

(d) The Clerk shall, where the Nominee accepts, then ask "Are there any further nominations?", and if there are no further nominations, the Clerk shall say "I declare the nominations closed". The Clerk shall then declare the member-elect so proposed and seconded, elected as Speaker. Such member-elect shall be conducted to the Chair by the proposer and seconder of the motion, and shall take the chair of the House as Speaker. **Procedure if only one member-elect is nominated.**

Procedure if two members-elect are nominated.

(e) If more than one Member-elect is proposed as Speaker, the Clerk shall, after the second nomination and after each subsequent nomination, if any is made and seconded and accepted or declined, ask: "Are there any further nominations?", and if there are no further nominations, the Clerk shall say, "I declare the nominations closed".

Methods of Voting.

(f) When two or more Members-elect are nominated and seconded as Speaker and where the two or more accept, the election shall be conducted as follows:

Tellers.

(i) By electronic voting; or

(ii) Voting by secret ballot which shall be conducted by the Clerks-at-Table, using the list of the Members-elect of the House, who shall each be given a ballot paper to cast his vote, with the proposer and seconder as Tellers.

Speaker-elect.

(iii) The Clerk of the House shall submit the result of the voting to the Clerk to the National Assembly who shall then declare the member-elect who has received the highest number of votes as Speaker-elect.

Procedure if more than two members-elect are nominated.

(g) When more than two Members-elect are nominated and seconded to be Speaker and where two or more accept, the division shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Rule 3 (f) herein and the Member-elect who has received more than one-half of the votes shall be the Speaker-elect. In the event of no Member-elect having received more than one-half of votes in the division, the name of the candidate having the smallest number of votes shall be excluded from subsequent divisions, a further

division shall take place. This voting shall continue until one candidate is declared as Speaker-elect by such majority.

(h) In the event of an equality of votes, the Clerk shall cause further voting to be held. **Equality of votes.**

(i) At any time after the result of the first voting is declared, but before the commencement of a second or subsequent voting, a candidate may withdraw his name from the election, which shall then proceed as if such member-elect had not been nominated. Whenever at any stage a withdrawal leaves only one candidate remaining, such a candidate shall, without further voting, be declared as Speaker elect. **Candidate withdraws name.**

(j) During the election of the Speaker, there shall be no debate, no point of order and no question of privilege may be raised. **No debate or question of privilege.**

(k) All members-elect shall participate in the elections of Speaker and Deputy Speaker. **Voting.**

4. The procedure for the election of the Deputy Speaker shall be the same as that of the Speaker. **Election of the Deputy Speaker.**

5. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker shall declare their assets and liabilities and subsequently take and subscribe to the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Membership as prescribed in the Constitution, before the Clerk to the National Assembly. **Declaration of Assets and Liabilities and Oaths.**

6. Having been sworn in, the Speaker renders his acknowledgment to the House for the honour conferred upon him, and thereupon sits on the chair and then the Mace (which hitherto lay on the Table. **Speaker takes Chair and Mace laid upon the Table.**

the lower bracket) shall be laid on the upper bracket of the Table.

**Oath of
Allegiance
and Oath of
Membership**

7. Every member-elect shall, before taking his seat, take and subscribe to the Oath/Affirmation of Allegiance and Oath of Membership prescribed in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, before the Speaker.

**Vacancy in
the offices
of the
Speaker or
Deputy
Speaker.**

8. Whenever a vacancy has occurred in the offices of Speaker or Deputy Speaker during a session, the Clerk shall report same to the House at its next sitting, and the House shall either forthwith, or at its next sitting, proceed to the election of a new Speaker or Deputy Speaker in the manner herein before provided.

Language.

9. The proceedings and debates of the House shall be conducted in English, and in Hausa or Igbo or Yoruba when adequate arrangements have been made thereto. A member may however present a petition in any other language if the petition be accompanied by an English translation certified to be correct by the member presenting the petition.

ORDER THREE

MEMBERS

1. Every member shall, at the commencement of each Session, or as soon as he has taken his seat, enter his name and address, and also his address during the Session, in a book to be kept by the Clerk of the House.

**Members to
leave
address
with the
Clerk.**

2. A member going abroad must so inform the Speaker, and must indicate the purpose, the time of his stay abroad and his whereabouts.

**Journeys
abroad.**

3. A member shall, to the best of his ability, regularly attend the sittings of the House and those of the Committees of which he is a member

**Attendance
at Sittings.**

4. (1) A member shall resign his seat in the House by writing to the Speaker which letter shall be submitted personally by him to the Speaker in the open session of the House on the legislative day preceding the date of resignation.

**Mode of
resignation
from the
House.**

(2) The Speaker shall cause the letter to be read by the Clerk as soon as it is received and may allow a short debate on it. The letter shall be published in the Votes and Proceedings of the House.

Despatch of
letter of
resignation.

5. If a member is unable to submit his letter of resignation personally to the Speaker as herein before provided, he shall send it:

(a) if in the country — through someone authorised for this purpose in writing to the Speaker;

(b) if abroad — through a diplomatic or consular representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

the person authorised as stated in paragraph (a), or the representative as stated in paragraph (b), shall verify the member's signature on the resignation and mark on it the date of the signature.

ORDER FOUR

QUORUM

1. (1) The quorum of the House shall be **Quorum.**
one-third of all the members of the House.

(2) If any member draws the attention of the Speaker to the fact that a quorum of the House is not present, or if, from the number of members taking part in a division, including those members who declined to vote, it appears that a quorum is not constituted, the Speaker shall cause members to be summoned as if for a division. At the expiration of fifteen minutes from such order, the Speaker shall count the House and, if a quorum is not then constituted, shall adjourn the House forthwith.

(3) If notice be taken in a Committee of the Whole House that a quorum is not present, the Chairman shall follow the course pursued by the Speaker in accordance with paragraph (2) of this Rule. If he ascertains that less than one-third of all the members are present, the Chairman shall leave the Chair, and the House shall be resumed; whereupon the Speaker shall count the House. If a quorum is then present, the House shall again resolve itself into Committee but if a quorum is not present, the Speaker shall adjourn the House forthwith.

**Quorum in
Committee
of the
Whole.**

(4) If, from the number of Members taking part in a division, including those members who declined to vote, it appears that a

quorum is not constituted, the division shall be invalid, the business then under consideration shall stand over until the next sitting and the Speaker shall count the House as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Rule. If a quorum is then constituted, the next business shall be entered upon.

Quorum at
Joint
Sitting.

(5) In the event of a Joint sitting, the quorum shall be One-Third of all the Members of the National Assembly.

ORDER FIVE

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

1. (1) The Speaker shall allocate a seat to each member, provided that the Speaker may change the allocation from time to time. **Seats of Members.**

(2) A member may only speak from the seat allocated to him.

(3) A Member shall address the House standing, except he is physically challenged or at the discretion of the Presiding Officer.

2. (1) Whenever the House shall stand adjourned to a date not fixed and it is represented to the Speaker by the Leaders of the Political Parties in the House that the House shall meet on a certain day at a certain time, the Speaker shall give notice accordingly and the House shall meet on the date and at the time stated in the notice. **Re-assembly of the House.**

(2) Whenever the House stands adjourned either to a date fixed by Resolution or the Rule of the House, and it is represented by the Leaders of the Political Parties in the House to the Speaker that the public interest requires that the House should meet on an earlier or a later date or time than that on which it stands adjourned, the Speaker may give notice accordingly, and the House shall meet on the date and at the time stated in the notice.

(3) Whenever the Speaker shall have given notice in accordance with either of the two preceding paragraphs, the Clerk shall communicate the terms of the notice to each member.

Sitting of
the House.

(4) On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the House shall sit at 10.00 a.m. and unless previously adjourned, shall sit until 6.00 p.m, provided that at 1.30 p.m. the Speaker may suspend the sitting until 2.00 p.m.

(5) On Fridays, the House may meet at 9.00 a.m. and if not previously adjourned, may sit until noon.

(6) Without prejudice to the above, the House shall sit on such days as the Speaker, having regard to the state of business of the House, may from time to time direct.

(7) On the interruption of business, the closure may be moved and if moved or if proceedings under Order 9, Rule 7 (Closure of Debates) be then in progress, the Speaker or the Chairman shall not leave the Chair until the questions consequent thereon and on any further motion as provided in Order 9, Rule 7 (Closure of Debates) have been decided, even though the divisions on such questions carry on beyond the time appointed for the rising of the House. In that event, immediately such questions have been decided, or if in Committee, as soon as the Chairman's report

has been received, the Speaker shall adjourn the House without question put.

(8) Until the time appointed for the termination of a sitting is reached, the House shall not adjourn except in pursuance of a resolution, the motion for which may be made by the Leader of the House or any other Member, as the Presiding Officer may direct.

(9) At the time appointed for the termination of a sitting, the Speaker shall adjourn the House without question put.

(10) On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, proceedings in pursuance of the provisions of any Act may be entered upon or continued after 6.00 p.m. and on any such day such proceedings, if under discussion at 5.45 p.m. shall not be interrupted until they have been disposed of, the Speaker shall not accept any motion for the adjournment of the House under paragraph (8) of the Rule.

(11) When all business referred to in paragraph (8) of this Rule has been disposed of, the Speaker shall then, if it be after 6.00 p.m, adjourn the House without question being put.

ORDER SIX

PRIVILEGES

Definition.

1. (1) Privileges are the rights enjoyed by the House collectively and by the members of the House individually, conferred by the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act, Cap. L12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and other Statutes, Practices, Precedents, Usages and Customs.

Matter of Privilege.

(2) Whenever a matter of privilege arises, it shall be taken into consideration immediately.

(3) A Member raising a matter of privilege shall draw the attention of the House to the provision(s) of the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act and other Statutes breached in relation to him.

(4) In cases where adequate provision is not made in these Standing Orders, the House shall by Resolution regulate its procedure on privileges.

Privilege.

2. Any member may rise at any time to speak upon a matter of privilege suddenly arising, and he shall be prepared to move, without notice, a motion declaring that a contempt or breach of privilege has been committed, or referring the matter to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges, but if the matter is raised in Committee of the Whole

House, the Chairman shall leave the Chair on an order to report progress.

3. A matter of privilege at any time arising shall, until disposed of, or until the debate on a motion thereon is adjourned, suspend the consideration and decision of every other question: Provided that precedence over other business shall not be given to any motion if, in the opinion of the Speaker, a prima facie case of breach of privilege has not been made out or the matter has not been raised at the earliest opportunity.

Procedure on matter of privilege.

4. Any member complaining to the House of a statement in a newspaper, book or other publication as a breach of privilege shall produce a copy of the newspaper, book or other publication containing the statement in question, and shall be prepared to give the name of the printer or publisher. Provided that no Member shall present a petition to the House as a matter of privilege.

Complaints against publications

5. (1) During a period when the House is not sitting and is not expected to meet for a further period of at least two weeks, a member may bring to the attention of the Speaker a matter of privilege which has arisen since the House last met and which he proposes should be referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges. If the Speaker is satisfied that a prima facie case of breach of privilege has been made out and the matter is one upon which urgent action should be taken, he shall refer it

Matter of privilege raised when House is not sitting.

forthwith to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges: Provided that any referral by the Speaker in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Standing Orders shall be reported to the House by the Speaker at its next sitting, whereupon the member who raised the matter shall be required to move forthwith, without notice, that such referral be endorsed by the House.

(2) If the motion is negatived, the Committee on Ethics and Privileges shall take no further action in respect of the matter.

ORDER SEVEN

DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

1. (1) The Speaker shall take the Chair on every legislative day at the hour to which the House shall have adjourned at the last sitting or so soon thereafter and immediately call the members to order. The Speaker, having examined the Votes and Proceedings of the last day's sitting and approved the same shall announce to the House his approval, and the Speaker's approval shall be deemed to be agreed to subject to a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval on the demand of any member, which vote, if decided in the affirmative, shall not be subject to a motion to reconsider. It shall be in order to offer one motion that the Votes and Proceedings be read only if the Speaker's approval of the Votes and Proceedings is not agreed to, and such motion shall be determined without debate and shall not be subject to a motion to reconsider.

(2) He shall preserve order and decorum, and, in case of disturbances or disorderly conduct in the galleries, or in the lobby, may cause the same to be cleared.

(3) He shall have general control, except as provided by Rule or law, of the Chamber of the House, and of the corridors and passages.

(4) He shall sign all acts, addresses, joint Resolutions, writs, warrants, and subpoenas issued by order of the House, and decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once, unless by permission of the House or the Speaker.

(5) The Speaker shall control the House as stipulated in Order 9, Rule 5 (Relevancy in Debate).

(6) Any question, proposed for decision in the House shall be determined by the required majority of the members present and voting; and the Speaker or Chairman (if in Committee of the Whole) shall cast a vote whenever necessary to avoid an equality of votes but shall not vote in any other case.

(7) He shall interpret the Rules.

(8) When there is an equality of votes, and the Speaker or the Chairman (in the Committee of the Whole) decides not to cast his vote, the question shall pass in the negative and the Speaker or the Chairman shall declare accordingly.

(9) He shall receive all communications addressed to the House.

(10) (a) He shall, in consultation with the principal officers, appoint the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Committees from among the members on the Committee.

(b) He shall have the powers to review the performance of Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Committees, and remove them in consultation with the Principal Officers.

2. (1) In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker shall perform all the duties and functions of the Speaker. **Duties of the Deputy Speaker.**

(2) The Deputy Speaker shall be the Chairman of Committee of the Whole House, save when the House goes into the Committee of Supply or Ways and Means.

3. (a) In the absence of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker without any communications to the Clerk of the House within a period of three (3) consecutive days or where both have either been certified incapacitated by the Officer in-charge of the Medical Department of the National Assembly, such Member of the House as the House may elect for that purpose, shall preside. Such Member shall be known as "Speaker Pro-Tempore". **Speaker Pro-Tempore.**

(b) A member addressing the Clerk shall propose another Member with legislative experience as Member of the National Assembly to be Speaker Pro-Tempore and shall move that such member do take the Chair as Speaker Pro-Tempore of the House of Representatives. **Nomination of Speaker Pro-Tempore.**

Member nominated informs the House if nomination is accepted.

(c) A Member nominated and seconded shall inform the House if he accepts or declines the nomination.

Procedure if only one member is nominated.

(d) The Member so nominated may address the House for a maximum period of 5 minutes for the purpose of (c) above.

(e) The Clerk shall then ask "Are there any further nominations?", if there are no further nominations, the Clerk shall say, "I declare the nomination closed". The Clerk shall then declare the member so proposed and seconded elected as Speaker Pro-Tempore. Such member shall be conducted to the Chair by the proposer and seconder of the motion, and shall take the Chair as Speaker Pro-Tempore.

Procedure if two members are nominated.

(f) If more than one member is proposed as Speaker Pro-Tempore, the Clerk shall, after the second nomination and after each subsequent nomination, if any is made and seconded, ask: "Are there any further nominations?" And if there are no further nominations, the Clerk shall say, "I declare the nomination closed".

Methods of Voting.

(g) When only two Members are nominated and seconded as Speaker Pro-Tempore and where both accept, the election shall be conducted as follows:

(i) by electronic voting or;

Tellers.

(ii) voting by secret ballot which shall be conducted by the Clerks-at-Table using the list of the Members of the House, who shall each be given a ballot paper to cast his vote, with the proposers and seconders as Tellers.

(iii) The Clerk of the House shall submit the result of the voting to the Clerk to the National Assembly who shall then declare the member who has received the highest number of votes as Speaker Pro-Tempore elect.

Speaker Pro-Tempore elect.

(h) When more than two members are nominated and seconded to be Speaker Pro-Tempore, the division shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Order Seven, Rule 3 (g) herein and the member who has received more than one-half of the votes shall be the Speaker Pro-Tempore elect. In the event of no member having received more than one half of the votes in the division, the name of the candidate having the smallest number of votes shall be excluded from subsequent divisions, a further division shall take place. The voting shall continue until one candidate is declared as Speaker Pro-Tempore elect by such majority.

Procedure if more than two members are nominated.

(I) In the event of an equality of votes, the Clerk shall cause further voting to be held.

Equality of votes.

(j) At any time after the result of the first voting is declared, but before the commencement of a second or subsequent

Candidate withdraws name.

voting, a candidate may withdraw his name from the election, which shall then proceed as if such member had not been nominated. Whenever at any stage a withdrawal leaves only one candidate, such candidate shall, without voting, be declared the Speaker Pro-Tempore elect.

No debate
or Question
of Privilege.

(k) During the election of Speaker Pro-Tempore, there shall be no question of privilege raised.

Voting.

(l) All Members present shall participate in the voting for Speaker Pro-Tempore.

MAJORITY LEADERSHIP

House
Leader.

4. (1) Leader of the House shall be a Member nominated from among members of the majority party in the House.

(2) His functions shall be to:

(a) lead the business of the House;

(b) manage the legislative schedule of the House;

(c) liaise with Committee Chairmen and other Functionaries of the House;

(d) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him.

5. (1) Whip of the House shall be a Member nominated from among Members of the majority party in the House. **Whip of the House.**

(2) His functions shall be to:

(a) in conjunction with other officers, ensure the attendance of Members, order, decorum and discipline in the House;

(b) organize Members of his party in debates and divisions, and persuade them on voting, one way or the other.

6. (1) The Deputy House Leader shall be a member nominated from among the members of the majority party in the House. **Deputy House Leader.**

(2) His functions shall be to:

(a) assist the Leader of the House in the performance of his functions;

(b) deputise for the Leader of the House in his absence;

(c) perform any other function as may be assigned to him.

7. (1) Deputy House Whip shall be a Member nominated from among the members of the majority party in the House. **Deputy Whip of the House.**

(2) His functions shall be to:

(a) assist the Whip of the House in the performance of his functions;

(b) deputise for the Whip of the House in his absence.

(c) perform any other function as may be assigned to him.

Minority
Leadership.

8.—(1) Members of the Minority Parties in the House shall nominate from among them, the Minority Leader, Minority Whip, Deputy Minority Leader and Deputy Minority Whip.

Minority
Leader.

9. (1) The functions of the Minority Leader shall be to:

(a) lead discussions on behalf of the Minority Parties;

(b) liaise with Committee Chairmen and Functionaries of the House on behalf of Minority Parties in general;

(c) perform such other functions as may be assigned to him by the Speaker.

Minority
Whip.

10. (1) The functions of the Minority Whip shall be to:

(a) in conjunction with other officers, ensure the attendance of Members of the Minority Parties, order, decorum and discipline in the House;

(b) organise Minority Party Members in debates and divisions, and persuade them on voting one way or the other.

11. (1) The functions of the Deputy Minority Leader shall be to:

Deputy
Minority
Leader.

(a) assist the Minority leader in the performance of his functions;

(b) perform such other functions as the Speaker and the Minority Leader may, from time to time, assign to them.

12. (1) The functions of the Deputy Minority Whip shall be to:

Deputy
Minority
Whip.

(a) assist the Minority Whip in the performance of his functions;

(b) perform such other functions as the Speaker and the Minority Whip may, from time to time, assign to him.

13. After due notice to the House, the Majority Party and the Minority Parties may change their Leader and Whip, Deputy Leader and Deputy Whip, provided that the change is made by majority of the members of the parties in the House themselves.

Change of
Leadership.

14. Only Members with cognate legislative experience as Members of the National Assembly shall be eligible for appointment as Principal Officers of the House.

Principal
Officers of
the House.

**Duties of
the Clerk of
the House.**

15. (1) At the opening of each day's proceedings, the Clerk shall distribute to members a paper known as the Order Paper, setting forth the business of the day.

(2) The Clerk shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the House and of Committees of the Whole House, and shall circulate a copy of such minutes known as the Votes and Proceedings, on the day following each sitting of the House or as soon as possible thereafter.

**Votes and
Proceedings.**

(3) The Votes and Proceedings shall record all decisions of the House and shall be signed by the Speaker.

(4) In the case of divisions of the House or Committee of the Whole House, the Votes and Proceedings shall include the numbers voting for and against the question, and the names of members so voting.

(5) The Clerk shall prepare from day to day, and keep an order book showing all business appointed for any future day, and any notices of motions or amendments which have been set down for a future day or an early day if no particular day has been selected. The order book shall be open to the inspection of members at all reasonable times in the office of the Clerk or at the Table.

(6) The Clerk shall be responsible for the custody of the votes, records, Bills and other documents laid before the House which shall be

open to inspection by members of the House and other persons under such arrangements as may be sanctioned by the Speaker.

16. In the absence of the Clerk, his duties shall be performed by the Deputy Clerk or, should the latter be absent, by the Principal Clerk Assistant.

**Absence of
the Clerk.**

17. During any vacancy in the Office of the Clerk, all powers, functions and duties of the Clerk shall be exercised and performed by the Deputy Clerk.

**Vacancy in
Office of the
Clerk.**

18. (1) It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to attend the House during its sittings, to maintain order under the direction of the Speaker or Chairman, and pending the election of a Speaker or Deputy Speaker, under the direction of the Clerk. He shall execute the commands of the House, and all processes issued by authority thereof, directed to him by the Speaker.

**Duties of
the
Sergeant-at-
Arms.**

(2) He shall be the Chief Security Officer of the House.

(3) He shall enforce strictly the rules relating to the privileges of the Chamber.

(4) He shall allow no person to enter any room or rooms reserved for members of the House during its sittings; and fifteen minutes before the hour of the meeting of the House each day, he shall see that the floor is cleared of

all persons except those privileged to remain, and kept so until ten minutes after adjournment.

(5) He shall have the duty of ensuring that no visitor allowed by the House into the Chamber of the House has on himself a camera or any other recording equipment or instrument of any description whatsoever, for the purpose of taking photographs, monitoring, or recording the proceedings of the House. Neither shall such visitor bear firearms.

(6) He shall ensure that no member shall enter the Chamber or the public gallery of the House with any type of walking stick, or any offensive or dangerous weapon.

(7) The Sergeant-at-Arms attending the House shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the Mace, furniture and fittings thereof.

Jurisdiction
of Sergeant-
at-Arms.

19. Any security personnel within the precincts of the House shall be subject to the direction of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

ORDER EIGHT

ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

1. Unless the House otherwise directs, the business of each sitting day shall be transacted in the following order: Order of Business.

Formal entry of the Speaker;

Prayers;

Approval of Votes and Proceedings;

Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Membership of new Members;

Message from the President;

Message from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Other Announcements by the Speaker;

Petitions;

Matters of Urgent Public Importance;

Personal Explanation; and

Orders of the Day.

Message
from the
President.

2. (1) The Speaker shall immediately after prayers or as soon as any new member has taken the Oath of allegiance, read to the House any message addressed to the House by the President or by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

(2) A message from the President, if presented to the House by the Leader of the House may be brought up at any time before the commencement or at the close of public business, and shall be considered forthwith or ordered to be considered upon a future day.

Petition.

3. (1) A petition may only be presented to the House by a Member, who shall affix his name at the beginning thereof.

(2) A member presenting a petition shall confine himself to a brief statement of the parties from whom it came, the number of signatures attached to it, the material allegations contained in it and to reading the prayer of such petition.

(3) No debate shall be allowed on such petition, but it may be read by the Clerk if required.

(4) All petitions shall be ordered, without question being put to be laid upon the Table. Such petitions shall stand referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

(5) No member may present to the House a petition signed by himself, except it is certified by the Clerk as being in accordance with the following rules:

(a) every petition must be properly addressed to the House, respectful, decorous and temperate in its language, and must conclude with a prayer setting forth the general object of the petitioner;

(b) every petition must be signed by at least, one person on every sheet on which the petition is written;

(c) if signatures are affixed to sheets other than that containing the petition itself, such sheets shall carry at their head the prayer of the petition;

(d) signatures or marks will not be counted unless, in the case of signatures, they are in the handwriting of the person signing and in the case of marks, they are witnessed, and unless in both cases, they are followed by the addresses of the persons signing or making a mark. Such signatures must be written upon, and not pasted or otherwise attached to each of the sheets on which the petition itself is written. A Corporation should sign a petition with its common seal;

(e) every petition shall be in English language or if in another language, be accompanied by an English translation certified to be correct by the member who presents it;

(f) no letter(s) or other documents may be attached to a petition, or may any erasures or interlineations be made thereon.

Matter(s) of
Urgent
Public
Importance.

4. (1) The matter for discussion shall, if possible, be referred to the Speaker prior to the commencement of the day's sitting and the Speaker shall refuse to allow the claim, unless he is satisfied that the matter is definite and urgent.

(2) The text of the matter shall be submitted in writing to the Speaker prior to the sitting of the House.

(3) If the claim is allowed by the Speaker, and the leave of the House is given by majority of all members present, the matter shall stand over till the next Legislative Day.

(4) Not more than two of such motions shall be made at the same sitting.

Personal
Explanation.

5. By the indulgence of the House and the leave of the Speaker, a member may make a Personal Explanation although there be no question before the House; but no controversial matter may be brought forward or may debate arise upon the explanation. The terms of the proposed statement shall be submitted *in extenso* to the Speaker when his leave to make it is sought.

6. (1) An order of the day is a Bill or other matter which the House has ordered to be taken into consideration on a particular day. An earlier day cannot be substituted for the day so appointed.

Order of the
Day.

(2) Orders of the day shall have precedence of each other according to the order in which they appear on the Order Paper. An order of the day may be postponed on motion without notice moved by the Member in charge thereof, or, in his absence, by another Member at his request.

Precedence
of the
orders of
the day
postponed
by request.

(3) Orders of the day not reached before the end of a sitting or appointed for a day on which the House does not sit, shall be set down for a later date to be determined by the Rules and Business Committee.

7. (1) No rule shall be suspended except by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members voting, a quorum being present.

Suspension
of Rules.

(2) When a motion to suspend the Rule has been submitted to the House, it shall be in order, before the final vote is taken thereon, to debate the proposition to be voted upon for twenty minutes, one half of such time to be given to debate in opposition to such proposition; and the same right of debate shall be allowed for arguments in favour.

(3) On any Legislative Day on which the Speaker entertains motions to suspend the

Rules and pass Bills or Resolutions, he may announce to the House, in his discretion, before entertaining the first such motions that he will postpone further proceedings on each of such motions on which a recorded vote of the Ayes and Nays is ordered, or on which the vote is objected to until:

(a) all of such motions on that legislative day have been entertained and any debate thereon concluded with the question having been put and determined on each such motion on which the taking of the vote will not be postponed; or

(b) the next legislative day, with the question having been put and determined on each such motion on which the taking of the vote will not be postponed;

(c) where the Speaker has postponed vote pursuant to paragraph (3) (a) of this Rule, when the last of all motions on that legislative day to suspend the Rules and pass Bills or Resolutions have been entertained and any debate therein concluded, the Speaker shall put the question on each motion which further proceedings were postponed in the order in which that motion was entertained.

(4) Where the Speaker has postponed vote pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) of this Rule on the next legislative day, the Speaker shall put as unfinished business on which further proceedings were postponed in the order in which that motion was entertained.

(5) At any time after the vote on the question has been taken on the first motion on which the Speaker has postponed further proceedings under this paragraph, the Speaker may in his discretion, reduce to not less than five minutes the period of time within which a recorded vote on the question may be taken on any or all of the additional motions in which the Speaker has postponed further proceedings under this paragraph.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

8. Unless the Rules otherwise direct, notice shall be given of any motion which is proposed to be moved, with the exception of the following: **Notice of Motions.**

(i) a motion or amendment made or offered in Committee of the Whole House;

(ii) a motion for the adjournment of the House or of any debate;

(iii) a motion that the report of a Select Committee be referred to Committee of the Whole House;

(iv) a motion for the withdrawal of strangers;

(v) a motion for the suspension of a member;

(vi) a motion arising out of the business of the day made immediately after that business

is disposed of and before any fresh matter is entered upon; and

(vii) an amendment to a motion which has been moved without notice either under this Rule or under Rule 11.

**Procedure
for giving
Notices.**

9. (1) Notice must be written and signed and, save for Notice of Motion, be submitted to the Rules and Business Committee at least two clear days before the same is due to be moved.

(2) All notices of motions must be submitted to the Speaker at the following periods:

(a) on a day on which the House is sitting;

(b) on a day when the House is not sitting, between the hours of 9 a.m and 3 p.m, except on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

(3) The Speaker shall cause such notices of motions to be numbered and published in the "Schedule of Notices of Motions" and assigned to the relevant Committee not later than seven days after the publication in the Schedule.

(4) The Committee shall examine the substance of all motions referred to it and if approved for presentation to the House, shall forward its recommendation to the Rules and Business Committee for scheduling.

(5) Motions relating to infrastructure, utility, natural disaster and such other subject related motions shall be moved, seconded and the question thereon put without debate and if agreed to, shall be referred to the relevant Standing Committee.

10. (1) Amendments proposed to any motion or Bill under consideration in the House or a Committee thereof shall only be in order if they are relevant to the question or matter then under discussion. **Relevance of Amendments.**

(2) An amendment proposed to any amendment shall only be in order if it be relevant to that amendment.

11. The question on any motion or amendment shall not be proposed from the Chair in the House unless it shall have been seconded, but in Committee a seconder shall not be required. **Seconding Motions and Amendments.**

12. (1) Upon an amendment to insert or add words, the Speaker or the Chairman shall state the amendment and propose the question thereon in the form "That those words be there inserted (or added)". **Method of putting the Question on Amendments.**

(2) Upon an amendment to leave out words, the Speaker or the Chairman shall state the amendment and propose the question thereon in the form "That those words be left out".

(3) Upon an amendment to leave out words, and insert other words instead, the Speaker or the Chairman shall first state the words to be left out and put the question thereon in the form, "That those words be left out" and if that question be agreed to, shall then state the words proposed to be inserted and put the question thereon in the form, "That those words be there inserted"

**Withdrawal
of Motions.**

13. (1) A motion or an amendment may be withdrawn at the request of the mover, by leave of the House or Committee before the commencement of debate. A motion or an amendment so withdrawn may be made again but in the case of motion, notice is required.

(2) If an amendment has been proposed to a question, the original motion cannot be withdrawn until the amendment has been disposed of.

**Dispensing
with Notice.**

14. Notice shall not be dispensed with in the case of a motion or in respect of any other proceeding for which notice is required except with the consent of the Speaker and the general assent of the members present.

ORDER NINE

RULES OF DEBATE

1. (1) A member shall not read his speech save if he is moving a motion or presenting a Bill. **Rules of debate.**

(2) A member may however, read short extracts from books or papers in support of his argument, and may refresh his memory by reference to notes.

(3) A member is allowed to read his speech during debates on the Appropriation Bill.

(4) A member must confine his contributions to the subject under discussion and may not introduce any matter irrelevant thereto.

(5) Reference shall not be made to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending, in such a way as might, in the Speaker's opinion, prejudice the interests of parties thereto.

(6) It shall be out of order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon a substantive motion for rescission.

(7) It shall be out of order to use offensive and insulting language on members of the House.

(8) No member shall impute improper motives to any other member.

(9) A Member desiring to speak shall raise his hand in his place and if called upon shall stand and address his observations to the Speaker or the Chairman.

(10) If two or more members raise their hands at the same time, the Speaker or the Chairman shall call on the member who first catches his eye.

(11) Except in Committees or Committee of the Whole House, no member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave of the House or the Speaker, unless he be the mover, proposer, or sponsor of the matter under consideration, in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until those chosen to speak shall have spoken.

(12) The member reporting the measure under consideration from a Committee may open and close, where general debate has been had thereon; and if it shall extend beyond one day, he shall be entitled to thirty minutes to close, notwithstanding that he may have used thirty minutes in opening.

**Raising a
Point of
Order.**

2. (1) Any member deviating from the provisions of these rules or the Constitution may be immediately called to order by the Speaker or the Chairman, or by a member rising to a point of order. A member rising to a

point of order shall simply direct attention to the point he desires to bring to notice and submit it to the Speaker or to the Chairman for decision.

(2) When the question of order has been stated, the member who raised it shall resume his seat, and no other member, except with the leave of the Speaker or the Chairman shall rise until the Speaker or the Chairman has decided the question, after which the member who was addressing the House or the Committee at the time the question was raised, shall be entitled to proceed with his speech, giving effect to the ruling from the Chair.

3. (1) The Rules and Business Committee shall allocate time to all Bills, Motions, Reports and measures coming before the House. **Time limit and sequence of speeches.**

(2) A Member may speak for, or against the Motion. But during consideration of Bills, Report and other measures, a Member can speak on the Bill, pointing out the merits and demerits of the Bill, including Statutory and Constitutional issues for and against such measure. He is not to speak for or against, because the debate is on the general principles

(3) The Speaker shall allocate one-half of such time to be given to debate in favour of and one-half to debate in opposition to such proposition.

(4) No Member shall be entitled to address the House or a Committee of the Whole House for more than fifteen minutes on any subject.

BEHAVIOUR OF MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE

Decorum.

4. (1) During a sitting, all members shall enter and leave the House with decorum.

Members to take their places.

(2) Every Member of the House, when he comes into the chamber, shall take his seat and shall not, at any time, stand in any of the passages or gangways.

Members to make obeisance to the Chair.

(3) Every member shall make obeisance to the Chair in passing to or from his seat.

Crossing the Floor of the House.

(4) Members shall not cross the floor of the House unnecessarily or sit in a place allotted to any other member.

Members passing through the House.

(5) Members shall take care not to pass between the Chair and any member who is speaking, or between the Chair and the Mace.

When Speaker is putting question.

(6) When the Speaker is putting a question, no member may walk out of, or, across the Chamber.

Reading of newspapers.

(7) Members shall not read newspapers in their places and shall only read such books and letters as may be connected with the business under debate.

(8) When a member is speaking, no member may converse aloud or make any noise or disturbance to interrupt him.

Member speaking not to be interrupted.

(9) During a sitting, all members shall be silent or shall confer only in undertones.

Members to be silent.

(10) Unless invited by the Presiding Officer, no Member shall approach or confer with the Chair while the House is in session

Members not to approach the Chair.

(11) No Member shall smoke, chew gum or drink while the House is in session.

No smoking, chewing or drinking.

(12) No Member may interrupt another member whilst speaking, unless to:

Interruption not allowed, exceptions.

(i) call attention to a point of order or privilege suddenly arising;

(ii) call attention to the lack of quorum;

(iii) call attention to the presence of strangers;

(iv) move a closure motion; or

(v) move 'That the business of the day be called on'.

(13) Members shall attend the sittings of the House formally dressed.

Members to be properly dressed.

5.—(1) Debate upon any motion, Bill or amendment shall be relevant to such motion, Bill or amendment, except in the case of a substantive motion for the adjournment of the House.

Relevancy in Debate.

(2) When a motion is made for the adjournment of debate or of the House during any debate, or that the Chairman do report progress or do leave the Chair, the debate upon such a motion shall be confined to the matter of such motion; and a member who has made or seconded such a motion shall not be entitled to move or second any similar motion during the same debate.

(3) When an amendment proposes to leave out words and insert other words instead thereof, debate upon the first question proposed on the amendment may include both the words proposed to be left out and those proposed to be inserted.

(4) On an amendment proposing to leave out words or to insert words, debate shall be confined to the omission or insertion of such words respectively.

Dilatory
Motions.

6. No dilatory motion shall be entertained by the Speaker.

Closure of
Debates.

7.—(1) After a question has been proposed, a member rising in his place may claim to move "That the question be now put", and, unless it shall appear to the Chair that such motion is an abuse of the Rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the motion "That the question be now put" shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate, notwithstanding that the mover had no opportunity to make his reply.

(2) When the motion 'That the question be now put' has been carried, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any further motion may be made (if the assent of the Chair has not been withheld) which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the Chair.

(3) Such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

(4) This rule shall be put in force only when in the House, the Speaker or in Committee of the Whole House, the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is in the Chair; provided that when the absence of the Speaker has been announced under the provisions of Order VII, Rule 2(1) (Duties of the Deputy Speaker), this order may be put into force in the House when the Deputy Speaker is in the Chair.

(5) A question for the closure of debate shall not be decided in the affirmative unless, when a division be taken, it appears by the numbers declared from the Chair that not less than one-half of the members present voted in the majority in support of the motion.

8. A member who has not spoken to the question, or who has the right of reply, may move the adjournment of debate, which question shall be put forthwith and determined without amendment or debate. If the question is resolved in the affirmative, the Rules and Business Committee shall fix the time for the resumption of the debate.

Adjournment
of Debate.

If motion
negatived,
mover may
speak later.

9. In the event of a motion for the adjournment of debate upon any question being negatived, the member moving the motion for such adjournment may address the House at a later period during such debate.

Anticipation.

10. (1) It shall be out of order to make a motion or move an amendment dealing with the subject matter of a Bill or other order of the day appointed for consideration.

(2) An order of the day, notice of motion or amendment of which notice has been given shall not be anticipated in a debate upon a motion for adjournment of the House or in any other debate.

(3) In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the grounds of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time.

ORDER TEN

ORDER IN THE HOUSE

1. Whenever the Speaker or the Chairman rises during a debate, any member then speaking or offering to speak shall sit down, and the House or the Committee shall be silent so that the Speaker or the Chairman may be heard without interruption.

The
Speaker to
be heard in
silence.

2. The Speaker, in the House and the Chairman in any Committee shall be responsible for the observance of the rules of order in the House and Committee respectively, and their decision upon any point of order shall not be open to appeal and shall not be reviewed by the House except upon a substantive motion after notice.

Decision of
the Chair is
final.

3. Whenever the Speaker is of the opinion that a motion offered to the House is contrary to its Rules and privileges, the Speaker shall apprise the House thereof immediately, before putting the question thereon, and may quote the Rule or authority applicable.

Speaker to
advise
House when
motion is
out of order.

4. If a Member on being called to order for an offence against any Standing Order persists in the offence, the Speaker may direct the Member to discontinue his speech.

Member
called to
order.

5. (1) The Speaker or the Chairman, after having called the attention of the House, or of the Committee to the presentation or the

Contempt in
the face of
the House or
Committee.

conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance or tedious repetition, either of his own arguments or of the argument used by other members in debate or of disorderly conduct, may direct him to discontinue his speech or that disorderly conduct.

(2) If such a member refuses to resume his seat, the Speaker or the Chairman shall order such a member whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House during the remainder of that day's sitting; and the Sergeant-at-Arms shall act on such orders he may receive from the Chair in pursuance of this order.

Naming a Member.

(3) If on any occasion the Speaker or the Chairman deems that his powers under the previous provisions of this Rule are inadequate, he may name such member or members, in which event the procedure shall be followed as is prescribed by paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) of this Rule.

Suspension after naming.

(4) When a member is named by the Speaker, if the offence is a minor one, the Speaker may order the member to withdraw for the remainder of the legislative day; but if the matter appears to the Speaker to be of a more serious nature, the Speaker shall put the question on motion being made, no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed, "That such member be suspended from the service of the House", such suspension being for any time stated in the motion not exceeding 14 legislative days.

(5) When a Member has been named by the Chair when the House is meeting in Committee, the Chair shall forthwith suspend the proceedings of the Committee and report the circumstances to the House and the Speaker shall then proceed as in paragraph (4), as if the offence had been committed in the House itself.

(6) If any Member who is suspended from the service of the House refuses to obey the direction of the Speaker when summoned under the Speaker's Order by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House that force is necessary in order to compel obedience and any member named by the Speaker as having refused to obey his direction shall thereupon, without any further question being put, be suspended from the service of the House for a period not exceeding 30 plenary days.

Suspension for Session when force is necessary.

(7) Not more than one member shall be named at the same time, unless two or more members, present together, have jointly disregarded the authority of the Chair.

(8) If two or more members acting jointly who have been suspended under this Rule from the service of the House, shall refuse to obey the direction of the Speaker to withdraw, when severally summoned under the direction, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his direction.

When the members named by him as having refused to obey his direction have been removed from the House, they shall thereupon without any further question being put be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of the session.

(9) Members who are ordered to withdraw under paragraph (2) of this Rule or who are suspended from the services of the House under paragraphs (4), (6) and (8) of this Rule shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House and shall be excluded therefrom for the remainder of the sitting or for the period of their suspension, as the case may be.

(10) In the case of grave disorder arising in the House, the Speaker may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the House without putting any question.

(11) Nothing in this Rule shall be taken to deprive the House of the power of proceeding against any member according to any resolution of the House.

(12) No salary or allowance payable to a Member of the House for his service as such shall be paid in respect of any period during which he is suspended from the service of the House under the provisions of these Rules and/or of any other law.

(13) The Mace is the sacred authority of the House and only authorized staff of the

Sergeant-at-Arms may approach, handle or remove it in the ordinary course of their official duties.

(14) No Member of the House or his agent may approach, handle or remove the Mace under any circumstance.

(15) Any Member who approaches or handles the Mace with whatever intent, including to remove or who removes the Mace, shall be liable to suspension from the service of the House for a period not less than six months or such longer period as the Speaker or Chairman may consider expedient, having regard to the particular circumstances.

6. (1) Any Member of the House who — Contempt
Ex-facie.

(a) being a Member of the Committee of the House, publishes to any person not being a Member of such Committee any evidence taken by the Committee before it has been reported to the House; or

(b) assaults or obstructs a Member of the House within the Chamber or precincts of the House; or

(c) assaults or obstructs any officer of the House while in the execution of his duty; or

(d) is convicted of any offence under the Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act;

shall be guilty of contempt of the House and if investigated and found culpable by the Committee on Ethics and Privileges, the House may, by a Resolution, reprimand such Member or suspend him from the service of the House for such period as the House may determine:

Provided that such period shall not exceed 14 legislative days or the remainder of the session, whichever shall first occur.

Prohibition
of weapons.

(2) No Member shall enter the Chamber or the precincts of the House of Representatives with guns, daggers, grenades, knives or any other weapons or instrument of violence.

Prohibition
of use of
Gadgets.

(3) No Member shall operate cameras, tape recorders, telephones and other communications equipment in the Chamber or during Committee meetings except strictly for legislative purposes.

Strangers
excluded on
motion.

7. All strangers may be excluded from the House or any Committee thereof on a motion properly moved and adopted by the House or the Committee, as the case may be.

No
strangers
on floor, etc.
during
meetings.

8. Except as herein provided, no Member of the House shall bring any stranger into any part of the House when the House, or the Committee of the Whole, or a Committee of the House, is meeting.

9. (1) The following matters not open to debate, shall be moved without argument or opinion offered, and question thereon shall be forthwith put from the Chair without amendment:

Matters not
open to
debate.

(a) Motion for adjournment of debate;

(b) Motion for extension of time moved by the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Business or any Member acting for him;

(c) Motion that the question be now put;

(d) Question that a Bill be reported;

(e) Motion of dissent from a ruling of the Chairman;

(f) Motion that the Chairman report progress;

(g) Motion that a member be suspended; and

(h) Question that strangers be ordered to withdraw.

(2) Should any of these questions be negatived, no similar proposal shall be received if the Speaker or the Chairman is of opinion that it is an abuse of the orders or forms of the House, or is moved for the purpose of obstructing business.

Not to
obstruct.

ORDER ELEVEN

VOTING

Voting.

1. (1) No member may speak to any question after the same has been fully put by the Speaker or the Chairman.

(2) A question is fully put when the Speaker or the Chairman has collected both the Ayes and the Nays using any of the methods of voting stated in Order Eleven, Rule 2 (8).

Division in
the House
and
Committee
of the
Whole
House.

2. (1) If the opinion of the Speaker, or in Committee of the Whole House, the Chairman as to the decision of a question is challenged, the Speaker or the Chairman shall direct that the lobbies be cleared and on such direction being given, the doors to the Chamber shall be locked and the division shall be taken.

(2) After the lapse of two minutes from the direction to clear the lobbies, the Speaker or the Chairman shall put the question a second time and, if his opinion is again challenged, shall read aloud the names of the two tellers from each side which have been given to him by a representative of the members desiring to vote Aye and Nay respectively, and shall direct the Ayes into the lobby on his right and the Nays into the lobby on his left. As soon thereafter as one teller from each side arrives at the Table, count shall be taken.

(3) If less than two tellers are appointed by one side, the Speaker or the Chairman shall state that fact and declare the question in favour of that side which has appointed two tellers.

(4) At the expiration of two minutes from the appointment of tellers, the Speaker or the Chairman shall direct that the doors giving access to the Chambers be locked.

(5) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for making arrangements for the locking and unlocking of the doors.

(6) As soon as possible after the direction to clear the lobbies has been given and before the names of the tellers have been read from the Chair, a division Clerk to be appointed by the Clerk of the House shall take up his position on each side of the Chambers and shall record the names of all members voting on that side.

(7) A member may vote in a division although he did not hear the question put. But no member is obliged to vote.

(8) A member shall vote according to:

(a) His voice, or

(b) Signing of register in a division, or

(c) Through electronic voting installed in the House.

(9) If a member states that he voted in error or that his vote has been counted wrongly, he may claim to have his vote altered, provided that such request is made as soon as the Speaker, or in Committee, the Chairman has announced the numbers and before he shall have declared the result of the division.

(10) (a) A member shall not vote on any subject in which he has a direct personal pecuniary interest, but a motion to disallow a member's vote on this ground shall be made only as soon as the numbers of the members voting on the question shall have been declared. If the motion for the disallowance of a member's vote shall be agreed to, the Speaker or in Committee, the Chairman shall direct the Clerk to correct the numbers voting in the division accordingly. In deciding whether a motion for the disallowance of a member's vote shall be proposed from the Chair, the Speaker, or in Committee the Chairman, shall have regard to the character of the question upon which the division was taken and to the consideration whether the interest therein of the member whose vote is challenged is direct and pecuniary, or whether his vote was given on a matter of state policy.

(b) Any Member who fails to disclose his personal pecuniary interest on a matter before the House and goes ahead to participate in voting, in violation of Sub-rule (10) (a) above shall be liable to suspension from the House for a period not less than 36 plenary days, provided

that if such Member signifies his intention not to vote in such matter, he may not declare any such interest.

(11) At the end of counting, the tellers shall agree on the numbers voting in that lobby and in case of doubt shall check their numbers with the list of names recorded by the division clerk which shall, if the tellers are unable to agree, be the number to be reported to the House.

(12) When the number has been agreed as laid down in the last preceding paragraph of this Rule, the tellers shall give that number to the Clerk at the Table and when the tellers from both lobbies have been done with, the Clerk shall hand the paper on which he has written the numbers to one of the tellers of the side which has the majority who shall then read them aloud to the House and hand the paper to the Speaker or the Chairman who shall again read the numbers to the House or Committee and declare that the Ayes or Nays have it, as the case may be.

(13) In the event of the numbers being equal, the Speaker or the Chairman may give a casting vote, but if he does not do so, the question shall pass in the negative and the Speaker or the Chairman shall declare accordingly.

Division in
Committee
other than
Committee
of the
Whole
House.

3. (1) In Committees other than Committee of the Whole House, a division shall be taken by the Clerk to the Committee asking each member of the Committee separately, how he desires to vote and recording the votes accordingly.

(2) In taking the division, the names of all members of the Committee shall be called in alphabetical order.

(3) When a division is claimed in a Committee other than a Committee of the Whole House, every member of the Committee present shall, unless he expressly states that he declines to vote, record his vote either for the Ayes or Nays. The Clerk to the Committee shall enter in the minutes of the Proceedings the record of each member's vote and shall add a statement of the names of members who declined to vote.

(4) As soon as the Clerk has collected the votes, the Chairman shall state the number of members voting for the Ayes and Nays respectively and shall then declare the result of the division. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman may, where he has a casting vote, give that vote. If no casting vote is given, the question shall pass in the negative.

(5) If a member of the Committee states that he voted in error or that his vote has been counted wrongly, he may claim to have his vote altered, provided that such request is made as

soon as the Chairman has announced the numbers and before he shall have declared the result of the division.

(6) The provisions of Order 11, Rule 2 (Division in the House and Committee of the Whole House) shall apply to divisions under this Rule as they apply to divisions in the House.

ORDER TWELVE

PROCEDURE ON BILLS

Notice
regarding
Bills.

1. (1) Notice of presentation of a Government Bill shall be given by publication of the provisions proposed to be embodied in such Bill in an issue of the Official Gazette or House Journal of which a copy shall have been sent to every Member.

(2) Any Member who wishes to move a motion for leave to bring in a Bill shall give notice of provisions proposed to be embodied in the Bill to the Clerk, who shall cause them to be published in the Official Gazette or House Journal and shall send a copy of the first of such issues to every Member.

Compendium
and
Consolidation.

(3) On the introduction of a Bill, a compendium of background information shall be delivered to all members. If it is an amending Bill, an up-to-date consolidation of the Act or Acts to be amended shall be delivered unless the Bill amends an Act amended previously in the Session.

Presentation
and First
Reading.

2. (1) (a) All Bills emanating from the President shall be forwarded to the Speaker under covering letter personally signed by the President.

(b) All Bills emanating from the Judiciary shall be forwarded to the Speaker under covering letter personally signed by the Chief Justice of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

(2) Bills from the Senate and Members shall also be forwarded to the Speaker.

(3) The Speaker shall cause such Bills to be numbered and published in the "Schedule of Bills".

(4) A printed copy of the Bill shall, as soon as possible, be sent to every member.

(5) On receipt of the Bill from the Speaker, the Rules and Business Committee shall schedule the Bill for the first reading.

(6) Upon the short title of the Bill being read aloud by the Clerk, the Bill shall be deemed to have been read the first time.

3. (1) Every Bill shall receive three readings previous to its passage, which readings shall be in three different days, unless the House, by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority of Members present, directs otherwise, and the Speaker shall give notice at each reading whether it is first, second or third.

Appointment
days for
stages of Bills.

(2) At the conclusion of the proceedings on the first reading or on any subsequent stage of a Bill, a day to be named by the Committee on Rules and Business shall be appointed for the next stage.

4. (1) On the order for the second reading of a Bill being read, a motion may be made "That the Bill be now read a second time"

Second
Reading
Bills.

and a debate may arise covering the general merits and principles of the Bill.

(2) When debate on the motion for the second reading has been concluded, the Speaker shall put the question on the second reading: "That the Bill be now read a second time". On this question being agreed to, the Clerk shall read the Long Title of the Bill.

**Committal
of Bills.**

5. (1) When a Bill has been read a second time, it shall stand committed to a Standing Committee, unless the House, on motion made or the Speaker commits it to the Committee of the Whole House. Such motion shall not require notice, but must be made immediately after the Bill is read a second time and must be proposed by the Majority Leader of the House. Bills committed to Standing Committees shall be assigned to a particular Committee by the Speaker whose discretion in this matter is final.

(2) A Bill touching on the jurisdiction of two or more Committees shall be referred to the Committee having dominant jurisdiction. The other Committees affected shall be constituted into Sub-Committees thereof for the purpose of considering and reporting to the main Committee on aspects of the Bill affecting their Committees.

(3) The Committee to which a Bill has been committed shall report to the House after consideration of the Bill with amendments (if any) it proposes to it.

(4) Upon the report of the Standing Committee on a Bill not objected to by the House, it shall be placed on the business Calendar of the House.

(5) Bills placed on the Calendar shall be considered at a date to be determined by the Committee on Rules and Business.

(6) A Bill committed to the Committee of the Whole House, after the second reading may be taken forthwith or on a future day as may be determined by the Committee on Rules and Business.

6. Any Committee to which a Bill is committed shall have power to make such amendments therein as the Committee shall think fit, provided that every amendment shall be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill and to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates; but if any such amendment shall not be within the title of the Bill, they shall amend the title accordingly, and shall report the same specially to the House.

**Scope of
Amendments
in Committee.**

7. (1) Any amendment proposed to the Bill of which notice has not been given shall be handed to the Chairman in writing.

**Procedure
in Standing
Committee
on Bills.**

(2) No amendment shall be moved which is inconsistent with any clause already agreed upon or any decision already come to by the Committee, and the Chairman may at any time during the discussion of a proposed

amendment withdraw it from the consideration of the Committee if in his opinion, the discussion shall have shown that the amendment violates the provisions of this Rule.

(3) All amendments having been considered, the Committee Chairman shall report to the House on a date scheduled by the Rules and Business Committee.

Quorum in
Committee
of the Whole
House.

8. The quorum in the Committee of the Whole shall be the same as is required to form a quorum of the House.

Procedure
on Bills in
the
Committee
of the Whole
House.

9. (1) The Chairman of the Committee shall call the number of each clause in succession or the first and last numbers of a group of clauses and if no amendment be offered thereto or when all proposed amendments shall have been disposed of, shall proceed to put the question, "That the Clause (or the Clause as amended) stand part of the Bill".

(2) No amendment shall be moved which is inconsistent with any clause already agreed upon or any decision already come to by the Committee, and the Chairman may, at any time during the discussion of a proposed amendment withdraw it from the consideration of the Committee if in his opinion the discussion shall have shown that the amendment violates the provisions of this Rule.

(3) A clause may be postponed, unless upon an amendment thereto a question shall have been fully put from the Chair.

(4) Postponed clauses shall be considered after the remaining clauses of the Bill have been considered and before new clauses are brought up.

(5) When every clause and schedule and proposed new clause or schedule has been dealt with, the preamble if there be one, shall be considered and the question put "That this preamble (as amended) be the preamble to the Bill", provided that no amendment to the preamble shall be considered which is not made necessary by a previous amendment to the Bill.

(6) If any amendment be necessary to the title of the Bill, it shall be made at the beginning of the proceedings detailed above, but no question shall be put that the title or that the title as amended stand part of the Bill.

(7) At the conclusion of the proceedings, the Chairman shall put the question "That I do report the Bill (or the Bill as amended) to the House", which question shall be decided without amendment or debate.

10. (1) When a Bill has been reported from the Committee of the Whole House, it shall be ordered to be read the third time forthwith or upon such day as the Committee on Rules and

Re-
committal
and Third
Reading.

Business may appoint: Provided that if a member gives notice of his intention to move the re-committal of the Bill in accordance with the next following paragraph of this Rule, a Bill may not be read the third time until such time as the motion for re-committal has been disposed of.

(2) When a Bill has been ordered for third reading, any member who wishes to amend or delete any provisions contained in the Bill or to introduce any fresh provision may give notice of his intention on the order for third reading being read to move "That the Bill be re-committed". If such motion be agreed to, the House shall resolve itself into Committee immediately or upon such day as the Committee on Rules and Business may appoint. When the Bill has been reported, the House shall then proceed with the third reading of the Bill, unless the Committee on Rules and Business decides to postpone this stage to a later day. When a Bill has been the subject of a special report from a Standing Committee, the Chairman in charge of the Bill may, on notice given, move "That the Bill be re-committed to that Standing Committee". On this question being proposed, the House may debate the special report from the Standing Committee.

(3) On the third reading of a Bill, similar amendments may be proposed to the question "That the Bill be now read the third time" as may be proposed on the second reading.

(4) Amendment for corrections, error or oversight may, with the Speaker's permission, be made before the question for the third reading of the Bill is put from the Chair, but no amendment of a material character shall be proposed and on this point, the Speaker's decision shall be final.

(5) When a Bill originating in the House has been read the third time, a printed copy of it signed by the Clerk, and endorsed by the Speaker, shall be forwarded by the Clerk of the House to the Clerk of the Senate, together with a message desiring the concurrence of the Senate.

(6) When a Bill which originated in the Senate has been read the third time, the Clerk shall either:—

(a) retain the Bill and send a message to the Senate "That the House of Representatives has agreed to the Bill without amendment"; or

(b) cause any amendment or amendments that may have been made to it by the House of Representatives to be entered in the original copy of the Bill received from the Senate, which copy, signed by the Clerk and endorsed by the Speaker, shall then be returned to the Senate desiring the concurrence of the Senate in the amendment or amendments made by the House of Representatives;

(c) when a Bill passed by the House and sent to the Senate for concurrence is sent back to the House with Senate amendments, the House shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, which shall proceed to determine, if the Senate amendments are acceptable.

**Meeting of
Conference
Committee.**

11. (a) If the Senate amendments are not acceptable to the House, then the Conference Committee of the House and Senate shall meet.

(b) Selected Members of the House, including some Members of the Committee that considered the Bill, shall represent the House in the Conference Committee.

(c) The Conference Committee shall deliberate only on areas of disagreement between the House and the Senate. The Conference Committee shall not insert in its report a matter not committed to it by either the House or the Senate, or shall it be in order to strike out from the Bill, a matter agreed to by the House and the Senate.

(d) The sitting of the Conference Committee may be open or closed to the public, depending on the subject matter under discussion and the majority view of the members.

12. (a) When a Bill has been passed by the House and the Senate without amendment or with such amendments as may have been agreed to by both Houses, a clean copy, certified by the Clerk to the National Assembly shall, as soon as possible, be presented to the President for his assent. **Assent.**

(b) Where the President withholds his assent to a Bill or does not communicate his assent within 30 days from the date the Bill was sent to him for assent, the House shall again deliberate on the Bill.

(c) If the House rejects the President's amendment and agrees to override the President's veto, then the Bill shall become Law if it is again passed by the House and the Senate by two-thirds majority, and the assent of the President shall not be required.

13. The member in charge of a Bill may move a motion without notice for its withdrawal either before the commencement of public business or on the order of the day for any stage of the Bill being read. **Withdrawal of Bills.**

14. More than one Bill on the same subject matter may be introduced, but when the second reading of a Bill has been agreed to or negatived, the question shall not be proposed for the second reading of another Bill of the same subject matter during the same session. On the order of the day relating to such a Bill **Bills on the same subject matter.**

being read, the Speaker shall direct that the Bill be withdrawn.

Bills
affecting
private
rights.

15. If it appears to the Speaker from the notice of the terms proposed to be embodied in a Bill not being a Government measure that the proposals are intended to affect or benefit some particular person, association or corporate body then:

(1) Before allowing such a Bill to be read the first time, the Speaker shall satisfy himself that in addition to the notices already presented under Order 12, Rule 1 (1) (Notice regarding Bills), additional notice of the Bill has been given by advertising a statement of its general nature and objects in the Official Gazette and or House of Representatives' Website and/or in at least one newspaper circulating in Nigeria.

(2) When any such Bill has been read a second time, it shall stand referred to a Committee without question put. Any party whose interests are, in the Speaker's opinion, prejudicially affected by the proposed provisions of the Bill may be heard before the Committee, either in person or by Counsel.

(3) Every Committee on such a Bill shall require proof of the facts and other allegations set forth in the Bill as showing that it is expedient that the Bill should be passed, and may take such oral or other evidence as it may think requisite, and thereafter, if the Committee finds that the said facts and allegations are not

proved, it shall report accordingly; but if the Committee finds that the said facts and allegations have been proved, the Committee shall consider the several clauses of the Bill, and may strike out clauses, add new clauses, and make any other amendments which it shall deem necessary, and in respect of all amendments which it makes, shall describe their purport in a special report to the House. No new clause shall be allowed in such a Bill which is outside the terms of the notice in the Official Gazette.

(4) When it is intended to examine any witness, the petitioner or member of the House requiring such witness shall deliver to the Clerk, at least two days before the day appointed for their examination, a list containing the name, residence and occupation of every witness.

(5) The evidence of every witness shall be taken down and when printed, sent in proof to the witness. The witness shall be at liberty to suggest corrections due to inaccurate reporting and the evidence shall be printed with such corrections as may be approved by the Chairman.

(6) The Committee may, at its discretion, refuse to hear any irrelevant or recalcitrant witness.

(7) After the report of the Committee has been presented to the House, the Speaker shall, if such report be adopted, propose the question "That the Bill be read the third time".

Outstanding
Bills from the
Preceding
Assembly.

16. Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negatived, or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced de-novo.

Business
Continued
from
Session to
Session.

17. The Legislative business of the House which remain undetermined at the close of a session of the House shall be resumed and proceeded with in the same manner as if no adjournment of the House had taken place; and all papers referred to Committees and not reported upon at the close of session of the House shall be returned to the Office of the Clerk of the House and retained until the next session of the House when they shall be returned to the several Committees to which they had previously been referred.

Business
Continued
from
Assembly
to
Assembly.

18. The Legislative business of the House which, though completed and laid in the House by a Committee of the House remain undetermined at the end of the Assembly shall be resumed and proceeded with in the next

Assembly in the same manner as if the tenure of the Assembly had not come to an end, if the House resolves in the affirmative that such Bills, upon being re-gazetted, be reconsidered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced de-novo.

19. (1) (a) During each year, there shall be introduced into the House, an Appropriation Bill which shall contain the estimated financial requirements for expenditure on revenue accounts on all the services of the Government for the succeeding financial year. The details of these financial requirements shall be contained in the Estimates which shall be presented at the same time.

Procedure
on Money
Bills
(Budget).

(b) On presentation, the Bill shall be deemed to have been read the first time and a date be fixed for commencement of the second reading.

(2) The Committee on Rules and Business shall determine the number of days to be allotted for the second reading of the Bill. At the hour appointed for interruption of business on the last of such allotted days, the Speaker shall put the question to bring the proceedings on the second reading to conclusion; provided that the question on second reading may be agreed to on a day earlier than the last day so allotted.

(3) During the second reading, the debate shall be confined to the financial and

economic state of Nigeria and the government's financial policy. Detailed items in the estimate may not be debated on the second reading.

(4) During debate on Money Bills, all Honourable Members, in alphabetical order, shall be allotted five (5) minutes each to make submission which shall be confined to the financial and economic state of Nigeria and government's financial policy.

(5) (a) When the Bill has been read the second time, it shall be committed to the Committee on Appropriations. The Standing Committees of the House shall, for this purpose, be deemed to be Sub-Committees of the Committee on Appropriations and shall consider estimates for the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, which come under their charge.

(b) After consideration, the Sub-Committees shall report back to the Committee on Appropriations, which after deliberating on the report of the Sub-Committees, shall then report to the Committee of the Whole House to be known as "Committee of Supply".

(c) Whenever the need arises for the Committee on Appropriations to seek clarification on any issue relating to the budget of any Ministry, Department or Agency as submitted by a Standing Committee, the Committee on Appropriations may invite the affected Ministry, Department or Agency, in

company of the leadership of the Standing Committee, to defend or clarify, as may be necessary.

(d) The budgetary provision submitted by the Committee on Appropriations to the Committee of Supply on any Ministry or Department shall be agreed to and signed by the Leadership of each Standing Committee.

(6) The Speaker or in his absence the Deputy Speaker shall preside over the Committee of Supply.

(7) There shall be allotted such number of days as the Committee on Rules and Business shall determine for discussion of the Estimates of the Appropriation Bill in the Committee of Supply.

(8) The Clauses of an Appropriation Bill or a Supplementary Appropriation Bill shall stand postponed until after the consideration of any schedule to such Bill. Provided that before the passage of the Appropriation Bill, the details of the Budget (Compendium and Schedule) shall be presented on the floor of the House along with the Appropriation Bill.

(9) On the consideration of the first schedule, the Chairman shall call the title of each Head of Expenditure in turn and shall propose the question "That the sum Naira for Head..... stand part of the schedule".

(10) Any member may move an amendment to any provision in the Estimate.

(11) When several amendments are proposed to the same provision in the Estimates, they shall be called in the order in which they appear on the Order Paper and each amendment shall be disposed of before the next is called, provided that when the mover of the amendment is not present to move, the same shall lapse.

(12) At least two clear days' notice of any amendment shall be required.

(13) When all amendments to a sub-head or item have been disposed of, no further amendment or debate on the same shall be allowed.

(14) When all amendments standing on the Order Paper in respect of a particular provision have been disposed of, the Speaker shall propose the question "That the sum of Naira for Head..... stand part of the schedule".

(15) At the hour appointed for the interruption of business on the last day allotted for the consideration of the Appropriation Bill in the Committee of Supply, the Chairman shall proceed to put any question on any Head not yet voted on and the question "That the schedule or schedules stand part of the Bill. On the question on the postponed clauses of the

Bill, no amendment shall be allowed other than an amendment consequential on any increase or decrease in the total sum appropriated by any schedule, such amendment shall be put from the Chair without motion made, and no debate shall be allowed on any such question or amendment.

(16) For the purpose of this Rule, any day in which the Appropriation Bill is put down as the Order of the Day shall be an allotted day.

(17) On any day upon which the proceedings on the Appropriation Bill are to be brought to a conclusion under this order, no dilatory motion shall be moved upon such proceedings and the proceedings shall not be interrupted or postponed under any Rule.

(18) When the Appropriation Bill has passed the Committee of Supply, the Committee on Appropriations shall, within three working days, prepare and submit a summary of all amendments agreed to by the House. The report shall also show clearly the total amount approved for each Ministry, Department or Agency. Upon approval of the Committee's report, the member in-charge shall move for the third reading of the Bill forthwith which motion shall not require to be seconded and shall be decided without amendment or debate and if decided after the hour appointed for the adjournment of the House, the Speaker shall immediately, on that decision being reached, adjourn the House without question put.

(19) After the third reading, the laid down procedures for Bills shall be followed.

(20) Budget estimates of statutory corporations or bodies shall follow the procedure on Bills generally but the report thereof shall be considered in the Committee of Supply.

ORDER THIRTEEN

PROCEDURE FOR ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION

1.—(1) The first and second reading of any Bill for altering the provision of the Constitution shall be considered and proceeded with in accordance with the procedure on Bills in the House Standing Orders;

(2) During the debate on alteration to the Constitution, all Honourable Members may be allowed to contribute to the debate.

(3) Upon the Second Reading, the Bill shall be committed to the Special Ad-hoc Committee of the House on Constitution Alteration.

(4)(a) In the clause by clause consideration in Committee of the Whole, a clause or question shall be deemed passed if it be supported by positive vote of 2/3 majority of Members of the House.

(b) If the question be to amend sections 8 and 9 of the Constitution (State creation and boundary adjustment or mode of altering provisions of the Constitution) requiring $\frac{4}{5}$ majority of Members voting, the question shall only be resolved upon the affirmative vote of $\frac{4}{5}$ majority of Members;

(5) The Bill as passed shall be forwarded to the Senate for concurrence;

(6) The Harmonized Bill, upon any possible conference, would then be adopted in the plenary and transmitted by the Clerk to the National Assembly to each of the 36 State Houses of Assembly;

(7) Each of the State House of Assembly shall communicate its resolution howsoever to each House of the National Assembly;

(8) Upon there being the required majority of the State Houses of Assembly supporting each of the respective clauses severally, each such clause shall stand passed.

(9) The final copy of the Clauses in the Bill that received the support of two-thirds (2/3) majority of the State Houses of Assembly shall be compiled and if passed by a concurrent Resolution of the National Assembly, shall thereafter be transmitted to the President for assent.

(10) Where the President withholds assent, the Bill, if passed again by two-thirds (2/3) majority of members of the House, as required by Section 58 of the Constitution, shall become law.

(11) Notwithstanding the provisions in these Rules, the process of passage of a Constitution Alteration Bill shall continue from one Session to the other and from one

Assembly to another as if the tenure of each preceding Session or Assembly had not come to an end.

(12) When all requirements of Sub Rules (1) – (9) have been met and the President either withholds his assent or fails to communicate the withholding thereof, or any circumstance arises which makes it impracticable for the National Assembly to consider the issue of overriding the President's Veto before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the succeeding Assembly may, upon such Bill being re-gazetted and circulated, resolve to commence the process of veto override under section 58 of the Constitution.

ORDER FOURTEEN

PROCEEDINGS ON TREATIES

Treaties laid
before the
House.

1. When a treaty is laid before the House of Representatives for ratification, it shall be read a first time, and shall thereafter be subject to the procedure on Bills as stated in Order 12 of the Standing Orders.

Treaties
resumed
from
Session to
Session.

2. Treaties transmitted by the President to the House of Representatives for ratification shall be resumed at the second or subsequent session of the same House at the stage in which they were left at the final adjournment of the session at which they were transmitted; but all proceedings on treaties shall terminate with the life of the House, and they shall be resumed at the commencement of the next House as if no proceeding has previously been had thereon, subject to the provisions of Order 17, Rule 3 or other Special Orders.

ORDER FIFTEEN

PROCEEDINGS ON PROCLAMATION OF
A STATE OF EMERGENCY

1. When the President by instrument published in the Gazette of the Government of the Federation issues a Proclamation of a State of Emergency in the Federation or any part thereof, he shall immediately after the publication:

Proclamation
of a State of
Emergency.

(a) transmit copies of such Gazette containing the Proclamation, including the details of the emergency, to the Speaker, and

(b) provide a compendium of background information on the circumstances of the emergency.

2. On receipt of the documents afore-stated, the Speaker shall:

Receipt of
Proclamation
documents.

(a) if the House is in session, forthwith convene the House;

(b) if the House is not in session, cause the Clerk of the House to issue a notice convening the House within three working days.

Briefing of
House.

3. The Speaker shall, in an executive session, brief the House on the circumstances of the Proclamation of a State of Emergency, and thereafter, make available to the Members the documents as provided by the President.

Approval of
Proclamation.

4. Except the House by two-third (2/3) majority of members present directs, the House shall then forthwith resolve into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Proclamation and on reporting progress, the House shall decide, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, approving or rejecting the Proclamation.

ORDER SIXTEEN

ANNUAL REPORTS, SESSIONAL PAPERS AND SECTORAL DEBATES

1. (a) Ministers shall forward to the House all reports required by statute within three months of the close of the reporting period, unless reasons for delay are given to the House.

Time for
presenting
Statutory
Reports.

(b) The statutory annual report of each Ministry and of all Boards and Commissions and other Agencies reporting to each Ministry for the immediate past reporting period shall be presented to the House before the consideration of the Ministry's Estimates, unless reasons are given to the House for non-compliance.

Method of
presenting.

(c) Reports, returns and other documents required to be laid before the House by any Act of the National Assembly or under any Standing Order or Resolution of the House, or that any Minister wishes to forward to the House, may be deposited with the Clerk of the House, whether or not on a Legislative Day, and such report, return or other document shall be deemed, for all purposes, to have been forwarded and laid on the Table. All such reports, returns and documents laid on the

Table shall be deemed referred to the appropriate Committee of the House. A record of such document shall be entered in the Votes and Proceedings on the day it is laid, except that where it is filed on a day that is not a Legislative Day, it shall be entered in the Votes and Proceedings of the next Legislative Day.

Distribution
and
background
materials.

(d) The Minister concerned shall forward copies of all reports as well as copies of background materials to all members of the House.

List of
documents
tabled and
outstanding.

2. The Clerk of the House shall keep a record of all reports required by statute which have been tabled, and those outstanding.

Sectoral
Debates:

3. The House may engage in sectoral debates on issues of national importance as may be directed by the House or the Speaker.

ORDER SEVENTEEN

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

1. (1) Members of Committees shall be nominated and appointed by the Committee on Selection.

Membership
appointment.

(2) The maximum number of Members in a Committee shall be 30 except the Committees on Appropriations, Constituency Outreach, Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Federal Character, Public Petitions, Niger Delta Development Commission, House Services, Public Accounts and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North-East Zone, each of which shall have a maximum of 40 Members.

(3) Any Member appointed to a Standing Committee may, at any time afterwards, be discharged by order of the Committee on Selection from the Committee and another Member nominated by the Party to which the discharged member belongs, subject to the Speaker's approval.

Substitution

(4) A temporary substitution in the membership of a Standing Committee may be made, provided a notification thereof, signed by the Whip, or a member acting as the Whip of the Party of the member, is filed with the Clerk of the Committee either before or 30 minutes of a Committee meeting being called to order.

Temporary
substitution

**Vacancy in
Committee
membership.**

(5) If the place of a Committee member becomes vacant, there shall be in his place another member nominated by his Party with the Speaker's approval.

**Sub-
Committees**

2. (1) Each Special and Standing Committee shall, in consultation with the Speaker, create such Sub-Committees as may be required.

(2) The Sub-Committees shall be headed by Sub-Committee Chairmen who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in consultation with the Committee, subject to the approval of the Speaker.

(3) The Chairmen of the Committees shall have powers to review the performance of the Sub-Committee Chairmen.

(4) Each Committee shall specify the functions of its Sub-Committees.

(5) The quorum at a Committee sitting shall be one-third of the membership.

**Rules of
Procedures
for
Committees
in general.**

3. (1) (a) (i) The Rules of the House are the Rules of its Committees and Sub-Committees so far as applicable, except in connection with a motion of high privileges in Committees and Sub-Committees.

(ii) Each Sub-Committee of a Committee is a part of that Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of that Committee and to its rules as far as applicable.

(iii) Each Committee is authorised at any time to consider such investigations and studies as it may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under this Rule.

(iv) Each Committee is authorised to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee:

(b) Each Committee shall submit to the House annual report of its activities.

(c) The report of a Committee is the report as determined by the Committee as a whole or a majority thereof. **Reports of
Committees.**

(d) No minority report shall be presented to or received by the House.

(e) Every member shall be permitted to indicate in a report that he or she dissents with a particular recommendation or comment within the report. The Committee shall permit a member to express the reasons for such dissent. **Dissenting
opinion.**

(f) Disorder in a Committee can only be censured by the Speaker on receiving a report from the Committee. **Disorder
reported to
House.**

(g) Any matter referred to any Committee shall be treated within 30 days otherwise the Committee shall stand discharged after 60 days. **Limitation
as to the
time of
paper.**

and the matter committed to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

**Limitation
on Report.**

(h) A Committee shall limit itself only to the terms of reference set for it by the House, except matters ancillary to the main report.

Staff.

(I) (1) Committees shall have complements of Staff as the Clerk of the House may determine.

(2) Committees shall be empowered to retain the services of experts, professionals and Consultants as may be deemed necessary.

**Committee
Clerk.**

(j) The Clerk of a Standing Committee shall administer and monitor the expenditures of any such Committee and shall advise the Committee if expenditures are likely to exceed the budget approved for the Committee.

COMMITTEES' RULES

**Regular
meeting
days.**

4. (1) Each Committee of the House shall adopt regular meeting days, which shall not be less frequent than monthly for the conduct of its business.

(2) Each such Committee shall meet for the consideration of any Bill or Resolution pending before the Committee or for the transaction of other Committee business, on all regular meeting days fixed by the Committee.

5. (1) The Chairman of each Committee may call and convene, as he considers necessary, meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any Bill or Resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committees shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call.

**Additional
and Special
Meetings.**

(2) If at least one-third of the members of any Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those members shall file, in the office of the Committee Clerk, their written request to the Chairman for that special meeting. Such request shall specify the measure or matter to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If the Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within seven working days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Committee may file in the office of the Committee Clerk their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held specifying the date and hour of, and the measure or matter to be considered at that special meeting. The Committee shall meet on that day and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered; and only the measure or matter specified in that notice shall be considered at that special meeting.

(3) Every meeting of the Committee shall be presided over by the Chairman or in his absence the Deputy Chairman and in his absence, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.

(4) Each Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee actions, which shall include a record of the votes on any question on which a roll call vote is demanded. The result of each such roll call vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable time in the office of the Committee. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition and the names of those members present but not voting.

(5) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the office records of the member serving as Chairman of the Committee; and such records shall be the property of the House and all members of the House shall have access thereto except that in the case of records in the Committee on Ethics and Privileges regarding the conduct of any member, officer or employee of the House, no member of the House (other than a member of such Committee) shall have access thereto without the specific, prior approval of the Committee.

6. (1) Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the mark-up of legislation of each Standing Committee or Sub-Committee thereof shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee, in open session and with a majority present, determines, by roll call vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting of that day shall be closed to the public: Provided, however, that no person other than members of the Committee and such National Assembly staff and such departmental representative as they may authorize shall be present at any business or mark-up session which has been closed to the public. This paragraph does not apply to open Committee hearings which are provided for by subparagraph 2 of this paragraph, or to any meeting that relates solely to internal budget or personal matters.

(2) Committees of the House shall hold joint hearings and joint oversight activities, where necessary, to ensure efficiency and avoid overlap of responsibilities.

(3) Notwithstanding the requirements of the preceding sub-rule (1), a majority of those present and in attendance being the requisite number required under the rules of the Committee to be present for the purpose of taking testimony:

(a) may vote to close the hearing for the sole purpose of discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received would endanger national security or violate Clause (1) above or;

(b) may vote to close the hearing as provided in Clause (1) above. No member may be excluded from non-participatory attendance at any hearing of any Committee or sub-Committee. With the exception of the Committee on Ethics and Privileges, unless the House of Representatives shall, by majority vote authorize a particular Committee or Sub-Committee, for purposes of a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearing to members by the same procedures designated in this subparagraph for closing hearings to the public provided, however, that the Committee or Sub-Committee may by the same procedure vote to close one subsequent day of hearing.

(4) Each Committee of the House (except the Committee on Rules and Business), shall make public announcement of the date, place and subject matter of any Committee hearing at least one week before the commencement of the hearing. If the Committee determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, it shall make the announcement at an earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this subparagraph shall be promptly published in the National Assembly Journal.

(5) All Committee Meetings can only commence after 3.00 p.m on every Legislative day, except as may be authorized by the House or the Speaker.

(6) Each Committee shall, in so far as is practicable, require each witness who is to appear before it to file with the Committee (in advance of his or her appearance(s) a written statement of the proposed testimony and to limit the oral presentation at such appearance to a brief summary of his or her argument.

(7) No point of order shall lie with respect to any measure reported by any Committee on the ground that hearings on such measure were not conducted in accordance with the provisions of this clause; except that a point of order on that ground may be made by any member of the Committee which reported the measure, if in the Committee, such point of order was:

(a) timeously made;

(b) improperly overruled or not properly considered.

(8) The House and its Committees shall, as far as practicable, adhere to standardized templates, manuals and formats developed for its activities, such as Legislative Oversight Manual, Committee Manual, Reporting Manual and Public Hearing Manual.

7. The quorum for each Committee Meeting shall be one-third of all the Members of the Committee except that the quorum for the Committees on Appropriations, Public Accounts, and Niger Delta Development

Quorum for taking testimony and certain other actions.

Commission (NDDC) shall be one-half of its members.

Calling and
interrogation
of witnesses.

8. (i) Whenever any hearing is conducted by any Committee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of them before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon.

(ii) Each Committee shall apply the five-minute rule in the interrogation of witnesses in any hearing until such time as each member of the Committee who so desires has had an opportunity to question each witness.

Investigative
Hearing
Procedures.

9. (a) The Chairman at an investigative hearing shall announce in the opening statement the subject of the investigation.

(b) Witnesses at an investigative hearing may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of guiding them concerning their constitutional rights.

(c) The Chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearing and the Committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(d) Whenever it is determined by a majority of members present that the evidence or testimony at an investigative hearing may tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or persons, such testimony or evidence, shall be presented in a closed session.

(e) The Committee shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if a majority of the members of the Committee present, determine that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person. In either case, the Committee shall afford such person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness; and receive and dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

(f) Except as provided in subparagraph (e), the Chairman shall receive and the Committee shall dispose of requests to subpoena additional witnesses.

(g) No evidence or testimony taken in a closed session may be released or used in open session without the consent of the Committee.

(h) In the discretion of the Committee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent sworn statement in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee is the sole judge of the pertinency of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearing.

(i) A witness may obtain a transcript copy of his testimony given at a public session or, if given at a closed session, when authorised by the Committee.

Limitation
on the
Jurisdiction
of
Committees.

10. The House shall not delegate to any Committee the power to decide whether a Bill shall be passed into a law or to determine any matter which it is empowered to determine by resolution under these Rules. A Committee may, however, be authorised to make recommendations to the House on any such matter.

ORDER EIGHTEEN

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

ESTABLISHMENT AND JURISDICTION OF COMMITTEES

1. Within the first thirty legislative days following the first sitting of the House, the membership of the following Special Committees shall be constituted: A. Special Committees

- (a) Committee on Selection;
- (b) Committee on Rules and Business;
- (c) Committee on House Services;
- (d) Committee on Public Petitions;
- (e) Committee on Public Accounts;
- (f) Committee on Ethics and Privileges
- (g) Committee on Media and Public Affairs

2. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Selection constituted at the commencement of every Assembly to perform the functions allocated to it by these Rules, and for such other matters as the House may, from time to time, refer to it. Committee on Selection.

(2) The Committee on Selection shall consist of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, House Leader, House Whip, Deputy House Leader, Deputy Whip, Minority Leader, Minority Whip, Deputy Minority Leader and Deputy Minority Whip; provided that the Speaker, if the need arises, may co-opt other members into the Committee and shall, in so doing reflect the equality of the geo-political zones.

(3) The Speaker shall be the Chairman of the Committee on Selection and in his absence, the Deputy Speaker.

(4) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) nominating members to serve on Standing and Special Committees;

(b) nominating members to serve on any Ad-Hoc or Special Committees to consider any special matter brought before the House;

(c) nominating such members that may be going on Parliamentary delegations other than Committees;

(d) monitoring, reviewing and evaluating, at least quarterly, the performance of Committees, Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Committees without prejudice to the general tenor of Order 7, Rule 1 (10) (b), and;

(e) partaking in the performance of such other business of the leadership as the Speaker may bring before it.

3. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Rules and Business consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Rules
and
Business.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) scheduling the business of the House and causing them to be printed on the Order Paper;

(b) allocation of time for the business of the House;

(c) organizing the House relative to Rules, Business and Procedure of the House;

(d) scrutinizing all Bills, Motions and other measures to ensure their conformity with the Constitution and extant Rules and Laws before presentation to the House for consideration;

(e) liaising with the Management and relevant Departments of the National Assembly to ensure daily and quarterly production and distribution of Hansard; and

(f) promptly informing the House of the status of Bills passed by the National Assembly and transmitted to the President for Assent and for which Assent was withheld to allow the House determine the next legislative action.

**Committee
on House
Services:**

4. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on House Services consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

[a] welfare of members;

[b] budget and appropriation of the House;

[c] maintenance of the House Chamber and premises including offices and accommodation;

[d] provision of equipment and materials for House premises;

[e] provision of Utility vehicles for House Committees;

[f] monitoring of the Finances of the House;

[g] addressing such other matters as may, in the course of the assignment, be referred to it;

[h] studying the Internal Security policy of the House of Representatives and the National Assembly and advising on same;

[i] designing and implementing pre-emptive measures on security of the precinct of the House of Representatives and periodically alerting on perceived threat to security;

[j] liaising with the Clerk to the National Assembly to ensure the security of the National Assembly Complex in Abuja and other real and movable properties of the National Assembly;

[k] oversight of the National Assembly Management;

[l] addressing such other matters as may, in the course of the assignment, be referred to it;

[m] annual budget estimates.

5. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Public Petitions consisting of not more than 40 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee
on Public
Petitions.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Public Complaints Commission;

(b) considering the subject matter of all petitions referred to it and reporting to the House, from time to time, its recommendations on actions to be taken thereon, together with such other observations on the petitions;

(c) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Public
Accounts.**

6. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Public Accounts consisting of not more than 40 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (i) oversight of the Office of the Auditor-General of the Federation and all Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government in respect of Audit Queries on Public Expenditure;
- (ii) examining the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by the House to meet the Public expenditure together with the auditor's reports thereon. The Committee shall, for the purpose of discharging that duty, have power to summon persons, summon papers and records, and report its findings and recommendations to the House from time to time.

(3) The Auditor-General shall bring to the attention of the Committee any pre-payment audit queries raised by the Internal Auditors of a Ministry, Department or Agency but over ruled by the Chief Executive.

(4) The Public Accounts Committee, shall have the power to examine any accounts or reports of statutory corporations and Boards after they shall have been laid on the Table of the House and to report thereon from time to time to the House.

7. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Ethics and Privileges consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee
on Ethics
and
Privileges.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) measures relating to the code of conduct of members;

(b) enforcing the provisions of the Code of Conduct Manual;

(3) The Committee is authorized to:

(a) recommend to the House from time to time such administrative actions as it may deem appropriate to establish or enforce as standards of conduct for members;

(b) investigate, subject to subparagraph (4) of this paragraph, any alleged violation by a member of the Code of Conduct or of any law, rule, regulation or other standard of conduct applicable to the conduct of such member and after notice and hearing, to recommend to the House by resolution or otherwise, such action as the Committee may deem appropriate in the circumstances;

(c) report to the appropriate Federal or State authorities, with the approval of the House, any substantial evidence of a violation by a member of any law applicable in the performance of his duties or the discharge of his responsibilities, which may have been disclosed in a Committee investigation; and

(d) give consideration to the request of any member for an advisory opinion with respect to the general propriety of any current or proposed conduct of such member, and with appropriate deletions to assure the privacy of the individual concerned, to publish such opinion for the guidance of other members of the House.

(4) (a) No resolution, report, recommendation or advisory opinion relating to the conduct of a member shall be made by the Committee on Ethics and Privileges and no investigation of such conduct shall be undertaken by such Committee, unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee:

(i) upon receipt of a complaint in writing and under oath made by or submitted to a member of the House and transmitted to the Committee by such member, or

(ii) upon receipt of a complaint in writing and under oath directly from an individual not a member of the House or the Committee finds such complaint has been submitted by such individual to not less than three members of the House who have refused, in writing to transmit such complaint to the Committee.

(b) No investigation shall be undertaken by the Committee of any alleged violation of a law, rule, regulation or standard of conduct not in effect at the time of the alleged violation.

(c) A member of the Committee shall be ineligible to participate, as a member of the Committee, in any Committee proceedings relating to his or her conduct. In any case in which a member of the Committee is ineligible to act as a member of the Committee under the preceding provision, the Speaker shall designate another member of the House from the same political party as the ineligible member of the Committee to act as a member of the Committee in any Committee proceeding relating to the official conduct of such ineligible member.

(d) A member of the Committee may disqualify himself from participating in any investigation of the conduct of a member,

officer, or employee of the House upon the submission in writing and under oath of an affidavit of disqualification stating that he cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision in the case in which he seeks to disqualify himself. If the Committee approves and accepts such affidavit of disqualification, the Chairman shall so notify the Speaker and request the Speaker to designate a member of the House from the same political party as the disqualifying member of the Committee to act as a member of the Committee in any Committee proceeding relating to such investigation.

(e) No information or testimony received, or the contents of a complaint or the fact of its finding shall be publicly disclosed by any Committee or staff member unless specifically authorised in each instance by a vote of the full Committee.

Committee
on Media
and Public
Affairs.

8. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Media and Public Affairs consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) promotion of the image of the House;

(b) curbing press speculations on House activities;

(c) effective management of House publicity;

(d) annual budget estimates.

9. The House may appoint other Special Ad-hoc Committees to perform such duties as the need may arise. Provided that where the function of any Special or Standing Committee in the Standing Orders is assigned to any Special Ad-Hoc Committee, the provision herein shall stand created by the Speaker or House Resolution to vest jurisdiction in such named Committee for the duration of the assignment named in the resolution or direction of the Speaker.

Other
Special Ad-
Hoc
Committees

B. — STANDING COMMITTEES

10. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Agricultural
Colleges
and
Institutions:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of Colleges of Agriculture, Research Institutes and experimental stations;

(c) agricultural education and extension services;

(d) agricultural research;

(e) Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute;

(f) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria;

(g) Nigerian Institute of Animal Science;

(h) National Veterinary Research Institute;

(i) Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute;

(j) National Horticultural Research Institute;

(k) Lake Chad Research Institute;

(l) National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services;

(m) National Animal Production Research Institute;

(n) Institute of Agricultural Research;

(o) Institute for Agricultural Research and Training;

(p) Rubber Research Institute;

(q) National Cereals Research Institute;

(r) National Institute for Freshwater Fisheries;

(s) Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria;

(t) National Roots Crops Research Institute;

(u) National Institute for Oil Palm Research;

(v) National Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research;

(w) National College of Production Inspection Technology;

(x) Federal College of Land Resources Technology;

(y) Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology;

(z) Federal College of Agriculture;

(za) Federal College of Freshwater Fisheries Technology;

(zb) Federal Co-operative Colleges;

(zc) All Agricultural Research Institutes

and Colleges, save those assigned to other Committees;

(zd) annual budget estimates;

Committee
on
Agricultural
Production
and
Services.

11. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Agricultural Production and Services consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) agricultural economics;

(c) agricultural production, marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products and commodities;

(d) animal husbandry and diseases;

(e) crop insurance and soil conservation;

(f) dairy industry;

(g) entomology and plant quarantine;

(h) extension of farm credit and farm security;

(i) forestry in general, and forest reserves;

(j) livestock and meat production;

(k) plant industry soil, and agricultural engineering;

(l) activities, programmes and projects of the Federal Ministry responsible for Agriculture;

(m) Bank of Agriculture;

(n) Office of the Permanent Representative, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);

(o) Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Corporation;

(p) National Agricultural Seeds Council;

(q) Federal Agricultural Co-ordinating Unit;

(r) National Centre for Agricultural Mechanization;

(s) Veterinary Council of Nigeria;

(t) Agriculture and Food Security;

(u) National Quarantine Service;

(v) Commercial Agricultural Scheme;

- (w) Fertilizer Matters;
- (x) Strategic Grains Reserve Matters;
- (y) annual budget estimates;

**Committee on
Aids, Loans
and Debt
Management.**

12. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Debt Management Office of the Federation;

(b) formulation of policy guidelines and laws for borrowing of moneys within and/or outside Nigeria for the purposes of the Federation or of the States;

(c) formulation of policies and laws, subject to the conditions of such loans, guiding the verification and payment of all external and internal debts of the country;

(d) developing and helping to implement the strategies for the reduction or cancellation of the country's external debt burden;

(e) internal borrowing;

- (f) public debt;
- (g) foreign loans;

(h) designing and encouraging regional and international strategies for debt relief or debt cancellation for developing nations;

(i) formulation of policies and laws guiding the search for and utilisation of external aids for funding programmes or projects for Federal or State Governments;

(j) annual budget estimates.

13. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Air Force consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. **Committee on Air Force.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Nigerian Air Force Development projects;

(b) oversight of the Nigerian Air Force and its Units and establishment;

(c) annual budget estimates.

14. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Anti-Corruption consisting of not more than 30 Members **Committee on Anti-Corruption:**

constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of matters relating to the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission, Code of Conduct Bureau and Code of Conduct Tribunal;

(b) programmes against violation of official conduct or of any law, rule or regulation applicable to the conduct of such officials;

(c) encouraging Nigerians to protect and preserve public property and fight against misappropriation and squandering of public funds;

(d) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Appropriations.

15. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Appropriations, consisting of not more than forty (40) members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) appropriation of funds for execution of government programmes and projects;

(b) holding hearings on the Budget as a whole within thirty days after the transmittal of the budget to the National Assembly each year, with particular reference to:

(i) the basic recommendations and budgetary policies of the President in the presentation of the budget; and

(ii) the fiscal, financial and economic assumptions used as basis in arriving at total estimated expenditures and receipts.

(3) In holding the hearings pursuant to this section:

(a) the Committee shall receive testimony from the Minister of Finance, the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Chairman of the National Economic Intelligence Agency and such other persons as the Committee may consider useful to its work;

(b) hearings, pursuant to this subsection or any part thereof, shall be held in open session and with a quorum present determined by roll call: provided that if the testimony to be taken at that hearing on that day be related to a matter of national security, the Committee may, by the same procedure, close the hearing to the public on that day and on other subsequent days of hearing. A transcript of all such hearings shall be printed and a copy thereof furnished to each member of the Committee;

(c) hearings pursuant hereto, may be held before joint meeting of the House Committee and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate in accordance with such procedures as the two Committees may jointly determine.

(4) In addition, the Committee on Appropriations shall study, on a continuing basis, those provisions of law which (on the first day of the first fiscal year for which the National Assembly budgetary process is effective) provide spending authority or permanent budget authority and shall report to the House from time to time its recommendations for terminating or modifying such provisions.

(5) Oversight of the Budget Office of the Federation.

(6) Co-ordinating, monitoring and supervising the implementation of all Appropriation Acts after passage by the National Assembly.

(7) Relating Annual Budget to Rolling Plans and Medium Term Expenditure Framework in order to inculcate budget culture to ensure continuity with regard to Capital Estimates.

(8) Annual budget estimates.

16. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Army consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. **Committee on Army.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Nigerian Army;

(b) oversight of ammunition depots, forts, arsenal reservations and establishments;

(c) oversight of development projects of the Nigerian Army;

(d) oversight of Army Barracks, landed property and appurtenances; and

(e) annual budget estimates of the Army.

17. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Aviation consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. **Committee on Aviation.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of Airport developments and management;

(b) oversight of Civil Aviation regulatory and other services;

(c) oversight of air safety services at Airports;

(d) oversight of Schools of Aviation;

(e) oversight of Aviation Institutions where the Federal Government has interests;

(f) oversight of meteorological services;

(g) oversight of Nigerian Air Space Management Agency;

(h) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Aviation and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(i) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Banking
and
Currency:**

18. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Banking and Currency consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN);

(b) oversight of banks and banking generally;

(c) oversight of the Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Company;

(d) oversight of Federal Monetary Policy;

(e) oversight of the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON);

(f) annual budget estimates

19. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Basic Education and Services consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. **Committee on Basic Education and Services.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Education and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of unity schools;

(c) oversight of the National Examination Council (NECO), West African Examinations Council (WAEC) and the National Business and Technical Examinations Board (NABTEB);

(d) oversight of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB);

(e) oversight of the National Teachers Institute (NTI);

(f) oversight of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC);

(g) oversight of the National Education Research and Development Council (NERDC);

(h) oversight of the National Mathematical Centre (NMC);

(i) vocational and non-formal education;

(j) measures relating to education generally save those assigned to other Committees;

(k) external aid for education;

(l) educational broadcasts;

(m) educational library services;

(n) educational statistics;

(o) federal scholarship;

(p) annual budget estimates.

20. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Capital Market and Institutions consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Capital
Market and
Institutions.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC);

(b) formulation of policies and laws regulating:

(i) the Nigerian Stock Exchange,

(ii) issuing Houses,

(iii) stockbroking firms and dealers,

(iv) unclaimed bonds and issues related thereto,

(v) trustee securities,

(vi) commodity exchanges;

(c) ensuring that all revenues generated howsoever by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) are remitted to the Federation Account;

(d) annual budget estimates.

21. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Civil Society and Development Partners consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Civil
Society and
Development
Partners.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of voluntary organizations generally;

(b) oversight of civil societies;

(c) oversight of donor agencies;

(d) formulation of policies and guidelines for the coordination and regulation of the activities of external donor agencies in the country;

(e) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Climate
Change.

22. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Climate Change consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) providing oversight for structures, institutions, laws and policies that make up Nigeria's response to Climate Change;

(b) ensuring accountability on Climate Change issues;

(c) ensuring legislative scrutiny and oversight over treaties and agreements that are

likely to arise from the coordinated efforts under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

23. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Commerce consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. Committee on Commerce.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Commerce and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) commerce in Nigeria generally;

(c) international commodity agreement;

(d) consumer affairs and consumer protection;

(e) oversight of the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC);

(f) copyrights and intellectual property matters;

(g) inter-State commerce;

(h) monopolies, combines and trust;

(i) patents, trademarks and merchandise marks;

- (j) price control;
- (k) business names registration;
- (l) trade fairs and exhibitions;
- (m) weights and measures;
- (n) bankruptcy and insolvency;
- (o) oversight of the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC);
- (p) oversight of the Nigerian Investment Promotion Council (NIPC);
- (q) oversight of the Nigerian Export Processing Authority (NEPA);
- (r) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on
Constituency
Outreach.

24. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Constituency Outreach consisting of not more than 40 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) ensuring the maintenance of Constituency Offices by Members;

(b) liaising with appropriate agencies and organizations responsible for the co-

ordination of constituency development projects;

(c) monitoring and supervising Members' Constituency Offices and projects and reporting to the House quarterly;

(d) annual budget estimates.

25. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Cooperation and Integration in Africa consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Cooperation
and
Integration
in Africa.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) all matters relating to the Ministry of Co-operation and Integration in Africa including the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and all Parastatals under the Ministry;

(b) oversight of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), African Union, African Development Bank, etc.

(c) annual budget estimates.

26. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Culture and Tourism consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Culture
and
Tourism.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) tourism generally;
- (b) Museums and monuments;
- (c) Archives;
- (d) culture and Tourism;
- (e) National Park Service;
- (f) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Culture and Tourism and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;
- (g) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Customs
and Excise.

27. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Customs and Excise consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) oversight of the Nigerian Customs and Customs Service;
- (b) ensuring that all revenues collected by the Nigerian Customs are promptly remitted into the Federation Account, and laying the report on actual monthly remittances before the House quarterly;

(c) monitoring the expenditure and sectoral application of monies deducted and retained by the Nigerian Customs as cost of collection and report same quarterly to the House;

(d) ensuring compliance in the enforcement of all regulations in the Export Processing Free Trade Zones;

(e) oversight of the running, maintenance and curricula of all Training Institutions of the Nigerian Customs and assure standard:

(f) reviewing of the Customs and Excise laws;

(g) annual budget estimates of the Nigerian Customs, including cost of collection; and

(h) annual budget estimates.

28. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Defence consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Defence:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry of Defence and Office of the Chief of Defence Staff;

(b) oversight of Ammunition depots, forts and arsenal;

(c) oversight of payments, promotions, retirement benefits and privileges of members of the Armed forces;

(d) oversight of scientific research and development in support of the armed services;

(e) oversight of selective service;

(f) oversight of strategic and critical materials necessary for the common defence;

(g) oversight of Military applications of nuclear energy;

(h) special oversight on disarmament and military dependants' education;

(i) oversight of Military Cadets;

(j) oversight of War graves, monuments and memorabilia;

(k) oversight of the Nigerian Defence Academy and other Military Educational Institutions;

(l) oversight of the Defence Industry Corporation (DIC);

(m) oversight of Peace Keeping Operations;

(n) oversight of Veterans measures generally;

(o) oversight of compensation, vocational rehabilitation, and education of veterans;

(p) oversight of re-adjustment of servicemen to civil life;

(q) annual budget estimates.

29. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Delegated Legislations consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. Committee
on
Delegated
Legislations

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

[a] examining provisions of Bills which seek to:

[i] delegate powers to make Rules and Regulations;

[ii] amend earlier Acts delegating such powers with a view to seeing whether suitable provisions for the laying of the 'Orders' before the House have been made therein;

[iii] examine any other matter relating to 'Orders' or any question of delegated legislation arising therefrom;

[3] Considering whether:

[i] the Order is in accord with the provisions of the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made;

[ii] the Order contains matter which, in the opinion of the Committee, should more properly be dealt by an Act of the National Assembly;

[iii] the Order directly or indirectly bars the jurisdiction of the court;

[iv] the Order gives retrospective effect to any of the provisions in respect of which the Constitution or the Act does not expressly give any such power;

[v] the Order involves expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation or the public revenues;

[vi] the Order appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made;

[vii] there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in the publication or laying of the Order before the House;

[viii] for any reason the form or purport of the Order calls for any elucidation;

[4] scrutinizing all delegated and subsidiary legislations made pursuant to any

law made or deemed to be made by the National Assembly and also ensure their incorporation into the body of laws pursuant to which same is made, and also ensure that same is consistent with the powers granted by the Principal Act or enabling Instrument.

30. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Diaspora consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. Committee on Diaspora.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) promoting the exchange of ideas between the home country and Nigerians in the Diaspora;

(b) collecting and maintaining data on Nigerians in the diaspora from Consulates, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Education, Justice, population registers, censuses, employment agencies and statistics divisions of International Organizations and International Census Bureau for domestic planning and uses;

(c) initiating policies needed to recognize and harness the potentials of Nigerians in the Diaspora in support of development and growth in both their home and host countries;

(d) encouraging and monitoring Diaspora networks and organizations and assisting in the realization of their agenda and promoting Institutional change to help public servants collaborate effectively with Diaspora representatives;

(e) participating in dialogues with Governments, regional and local authorities on Diaspora matters in their home and host countries;

(f) welfare and protection of Nigerian citizens abroad;

(g) oversight of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Diaspora matters;

(h) annual budget estimates on Diaspora matters;

**Committee
on Electoral
and Political
Party
Matters:**

31. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Electoral and Political Party Matters consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) monitoring the implementation of the Electoral Act and all electoral processes in the country and reporting periodically for legislative action and remedies;

(b) studying activities of Electoral Bodies and processes and periodically recommending assistance or modification;

(c) oversight of the activities of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC);

(d) in liaison with the Leader of the House, co-ordinating relationship between the House Leadership and the caucuses of Political Parties represented in the House;

(e) co-ordinating the relationship between the House, Political Parties and their Leadership;

(f) annual budget estimates of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

32. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee on
Emergency
and Disaster
Preparedness.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) development of policies on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness;

(b) development of pre-emptive policies and programmes for Search and Rescue

Operations in the Maritime and Air Transport Industries;

(c) designing of oil spillage control in the oil industry;

(d) development of appropriate measures, including legislative action relating to the prevention of terrorism and related matters;

(e) development of sustainable National Contingency plan in the private and public sectors;

(f) oversight of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA);

(g) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on
Environment
and Habitat:

33. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Environment and Habitat consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Environment and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of the National Oil Spill Detection Response Agency (NOSDRA);

(c) control of industrial waste;

(d) control of toxic waste and hazardous waste dumping by industrialized nations;

(e) control of waste pollution;

(f) initiating policy on clean environment for the country;

(g) environmental sanitation;

(h) control of desertification;

(i) geo-seismic destruction;

(j) environmental matters generally;

(k) pollution;

(l) environmental research and development;

(m) erosion study and control;

(n) oversight of Ecological Funds;

(o) oversight of the National Agency for the Great Greenwall;

(p) designing flood and ocean erosion and desertification control measures and legislations;

(q) acting as catalyst in relation to other House Committees whose functions or areas of oversight functions are closely or directly related to Habitat Agenda principles and commitment, regarding sustainable development;

(r) acting in consultation and tandem with such House Committees in specialized programmes of United Nations Centre for Human Settlement; UNCUS (Habitat) programmes;

(s) promoting the implementation of the resolution of Regional Council for Africa of Global Parliamentarians on Habitat on institutionalizing Habitat Committees in Parliaments of member countries to wit: State Assemblies and Local Governments;

(t) advising the House regarding networking regionally and internationally to strengthen dialogue and technical cooperation in the areas of urban development strategies;

(u) maintaining, on behalf of the House, close and symbiotic relations with the following organisations and all others engaged in Habitat Agenda programme;

(v) Global Forum of Parliamentarians on Habitat (GFPH) and Regional Council for Africa of Global Parliamentarians on Habitat (RCAGPH);

(w) United Nations Centre for Human Settlements UNCHS (Habitat);

(x) Commonwealth Consultative Group on Human Settlements and Commonwealth Secretariats on Habitat matters;

(y) oversight of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council;

(z) Habitat for Humanity International, and all other agencies and organizations which may wish to co-operate with the House in the areas outlined above;

(za) liaising with other House Committees to promote and help actualize Habitat Agenda principles and key commitments;

(zb) advising the House on Habitat Agenda and issues requiring legislation or review of existing legislation to bring into conformity key principles and commitments of the Habitat Agenda;

(zc) annual budget estimates.

34. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Capital Territory consisting of not more than 40 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Federal
Capital
Territory.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight on matters affecting the Federal Capital Territory Administration, except the Area Councils;

(b) oversight of planning and development of the Federal Capital Territory;

(c) oversight of allocation of lands in the Federal Capital Territory;

(d) control of development within the Federal Capital Territory;

(e) oversight of Secondary and Tertiary Education;

(f) oversight of Secondary Healthcare;

(g) oversight of Public Transport System;

(h) oversight of Parks, Gardens and Recreational facilities;

(i) oversight of the following Agencies:

[i] Abuja Geographical Information Service (AGIS);

[ii] Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA);

[iii] Abuja Metropolitan Management Authority;

[iv] Abuja Investment Company Limited;

[v] FCT Mass Housing Department;

[vi] FCT Pension Board;

[vii] FCT Internal Revenue Service and its Management Board;

(j) annual budget estimates.

35. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on Federal Capital Territory Area Councils and Ancillary Matters.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) review of the laws establishing the Structure and Administration of the Area Councils in the Federal Capital Territory;

(b) FCT Area Councils and Chieftaincy Matters:

[i] Area Council Mandate Secretariat;

- [ii] Area Council Service Commission;
- [iii] Area Council Staff Pension Board;
- [iv] Auditor-General for the Area Councils;
- [v] any other Agency or department under FCT Area Councils Mandate Secretariat;
- (c) Agriculture and Rural Development generally and Rural Development Mandate Secretariat;
- (d) Social Development matters generally in the Federal Capital Territory:
 - [i] Women and Social Affairs;
 - [ii] Youth Development;
 - [iii] Culture and Tourism matters;
 - [iv] Sports Council; and
 - [v] any other Agency under the Social Development Mandate Secretariat;
- (e) FCT Satellite Towns Development Agency;
- (f) FCT Universal Basic Education;
- (g) FCT Primary Healthcare Development Board;

(h) FCT Resettlement and Compensation Department;

- (i) FCT Muslim Pilgrims welfare Board;
- (j) FCT Christian Pilgrims Welfare Board;
- (k) Rural Electrification;
- (l) Lower income Housing Programme;
- (m) Enforcing implementation of the budget as approved for each Area Council;
- (n) Annual Budget estimates of the Area Councils.

36. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Character consisting of not more than 40 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Federal
Character:

(2) The Committee's Jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) oversight of the Federal Character Commission;
- (b) investigating complaints of non-compliance with the Federal Character principles by Ministries, Departments and Agencies and advising the House thereon;

(c) ensuring that the Commission complies with the functions assigned to it in the Constitution;

(d) promoting, monitoring and ensuring compliance with the principles of proportional sharing of all posts at all levels of Government

(e) ensuring that all appointments into every public company or sector of the economy or polity and corporation reflect the Federal Character in its Directorate and Senior Management cadres;

(f) annual budget estimate.

Committee
on Federal
Judiciary:

37. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Judiciary consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) judicial matters generally;

(b) oversight of all Federal Judicial Institutions including but not limited to the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Federal High Court, National Judicial Institute, National Judicial Council and all Courts/Tribunals however called funded by the Federal Government through first line charge or however described;

(c) Notaries public;

d) annual budget estimates.

38. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on FCT Judiciary consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on FCT
Judiciary:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) judicial matters of the FCT generally;

(b) oversight of all matters affecting the Federal Capital Territory Judiciary including but not limited to the High Court, the Customary and Sharia Courts of Appeal of the FCT;

(c) FCT Judicial Service Commission;

(d) annual Budget Estimates.

39. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Federal
Road
Maintenance
Agency
(FERMA):

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) on the execution of road maintenance and rehabilitation nationwide;

(b) initiation of policies needed for an all-year round road maintenance and rehabilitation of Federal roads nationwide;

(c) ensuring that the Agency complies with the functions assigned to it by the FERMA Act;

(d) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Federal
Road Safety
Commission
(FRSC).

40. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Federal Road Safety Commission;

(b) ensuring the implementation of the Federal Road Safety Commission Act;

(c) ensuring the implementation of National Road Traffic Regulation and Road Safety Code;

(d) oversight of the recruitment and training of men and officers of the Federal Road Safety Commission;

reviewing, from time to time, the Federal Road Safety Commission law;

(f) annual budget estimates.

41. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Finance consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. Committee
on Finance.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Finance and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) fiscal matters;

(c) oversight of Government investments in Banks and Statutory Corporations and Agencies;

(d) examination of Bills for imposition of or increase in any tax, duty or fee or any reduction, withdrawal or cancellation thereof.

(e) monitoring and enforcing the implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility Act;

(f) relations with international financial Institutions;

(g) royalties, Companies Income Tax, Petroleum Profit Tax, Stamp Duties, Capital Gains Tax and Personal Income Tax on Armed Forces Personnel, External Affairs Officers, National Economic Intelligence Committee, Nonresident persons of the Federal Capital Territory;

(h) budgeting the monies retained by the Federal Inland Revenue Service as cost of collection and monitoring the application thereof and recommending to the House;

(i) harmonization of the Revenue Bill;

(j) oversight of the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC);

(k) oversight of the Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA);

(l) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Financial
Crimes:

42. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Financial Crimes consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC);

(b) monitoring the Agencies involved in the detection of financial crimes, money laundering and advance fee fraud;

(c) oversight of all organizations, agencies and institutions established by law on financial crimes;

(d) annual budget estimates.

43. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on FOI (Reforms of Government Institutions) consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on FOI
(Reforms of
Government
Institutions).

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) review of existing public policies and laws with a view to making them conform to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act;

(b) formulating policies that will facilitate the implementation of the Act;

(c) hearing petitions or grievances by the public relating to refusal or non-compliance with the terms of the Act by Public Servants;

(d) identifying and liaising with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (M.D.A's) with a view to sensitizing the Public about the benefits of the Act;

(e) receiving Reports from the Attorney General of the Federation on the implementation of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act;

(f) oversight of the broad implementation of the reform process and agenda of the Federal Government.

**Committee
on Foreign
Affairs.**

44. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Foreign Affairs consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) relations of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with foreign nations generally;

(b) international conferences and congresses;

(c) measures relating to the diplomatic service;

(d) intervention abroad and declaration of war;

(e) neutrality;

(f) measures relating to international economic policy;

(g) trading with unfriendly countries;

(h) measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard Nigerian business interests abroad;

(i) international commodity agreements including all agreements for co-operation in the export of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware;

(j) diplomatic and consular matters relating to repatriation;

(k) technical assistance to foreign countries;

(l) promotion of South-South co-operation and development;

(m) promotion of New International Economic Order (NIEO);

(n) enhancing financial assistance in the form of technology transfer;

(o) sustaining the commitment of member States to the broad themes of Globalisation, Knowledge, Technology and North-South relationship;

(p) "Oversight of the Nigerian Friendship Association of Brazil, China, Saudi Arabia, France, Israel, United Kingdom and United States of America"

(q) oversight of the Hajj Commission;

(r) oversight of the Nigeria Christian Pilgrims Board;

(s) oversight of Diplomatic and Consular services on pilgrimage;

(t) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(u) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Gas
Resources.**

45. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Gas Resources consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) gas and allied matters generally;

(b) oversight of the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas;

(c) natural gas and its derivatives;

(d) oversight of the Nigerian Gas Company;

(e) oversight of the Gas component of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources;

(f) examining and scrutinizing, in conference with relevant Committee(s), the annual budget estimates and the gas component of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and its subsidiaries and presenting same to the House for consideration and approval;

46. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Governmental Affairs consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee on
Governmental
Affairs.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) all matters relating to the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, save those assigned to other Committees:

(i) oversight of the Nigerian National Merit Award (NNMA);

(ii) oversight of the Service Delivery Compact (SERVICOM);

(b) oversight of award of National titles, honours, decorations and other dignitaries;

(c) oversight of Nigerian National Volunteer Service;

(d) oversight of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, (NIPSS) Kuru;

(e) oversight of the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON);

(f) oversight of lottery and gambling;

(g) oversight of the National Lottery Trust Fund;

(h) oversight of the National Lottery Regulatory Commission;

(i) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on
Healthcare
Services.**

47. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Healthcare Services consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Health and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of the following Health Institutions and Services:

(i) National Primary Healthcare Development Agency;

(ii) medical research;

(iii) epidemics;

(iv) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC);

(v) National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS);

(vi) National Programme on Immunization (NPI);

(vii) World Health Organisation (WHO);

(c) annual budget estimates.

48. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee on Health Institutions consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee
on Health
Institutions.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Health and its Parastatals, save

those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of the following Hospitals:

- [i] Specialist Hospitals;
- [ii] Teaching Hospitals;
- [iii] National Orthopaedic Hospitals;
- [iv] National Psychiatric Hospitals;
- [v] National Eye Hospitals;
- [vi] National Hospital;
- [vii] Federal Government Clinics;
- [viii] Federal Medical Centres;
- (c) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on HIV/AIDS,
Tuberculosis
and Malaria
Control.

49. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) formulation of effective legislative measures for the prevention and control of

HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

(b) encouraging and coordinating measures and research on possible cure for the disease and recommending legislative and budgetary measures in furtherance of same;

(c) co-ordinating and harmonizing the activities of governmental and non-governmental agencies on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria generally to ensure effectiveness of the efforts at AIDS and Malaria control, remedy and cure for AIDS patients;

(d) oversight of all Agencies responsible for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria control measures and policies;

(e) annual budget estimates.

50. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Housing consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Housing.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) formulation of a comprehensive national housing policy, which shall ensure safe and comfortable shelter for all Nigerians;

(b) harmonisation, co-ordination and streamlining of all housing policies for all levels of government to fit into the national housing scheme.

(c) formulation of strategies to generate the funds to enhance the national housing policy over the short and long term;

(d) oversight of all Federal Housing programmes and agencies;

(e) oversight of the implementation of Mortgage Policies of Government;

(f) oversight of the Federal Ministry responsible for Housing and all departments and agencies of the Federal Government which deal with Housing;

(g) general issues in Housing;

(h) oversight of the Federal Mortgage Bank;

(i) oversight of the Federal Mortgage Finance Limited;

(j) oversight of the implementation of mortgage policies of the government;

(s) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Human
Rights.

51. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Human Rights consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of all human rights issues including petitions of rights;

(b) oversight of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC);

(c) oversight of Public Trustees;

(d) co-ordination and implementation of the Child Rights Act and other matters related thereto;

(e) oversight of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP);

(f) annual budget estimates.

52. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Industry consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. Committee
on Industry.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) standardisation and quality control;

(b) oversight of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON);

(c) oversight of the heavy industries set up by Federal Government of Nigeria, such as Nigerian Newsprint Manufacturing Company Limited; Iwopin Paper Mill; Jebba Paper Mill and others;

(d) assistance to and protection of small businesses including financial aid;

(e) oversight of the National Automotive Council;

(f) aid to industries generally;

(g) technological and industrial research and technology transfer programme;

(h) oversight of the Bank of Industry (BOI);

(i) oversight of the National Economic Reconstruction Fund (NERFUND);

(j) oversight of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN);

(k) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Industry and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(l) annual budget estimates.

53. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Information,
National
Orientation,
Ethics and
Values.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Information and its Parastatals save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of the print and electronic media owned by the Government;

(c) public relations, public enlightenment and information services;

(d) oversight of the National Orientation Agency (NOA);

(e) promotion of discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-reliance and patriotism;

(f) the civic duties of every Nigerian;

(g) oversight of the Voice of Nigeria (VON);

(h) oversight of the National Press Council;

(i) oversight of the Nigerian Television College, Jos;

(j) oversight of the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA);

(k) oversight of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN);

(l) oversight of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN);

(m) oversight of the Nigerian Broadcasting Commission (NBC);

(n) oversight of the Films and Video Censors Board;

(o) oversight of all Parastatals under the Ministry of Information and National Orientation;

(p) regulation of importation of obscene literature and photographs;

(q) annual budget estimates

54. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Information Technology consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Information
Technology.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Communications Technology, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) formulation of a comprehensive National Policy which shall ensure compliance with Communications technology in Nigeria;

(c) liaising with other Committees whose functions or areas of oversight are closely or directly related to Information Technology;

(d) liaising with other Committees to promote and actualize Information Technology in Nigeria;

(e) advising the House on Information Technology issues requiring legislation or review of existing legislations on Communications Technology to bring them into conformity with International best practices;

(f) oversight of the following:

(g) Galaxy Backbone, Abuja;

(ii) Nigerian Communications Satellite (NIGCOMSAT);

(iii) National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA);

(h) Satellite usages;

(i) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on
Insurance
and
Actuarial
Matters:

55. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Insurance and Actuarial Matters consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) Insurance Matters;

(b) oversight of Insurance Companies that take insurance cover on Government Properties;

(c) ensuring diligence and adequate insurance Policies covering all Federal Government Properties and Agencies including but not limited to the CBN, FIRS, NNPC, etc.;

(d) ensuring the efficient and effective performance of Insurance Companies and brokers through the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM);

(e) oversight of the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM);

(f) oversight of the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC);

(g) annual budget estimates.

56. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees and Initiatives on North-East Zone consisting of not more than 40 members to be drawn, one, from each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Internally
Displaced
Persons
(IDPs),
Refugees
and
Initiatives
on North-
East Zone:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

[a] oversight of the Ministry, Agency, Parastatal or Government Department responsible for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees, Migrants and Stateless persons, save those assigned to other Committees;

[b] oversight and legislative responsibility over the National Commission for Refugees or any successor agency;

[c] policy and legislative measures on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs);

[d] policy and legislative measures on Refugees;

[e] policy and legislative measures on Migrants;

[f] policy and legislative measures on Stateless Persons;

[g] relations and co-ordination with multi-lateral and supra-national Agencies and Bodies with respect to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Persons;

[h] relations and co-ordination with multi-lateral and supra-national Agencies and Bodies with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone of Nigeria, comprising Adamawa State, Bauchi State, Borno State, Gombe State, Taraba State and Yobe State, ravaged by Terrorism;

[i] relations and co-ordination of Private Sector Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;

[j] relations and co-ordination of Government Initiatives with respect to the Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Recovery, Resettlement and Development of the North East Zone;

[k] annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Interior.

57. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Interior consisting of

not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Interior and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) immigration and deportation;

(c) naturalization and citizenship;

(d) oversight of prisons;

(e) oversight of issuance of Nigerian passports;

(f) public holidays, national civic registration;

(g) aliens, emigration and business permits;

(h) oversight of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps;

(i) Expatriate Quota;

(j) oversight of Federal Fire Services;

(k) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Inter-
Parliamentary
Relations.

58. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) studying, analysing and suggesting improvement of the Charters of all inter-parliamentary cooperative groupings of which the House is a member as well as finding other ways by which the Nigerian legislature shall exert itself thereon;

(b) initiating good policies on parliamentary research and documentation and ensuring an efficient data bank on National and State Assemblies;

(c) recommending to the House the formation of, and entry into, any new parliamentary grouping;

(d) ensuring the maintenance of harmonious and productive relations between the National Assembly and all world parliaments;

(e) ensuring the maintenance of harmonious and productive relations with, and in all international parliamentary associations such as Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

(CPA), Union of African Parliaments (UAP), African-Caribbean and Pacific/EEC Joint Assembly;

(f) co-ordinating national and international parliamentary exchanges, hospitality and courtesies on reciprocal basis;

(g) making recommendations to the House as to the desirability of sending delegation to specific Inter-Parliamentary events.

(h) initiating the organisation of national and international conferences, seminars, workshops and other fora for the dissemination of parliamentary education and experiences;

(i) representing the National Assembly in specific international parliamentary associations or groupings on terms agreed to between the House and the Senate;

(j) ensuring harmonious relationship between the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly;

(k) overseeing and monitoring the conferences of Presiding Officers of National and State Houses of Assembly;

(l) planning and direction of Nigerian Conference of Presiding Officers;

(m) "oversight of the Nigerian Friendship Associations except those assigned to the Committee on Foreign Affairs";

(n) oversight over any foreign office dedicated to inter-parliamentary relations work;

(o) ensuring the execution of House Resolutions on Inter-Parliamentary Relations;

(p) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Justice.**

59. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Justice consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) Constitutional matters;

(b) formulation of legal policies and programmes;

(c) formulation of relevant and effective legal education policies;

(d) formulation of policies for effective legal advice and legal aid;

(e) formulation of general policies for the collation, codification, reporting and publishing

of Nigerian Laws;

(f) formulation of policies on public prosecution matters;

(g) extradition and matters of public nuisance;

(h) legal matters relating to Nigeria's bilateral relations including claims against or by Nigeria;

(i) oversight of the Ministry of Justice and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(j) oversight of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC);

(k) annual budget estimates.

60. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee
on Labour,
Employment
and
Productivity.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) all matters relating to trade unions and labour generally;

(b) all matters relating to social security and other cognate issues;

(c) national productivity improvement;

(d) co-operative societies;

(e) factory inspection;

(f) wages and salaries;

(g) oversight of the Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF);

(h) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Labour, Employment and Productivity and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(i) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Lake
Chad.

61. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Lake Chad consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the lake Chad Basin Commission;

(b) designing policies aimed at addressing Lake Chad desertification;

(c) attending meetings of the regional parliament on Lake Chad;

(d) annual budget estimates.

62. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Land Transport consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Land
Transport.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Land Transport and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of the Nigerian Railway Corporation or its existing Agency;

(c) oversight of the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT);

(d) oversight of matters relating to Land Transport;

(e) annual budget estimates.

63. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee on Legislative Budget and Research consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Legislative
Budget and
Research:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) providing the House timely and non-partisan analysis for economic budget, policy and legislative decisions;

(b) serving as repository for information on various position papers on the subject from the other Standing and Ad-hoc Committees within the House as well as other legislatures;

(c) determining the need and nature of foreign or domestic scope of technical assistance and roles of donor agencies in the establishment of the Legislative Budget and Research Office (LBRO);

(d) engaging in the actual discussion on negotiation for funding requirements with donor agencies;

(e) articulating projects costs and determining funding sources;

(f) determining the use and roles of consultancy in the projects and making appropriate recommendations;

(g) co-ordinating and overseeing the establishment and functioning of Legislative Budget and Research Office of the House of Representatives and/or National Assembly;

(h) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on
Legislative
Compliance.

64. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Legislative

Compliance consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's Jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) ensuring the implementation of all Acts passed or deemed to have been passed by the National Assembly and all House Resolutions on Motions, Petitions and other Resolutions;

(b) ensuring that all House delegations to Parliamentary Conferences, Training, Seminars and Capacity building are attended;

(c) following up and receiving the report of all House Delegations to Local and International Parliamentary Conferences and Seminars and causing the communique, decisions and agreements to be presented to, and acted upon by the House;

(d) annual budget estimates

65. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Local Content consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Local
Content.

2. The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) matters relating to local skill development;
- (b) ensuring the transfer of technology in oil and gas industries;
- (c) ensuring the patronage of local manpower by any industry sited in Nigeria;
- (d) designing policies that would ensure the patronage of local manufacturing industries by Nigerians;
- (e) receiving an annual performance report of the Nigerian Local Content;
- (f) oversight of the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board;
- (g) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Maritime Safety,
Education and
Administration.

66. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Marine Transport and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;
- (b) oversight of Maritime Safety;

- (c) oversight of Maritime Education
- (d) oversight of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA);
- (e) oversight of the Nigeria Maritime Academy;
- (f) annual budget estimates.

67. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Narcotic Drugs consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Narcotic
Drugs:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) all matters relating to the enforcement and administration of laws on narcotic drugs and psycho-tropic substances;
- (b) oversight of all organizations, agencies and institutions established by law on narcotic drugs, save those assigned to other Committees;

(c) oversight of the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA);

(d) annual budget estimates;

68. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on National Planning and Economic Development consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the

Committee
on National
Planning and
Economic
Development.

commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) matters relating to National Planning generally;

(b) oversight of the National Bureau of Statistics;

(c) oversight of the National Manpower Board;

(d) oversight of the National Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER);

(e) oversight of the Centre for Management Development (CMD);

(f) oversight of the National Planning Commission;

(g) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Navy.

69. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Navy consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of Navy development projects;

(b) oversight function over the Nigerian Navy and its Units and establishment;

(c) oversight of Naval Barracks, landed properties and appurtenances;

(d) annual budget estimates.

70. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on National Security and Intelligence consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on National
Security
and
Intelligence.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of public security;

(b) oversight of all matters relating to any Organisation or Agency established by law for ensuring the security of the Federation;

(c) oversight of security and Intelligence matters generally;

(d) oversight of the Offices of the National Security Adviser (NSA), State Security Service (SSS) and National Intelligence Agency (NIA);

(e) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Niger-Delta
Development
Commission.

71. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Niger-Delta Development Commission consisting of not more than 40 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) all matters relating to the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC);

(b) co-ordinating and monitoring the activities of development partners in the Niger-Delta to ensure effectiveness for development of the area;

(c) studying, on a continuous basis, matters relating to conflicts between or among communities and development partners to forestall frustration of economic activities in the Niger Delta Region;

(d) oversight of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC);

(e) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Niger-
Delta
Ministry.

72. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Niger Delta Ministry consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Niger Delta Area;

(b) oversight of the implementation of Federal Government Development Policies and Projects in the Niger Delta under the Ministry of Niger Delta;

(c) oversight of the amnesty and post amnesty programmes of the Federal Government in the Niger Delta Area;

(d) acting as a liaison in relation to other House Committees whose functions or areas of oversight are closely or directly related to the Development of the Niger Delta Area;

(e) annual budget estimates.

73. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Pensions consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on
Pensions.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) examining all issues relating to Pensions within the Public Service in Nigeria (except Pension of Judicial Officers) and making recommendations on appropriate measures to ensure timely payment of

Pensions, gratuity and other terminal benefits to retired Public Servants;

(b) developing Policies on Contributory Pension Scheme for the Public Service;

(c) recommending contributory Pension policies to be adopted by the Private Sector in addition to or as modification of the existing Policies on Pensions or disengagement benefit in the Private Sector;

(d) developing regulatory framework and setting standards for institutions operating or seeking registration as Pension Fund Managers and/or Pension Trusts to guarantee security of Pension Investments and repayments on due terms;

(e) investigating and periodically reporting on failure of employers to meet Pension Obligations and recommending rescue measures for Pensioners and sanctions for the employers;

(f) developing a sustainable Pension Scheme specifically for the Teaching Service in the country at all tiers of Government and recommending rescue mechanism for payment of outstanding Pensions to Teachers in the Country;

(g) studying, on a continuing basis, all legislations (existing or proposed) relating to Pensions as stated herein or as may be referred

to the Committee and making recommendations to the House;

(h) matters relating to Pensions and Gratuities generally;

(i) oversight of the National Pension Commission, Military Pension Board, among others;

(j) annual budget estimates.

74. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on
Petroleum
Resources
(Downstream).

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of Petroleum Refineries;

(b) oversight of Petroleum products marketing;

(c) Petrochemicals;

(d) oversight of the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC);

(e) matters relating to downstream Petroleum Sector and oversight of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Downstream activities generally;

(f) oversight of the Petroleum Equalization Fund;

(g) oversight of the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA);

(h) examining and scrutinizing, in conference with relevant Committee(s), the annual budget estimates of the NNPC and its subsidiaries and all oil related companies and presenting same to the House for consideration and approval.

Committee
on
Petroleum
Resources
(Upstream).

75. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Petroleum Resources and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation's (NNPC) upstream activities;

(b) oversight of the Petroleum Training Institute (PTI);

(c) oversight of oil exploration and exploitation;

(d) oversight of energy conservation;

(e) crude oil marketing and revenue therefrom;

(f) matters relating to Upstream Petroleum Sector generally, except those assigned to any other Committee;

(g) oversight of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund;

(h) oversight of the National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS);

(i) oversight of the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC);

(j) oversight of the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR);

(k) oversight of the broad implementation of Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI);

(l) oversight of the National Engineering and Technical Company (NETCO);

(m) examining and scrutinizing, in conference with relevant Committee(s), the annual budget estimates of the NNPC and its subsidiaries and all oil related companies and presenting same to the House for consideration and approval.

**Committee
on Police
Affairs.**

76. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Police Affairs consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Police Affairs;

(b) oversight of Nigeria Police Force (NPF);

(c) oversight of Interpol;

(d) oversight of Police Colleges;

(e) oversight of the Police Service Commission;

(f) oversight of the maintenance of internal security and public order;

(g) oversight of Police Barracks, Police Housing and Police Post Housing Scheme;

(h) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on
Population:**

77. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Population consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) formulating a comprehensive and effective national policy on the control of the nation's population growth;

(b) formulating a comprehensive and effective national policy on the nation's population statistics and demographic data;

(c) developing the strategies for the implementation of the aforesaid policies, including their financing from local and foreign sources;

(d) oversight of the National Population Commission and Agencies set-up by the Federal Government for the purpose of population activities;

(e) monitoring and periodically reporting on judgments of Tribunals on the 2006 National Population Census to guide the House on review of legislations for future population activities;

(f) studying and periodically advising the House on the 2006 Population Census with a view to planning in advance for future population activities;

(g) studying, on a continuing basis, world trends in annual and periodical population projection and advising the House and institutions on population activities on such trends to be adopted by Nigeria;

(h) oversight of National Identity Data Management Office;

(i) oversight of National Identity Card Scheme;

(j) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Ports,
Harbours
and
Waterways.

78.(1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Marine Transport and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of Inland waterways;

(c) oversight of Ports, docks and harbours;

(d) oversight of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA);

(e) oversight of the Nigerian Shippers Council (NSC);

(f) oversight of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA);

(g) oversight of the Council for the Regulation of Freight Forwarding (CRFF);

(h) marine services;

(i) annual budget estimates.

79. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Poverty Alleviation consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Poverty
Alleviation.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) all matters relating to poverty alleviation programmes and bodies not covered by the Committee on Women Affairs or any other Committee;

(b) oversight of the Special Intervention Programme of Government or any other similar or successor programme.

(c) oversight of the Poverty Alleviation Agencies and Programmes;

(d) annual budget estimates.

80. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Power consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Power.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Power and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of generation, transmission and distribution of electricity;

(c) formulation and implementation of energy policies;

(d) oversight of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), and any successor agency and Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Authority (NERA)

(f) oversight of the Utility Charges Commission

(e) oversight of the National Rural Electrification Agency;

(g) oversight of all Parastatals under the Ministry responsible for Power;

(h) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Privatisation
and
Commercialisation

81. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Privatisation and Commercialisation consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of all matters relating to the Privatisation and Commercialisation of Government Enterprises and Institutions in which Government has investments;

(b) generally monitoring the functions and operations of the National Privatisation Council and all other agencies established by law on Privatisation and Commercialisation.

(c) annual budget estimates.

82. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Public Procurement consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on
Public
Procurement.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the implementation of the Public Procurement Act;

(b) oversight of the Budget Monitoring and Price Intelligence Unit;

(c) monitoring the implementation of all capital projects in the Appropriation Acts;

(d) ensuring that all procurement of goods and services carried out by agencies and parastatals on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria comply with the Public Procurement Act;

(e) ensuring that all entities outside those in (d) above, which desire at least 35% of the funds appropriated for any type of procurement from the Consolidated Revenue Fund comply with the provisions of the Public Procurement Act;

(f) ensuring that all Federal Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Offices/Departments /Agencies, Parastatals, Corporations, the Armed and Paramilitary Services and all entities set up by the Constitution or Acts of the National Assembly observe due process, accountability and transparency in the procurement of goods and services;

(g) receiving complaints and petitions arising from any procurement of goods and services;

(h) liaising with all Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Donor Agencies and the International Community to ensure actual implementation of government economic reform programmes as well as global best practices on procurement related issues;

(i) annual budget estimates.

83. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Public Service Matters consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on Public Service Matters.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

[a] oversight of the Federal Public Service generally;

(b) oversight of conditions of Service;

[c] oversight of pensions and gratuities records;

[d] oversight of Matters relating to Federal Commissions and Councils as contained in the Constitution, save those assigned to other Committees;

[e] oversight of the Office of the Head of Service of the Government of the Federation;

[f] oversight of the National Assembly Service Commission;

[g] annual budget estimates.

84. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Rural Development consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on Rural Development.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) wherever the word "Rural" appears in other Committees, it shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Committee, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) developing a comprehensive and realistic rural development policy and laws;

(c) coordinating and harmonising all rural development programmes to fit into the aforesaid policy and ensure implementation of same, provided such programmes do not fall under the purview of any other Committee;

(d) liaising with all persons and agencies whose functions relate to rural development;

(e) oversight of all Departments and Agencies responsible for Rural Development in the Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources or any other Ministry, provided it is so designated and is not under the purview of any other Committee;

(f) oversight over Rural Telephony;

(g) annual budget estimates.

Committee
on Science
and
Technology.

85. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Science and Technology consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of scientific research and development;

(b) oversight of science scholarships;

(c) oversight of energy research;

(d) oversight of basic science research;

(e) oversight of outer space including exploration and control thereof;

(f) oversight of astronomical research and development including resources, personnel, equipment and facilities;

(g) oversight of science and technology matters generally;

(h) oversight of Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC);

(i) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Science and Technology and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(j) annual budget estimates.

86. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Solid Minerals Development consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on
Solid Minerals
Development.

Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) geological surveys and minerals investigations;
- (b) exploration, mines, minerals and quarrying;
- (c) investments in mining activities;
- (d) explosives;
- (e) oversight of the Nigerian Mining Corporation;
- (f) oversight of the Coal Corporation of Nigeria;
- (g) Bitumen projects;
- (h) Miferugui-Nimba Iron Ore;
- (i) Uranium project (Guinea and Niger);
- (j) Bauxite and Ore;
- (k) oversight of the Nigeria Mining and Geo-Science Society;
- (l) oversight of the Association of African Geological Surveyors;

(m) oversight of Geological Map of the World;

(n) oversight of the International Geological Sciences;

(o) oversight of International Geological Congress;

(p) oversight of the Commonwealth Committee for Mineral Resources and Geology;

(q) oversight of the Nigerian Uranium Mining Company;

(r) oversight of the Mining Cadastral Office;

(s) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Solid Minerals Development and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(t) annual budget estimates.

87. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Special Duties consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee
on Special
Duties.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of all matters relating to the Offices of the President and the Vice President, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) performance of functions and undertaking assignments as directed by the Speaker;

(c) oversight of all matters relating to the National Boundary Commission;

(d) oversight of all matters relating to State and Local Government boundaries;

(e) oversight of boundary disputes between Nigeria and neighbouring Countries;

(f) oversight of the Border Community Development Commission;

(g) oversight of the Infrastructure and Concession Regulatory Commission;

(h) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Sports.**

88. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Sports consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of sports arena development;

(b) oversight of inter-related Sports Development;

(c) oversight of sports activities;

(d) oversight of sports administration;

(e) oversight of the National Sports Commission;

(f) annual budget estimates.

89. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Steel consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House. **Committee on Steel:**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of Iron and Steel development and foundries;

(b) oversight of Iron and Steel Companies generally;

(c) oversight of Aluminum companies;

(d) oversight of investment in Steel and aluminum exploration;

(e) oversight of the National Iron Ore Mining Company, Itakpe;

(f) oversight of the Aluminum Smelting Company Ltd;

(g) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Steel Development and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(h) annual budget estimates.

Committee on Sustainable Development Goals.

90. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Sustainable Development Goals consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the broad implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and the Agencies responsible for their implementation;

(b) annual budget estimates.

Committee on Telecommunications.

91. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Telecommunications consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Communications Technology and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(b) oversight of Telecommunications, including Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM), NITEL Plc and M-Tel Services;

(c) oversight of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC);

(d) oversight of Telephones and Telexes;

(e) oversight of Post Offices and Postal Services;

(f) oversight of Cablegrams;

(g) oversight of Frequency Allocation;

(h) oversight of Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF);

(i) oversight of telecommunications matters generally;

(j) annual budget estimates.

92. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Tertiary Education and Services consisting of not more than 30 members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) oversight of Federal Universities;
- (b) oversight of Federal Polytechnics/ Monotechnics;
- (c) oversight of Federal Colleges of Education;
- (d) oversight of the National Universities Commission (NUC);
- (e) oversight of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND);
- (f) oversight of the National Board for Technical Education (NABTE);
- (g) oversight of the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE);
- (h) academic research;
- (i) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Education and its parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;
- (j) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Treaties,
Protocols and
Agreements:

93. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements consisting of not more than 30

Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) liaising with all the relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government (MDAs) before Treaties are entered into by the Federal Government pursuant to Section 12 of the Constitution;
- (b) ensuring that Treaties requiring ratification are laid before the House;
- (c) annual budget estimates.

94. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Urban Development and Regional Planning consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

Committee on
Urban
Development
and Regional
Planning:

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

- (a) formulation of comprehensive National Urban Development policies;
- (b) formulation of policies for the preparation and implementation of National Urban physical planning standards;
- (c) formulation of national policies for urban governance and management;

(d) formulation of policies for urban environmental degradation and pollution;

(e) oversight of the Urban Development Bank;

(h) oversight of all Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government that deal with Urban Development;

(i) oversight of general issues in Urban Development;

(j) coordination of urban renewal and slum upgrading programmes;

(k) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Water
Resources.**

95. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Water Resources consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of matters relating to Water Resources generally;

(b) oversight of Dams, Reservoirs and Canals Development;

(c) oversight of water supply;

(d) oversight of Irrigation;

(e) oversight of exploration and development of surface and under-ground water;

(f) oversight of River Basin Development Authorities;

(g) oversight of Hydrological and Hydro geological investigations;

(h) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Water Resources and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees

(i) annual budget estimates.

96. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee on
Women Affairs
and Social
Development.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) promotion of the general welfare of women, and their social, political and economic participation in all aspects of national development;

(b) oversight of health of women and children as well as women vocational training;

(c) oversight of child development;

(d) oversight of assistance to vulnerable segments of the society, including women, the socially disabled and the handicapped;

(e) oversight of relations with line Ministries, National and International Agencies and Non-Governmental Organisations including the United Nations on matters concerning Women and development;

(f) oversight of the National Centre for Women Development;

(g) oversight of rehabilitation of the physically and mentally challenged;

(h) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Women Affairs and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(i) annual budget estimates.

**Committee
on Women
in
Parliament.**

97. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Women in Parliament consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) initiating good Policies on Parliamentary Research and documentation,

and ensuring an efficient data Bank on Women in National and State Assemblies;

(b) oversight and monitoring of the conference of Women in Parliament;

(c) ensuring harmonious relationship between Women Legislators in the National and State Houses of Assembly;

(d) initiating the organization of National and International Conferences, Workshops and other fora for the dissemination and education of Women in Parliament;

(e) recommending to the House the formation of, and entry into any new Women Parliamentary Group;

(f) making recommendations on the desirability of the House sending Women Delegation to specific Inter-parliamentary Women events;

(g) representing the National Assembly in International Parliamentary Associations or Groupings on Women matters generally.

98. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Works consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

**Committee
on Works.**

(2) The Committee's jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of construction and maintenance of Federal roads and bridges;

(b) oversight of survey and mapping;

(c) oversight of roads research;

(d) oversight of the Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (OSGOF);

(e) oversight of Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN);

(f) oversight of Surveyors Council of Nigeria (SURCON);

(g) oversight of Federal School of Survey, Oyo;

(h) oversight of Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Survey (RECTAS);

(i) oversight of the Ministry responsible for Works and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees;

(e) annual budget estimates.

Committee on
Youth
Development.

99. (1) There shall be a Committee to be known as Committee on Youth Development consisting of not more than 30 Members constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.

(2) The Committee's Jurisdiction shall cover:

(a) oversight of Youth development generally;

(b) oversight of Youth and social development matters;

(c) oversight of Youth movement activities and associations;

(d) oversight of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC);

(e) Oversight of the Ministry responsible for Youth Development and its Parastatals, save those assigned to other Committees

annual budget estimates.

ORDER NINETEEN

MISCELLANEOUS

Joint
Finance
Committee.

1. The Speaker shall, in consultation with the President of the Senate, appoint equal number of Joint Finance Committee Members on the Joint Finance Committee in accordance with section 62 (3) of the Constitution.

Absence of
Members.

2. Any member who is unable to attend the sittings of the House shall acquaint the Speaker as early as possible of his inability to attend.

Official
Reports.

3. (1) An official report of all speeches made in the House, Committee of the Whole and the Committees of the House which shall be as nearly as possible verbatim, shall be prepared under the supervision of the Editor.

(2) The report shall be published in such form as the House may direct, and a copy thereof shall be sent to each member as soon as practicable after the conclusion of each sitting.

(3) A member may, on any day following that on which the official report containing a speech by him was issued, notify the Editor of any purely verbal corrections in that speech for inclusion in the bound volume of such report.

(4) If a member disputes the correctness of the record of any speech or seeks to make any material change in the record, the Speaker shall rule thereon and shall direct publication of the speech in accordance with his ruling which shall be communicated to the member concerned and shall be final.

4. No member of the House shall appear before the House or any Committee thereof as Counsel or Solicitor for any party, or in any capacity for which he is to receive a fee or reward.

Employment
of Members
in
Professional
Capacity.

5. Strangers shall be admitted to debates in the Chamber under such rules as the House may make from time to time for that purpose: provided that if any member takes notice that strangers be present, the Speaker, or in Committee, the Chairman, shall put forth the question "That strangers do withdraw" without permitting any debate or amendment. Notwithstanding anything in these Rules, the Speaker, or the Chairman, may, whenever he thinks fit, order the withdrawal of strangers from any part of the House.

Strangers.

6. The House may grant a general permission to the representative of any journal, or Media House to attend the sitting of the House, provided that if the journal, or Media House publishes a report of the proceedings which the House considers unfair, such permission may be revoked.

Press.

**Mode of
amending
the Rules.**

7. (1) Any member desiring to amend any part of the Rules or adding any new clause shall give notice of such amendments in writing to the Speaker giving details of the proposed amendments.

(2) The Speaker shall, within seven working days of the receipt of the notice, cause the amendments to be printed and circulated to members. Thereafter, it shall be printed in the Order Paper of the House.

(3) The Mover or Movers of the amendments shall be allowed to explain in detail the proposed amendments; thereafter the House shall decide by simple majority votes whether the amendments should be considered or rejected.

(4) If the decision is to consider the amendments, then another date shall be set aside by the Committee on Rules and Business whereby opportunity would be given to members to further propose amendments but must strictly be confined to the original amendments.

(5) A simple majority shall decide the amendments and such amendments shall form part of the Rules of the House.

**Privileges
of the Floor.**

8. (1) No person shall be admitted to the lobby or the floor of the House while in session, except the following and only by consent of the House:

(i) the President and Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and their Private Secretaries;

(ii) former Presidents and former Vice-Presidents;

(iii) former Senators and Senators-elect;

(iv) former members of the House of Representatives and members-elect;

(v) Justices of the Supreme Court;

(vi) former Clerks and former Sergeants-at-Arms of the Senate and/or House of Representatives;

(vii) Secretary to the Government of the Federation (when carrying a message from the President);

(viii) former Speakers and former Deputy Speakers;

(ix) Ministers and Ambassadors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

(x) Governors of States and former Governors;

(xi) Members of National Legislatures of foreign countries only by the discretion of the Speaker;

(xii) Legislative Aides to Members when in the actual discharge of their official duties.

(2) Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, the House may, by Resolution, admit to the lobby or floor of the House any other Person(s).

(3) The House Chamber shall not be granted for any other purpose than for the use of the House.

**Executive
Session.**

9. (1) The Speaker may, at any time, call the House into an executive session.

(2) During a period when the House is in an executive session, the Chamber and the Gallery shall be cleared, save for the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk of the House.

DEFINITIONS

In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires: **Definitions**

"He" to include "she";

"Legislative Day" means any day on which the House or any of its Committees meets;

"the Constitution" means the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 as from time to time amended;

"the Speaker" means the Speaker of the House of Representatives and includes, except where it is otherwise provided in any Standing Rule, a person presiding in accordance with Section 50 (1) (b) of the Constitution, i.e. Deputy Speaker and Speaker Pro-Tempore;

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

"Printing" includes stenciling, typing or any similar mechanical method of reproduction.;

"Session" means one legislative year;

"Sitting" means a period during which the House is sitting continuously without adjournment and includes any period during which the House is in Committee;

INDEX

A

Address of Nominee;
 Attendance at Sittings; (Rule 3) P. 7;
 Absence of Clerk; (Rule 16) P. 27;
 Adjournment of Debate; (Rule 8) P. 45
 Anticipation; (Rule 10) P. 46;
 Appointment days for stages of Bills;
 Assent; (Rule 12 (a)) P. 69
 Adoption of Written Rules;
 Additional and Special Meetings; (Rule 5 (1)), P. 91
 Absence of Members; (Rule 2) P. 210

B

Business of the House conducted according to
 Standing Orders; (Rule 1), P. 1;
 Before Oath of Members;
 Bills of the same Subject Matter; (Rule 14), P. 69
 Bills affecting Private Rights; (Rule 15) P. 70
 Business continued from Session to Session; (Rule 17) P. 72
 Briefing of House; (Rule 3) P. 84

C

Clerk reads Proclamation;
 Confirmation of writ of election; (Rule 1(2)) P. 2
 Candidate withdraws name; (Rule 3 (i)) P. 5
 Complaint against newspaper, book, etc.; (Rule 4) P. 15
 Crossing the floor of the House; (Rule 4(4)) P. 42
 Closure of Debates; (Rule 7(1)) P. 44
 Compendium and consolidation; (Rule 1 (3)) P. 60
 Committal of Bills; (Rule 5) P. 62
 Committee on Selection (Rule 2) P. 99
 Committee on Rules and Business (Rule 3) P. 101
 Committee on House Services (Rule 4) P. 102
 Committee on Public Petitions (Rule 5) P. 103

Committee on Public Accounts (Rule 6) P. 104
 Committee on Ethics and Privileges (Rule 7) P. 105
 Committee on Media and Public Affairs (Rule 8) P. 108
 Committee on Delegated Legislations (Rule 29) P. 131
 Committee on Agricultural Production and Services
 (Rule 11) P. 112
 Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions
 (Rule 10) P. 109
 Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management
 (Rule 12) P. 114
 Committee on Airforce (Rule 13) P. 115
 Committee on Anti-Corruption (Rule 14) P. 115
 Committee on Appropriations (Rule 15) P. 116
 Committee on Army (Rule 16) P. 119
 Committee on Aviation (Rule 17) P. 119
 Committee on Banking and Currency (Rule 18) P. 120
 Committee on Capital Market and Institutions
 (Rule 20) P. 122
 Committee on Civil Societies and Development Partners
 (Rule 22) P. 123
 Committee on Climate Change (Rule 22) P. 124
 Committee on Commerce (Rule 23) P. 125
 Committee on Telecommunications (Rule 91) P. 200
 Committee on Constituency Outreach (Rule 24) P. 126
 Committee on Co-operation and Integration in Africa
 (Rule 25) P. 127
 Committee on Culture and Tourism (Rule 26) P. 127
 Committee on Customs and Excise (Rule 27) P. 128
 Committee on Defence (Rule 28) P. 129
 Committee on Financial Crimes (Rule 42) P. 148
 Committee on Basic Education and Services
 (Rule 19) P. 121
 Committee on Tertiary Education and Services
 (Rule 92) P. 201
 Committee on Electoral and Political Party Matters
 (Rule 31) P. 134

Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness
 (Rule 32) P. 135
 Committee on Environment and Habitat (Rule 33) P. 136
 Committee on Federal Capital Territory (Rule 34) P. 139
 Committee on FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters
 (Rule 35) P. 141
 Committee on Federal Character (Rule 36) P. 143
 Committee on Federal Road Maintenance Agency
 (FERMA) (Rule 39) P. 145
 Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC)
 (Rule 40) P. 146
 Committee on Finance (Rule 40) P. 147
 Committee on FOI (Reform of Government Institutions)
 (Rule 43) P. 149
 Committee on Foreign Affairs (Rule 44) P. 150
 Committee on Gas Resources (Rule 45) P. 152
 Committee on Health Institutions (Rule 48) P. 155
 Committee on Healthcare Services (Rule 47) P. 154
 Committee on HIV, AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria Control
 (Rule 49) P. 156
 Committee on Housing (Rule 50) P. 157
 Committee on Human Rights (Rule 51) P. 158
 Committee on Industry (Rule 52) P. 59
 Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics
 and Values (Rule 53) P. 161
 Committee on Information Technology (Rule 54) P. 162
 Committee on Interior (Rule 57) P. 166
 Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations (Rule 58)
 P. 168
 Committee on Federal Judiciary (Rule 37) P. 144
 Committee on FCT Judiciary (Rule 38) P. 145
 Committee on Justice (Rule 59) P. 170
 Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity (Rule
 60) P. 171
 Committee on Lake Chad (Rule 61) P. 172

Committee on Land Transport (Rule 62) P. 173
 Committee on Legislative Budget and Research
 (Rule 63) P. 173
 Committee on Legislative Compliance (Rule 64) P. 174
 Committee on Local Content (Rule 65) P. 175
 Committee on Ports, Harbours and Waterways
 (Rule 78) P. 188
 Committee on Maritime Safety, Education
 and Administration (Rule 66) P. 176
 Committee on Sustainable Development Goals
 (Rule 90) P. 200
 Committee on Narcotic Drugs (Rule 67) P. 177
 Committee on National Planning and
 Economic Development (Rule 68) P. 177
 Committee on Navy (Rule 69) P. 178
 Committee on Niger-Delta Development Commission
 (Rule 71) P. 180
 Committee on Niger-Delta Affairs (Rule 71) P. 180
 Committee on Pensions (Rule 73) P. 181
 Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream)
 (Rule 74) P. 173
 Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)
 (Rule 75) P. 184
 Committee on Police Affairs (Rule 76) P. 186
 Committee on Population (Rule 77) P. 186
 Committee on Poverty Alleviation (Rule 79) P. 189
 Committee on Power (Rule 80) P. 189
 Committee on Privatization and Commercialization
 (Rule 81) P. 190
 Committee on Public Procurement (Rule 82) P. 191
 Committee on National Security and Intelligence
 Committee on Public Service Matters (Rule 83) P. 193
 Committee on Rural Development (Rule 84) P. 193
 Committee on Science and Technology (Rule 85) P. 194
 Committee on Solid Minerals Development (Rule 86) P. 195

Committee on Special Duties (Rule 87) P. 197
 Committee on Sports (Rule 88) P. 198
 Committee on Steel (Rule 89) P. 199
 Committee on Treaties, Protocol and Agreements
 (Rule 93) P. 202
 Committee on Urban Development and Regional Planning
 (Rule 94) P. 203
 Committee on Water Resources (Rule 95) P. 204
 Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development
 (Rule 96) P. 205
 Committee on Women in Parliament (Rule 97) P. 206
 Committee on Works (Rule 98) P. 207
 Committee on Youth Development (Rule 99) P. 208
 Committee on Insurance and Actuarial Matters
 (Rule 55) P. 164
 Committee on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs),
 Refugees and Initiatives on North-East Zone
 (Rule 56) P. 165
 Calling and Interrogation of Witnesses; (Rule 8) P. 96

D

Division/Tellers;
 Declaration of Assets and Liabilities and Oaths;
 (Rule 5) P. 5
 Definition; (Rule 1) P. 14
 Dispatch of letter of resignation; (Rule 5) P. 8
 Duties of the Deputy Speaker; (Rule 2) P. 19
 Deputy Leader of the House; (Rule 4) P. 22
 Duties of the Clerk of the House; (Rule 16) P. 26
 Duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms; (Rule 18) P. 27
 Dispensing with Notice; (Rule 14) P. 14
 Dilatory Motions; (Rule 6) P. 44
 Decorum; (Rule 4) P. 42
 Decision of the Chair is final; (Rule 2) P. 47
 Division in the House and Committee of the Whole House;
 (Rule 2) P. 54

Divisions in Committees other than Committee of the Whole
 House; (Rule 3) P. 58
 Declaration;
 Distribution and background materials; (Rule 1) P. 85
 Dissenting opinion; (Rule 3) P. 88
 Disorder reported to House; (Rule 3(f)) P. 89

E

Election of Speaker; (Rule 3) P. 3
 Equality of Votes; (Rule 3 (h)) P. 5
 Election takes precedence over other business; (Rule 2) P. 2
 Election of the Deputy Speaker; (Rule 4) P. 5
 Employment of Members in Professional Capacity;
 (Rule 4) P. 211
 Entertainment of Points of Order during debate on Matters
 of Privilege;

F

First day of meeting of the House; (Rule 1) P. 2

H

House Services Committee; (Rule 4) P. 102

I

Interruption not allowed exceptions; (Rule 4) P. 42
 If motion negatived, mover may speak later; (Rule 9) P. 46
 Investigative Hearing Procedures; (Rule 9) P. 96

J

Journeys abroad; (Rule 2) P. 7
 Joint Finance Committee; (Rule 1) P. 210

L

Legislative day defined; P. 215
 Language; (Rule 9) P. 6

Leader of the House; (Rule 4) P. 22
 List of documents tabled and outstanding; (Rule 2) P. 85
 Limitation on the Jurisdiction of Committees; (Rule 10) P. 98

M

Member informs the House if nomination is accepted;
 (Rule 3(6)) P. 3
 Methods of Voting; (Rule 3(f)) P. 4
 Member elected;
 Members to leave address with the Clerk; (Rule 1) P. 7
 Mode of resignation from the House; (Rule 4) P. 7
 Messages from the President; (Rule 2) P. 30
 Matter of Urgent Public Importance; (Rule 4) P. 32
 Method of putting the question on Amendment;
 (Rule 12) P. 37
 Members to take their places; (Rule 4(2)) P. 42
 Members to make obeisance to Chair; (Rule 4(3)) P. 42
 Members passing through the House; (Rule 4(5)) P. 42
 Members speaking not to be interrupted; (Rule 4(8)) P. 43
 Members to be silent; (Rule 4(9)) P. 43
 Members to be properly dressed; (Rule 4(13)) P. 43
 Members called to order; (Rule 4) P. 47
 Matters not open to debate; (Rule 9) P. 53
 Meeting of Conference Committee; (Rule 11) P. 68
 Method of Presenting; (Rule 1(6)) P. 85
 Membership appointment; (Rule 1) P. 87
 Membership of Committees; (Order 17)
 Mode of Amending the Rules; (Rule 7) P. 212

N

Nomination of Members-elect; (Rule 3(a)) P. 3
 No debate or question of Privileges; (Rule 3(j)) P. 5
 Notice of Motions; (Rule 8) P. 35
 No smoking, chewing or drinking; (Rule 11) P. 43
 Naming a member; (Rule 5(3)) P. 48

No strangers on floor, etc. during meeting; (Rule 8) P. 52
 Not to obstruct; (Rule 9(2)) P. 53
 Notice regarding Bills; (Rule 1) P. 60

O

Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Membership of Speaker and
 Deputy Speaker; (Rule 7) P. 6
 Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Membership of Members;
 (Rule 7) P. 6
 Order of Business; (Rule 1) P. 29
 Orders of the Day; (Rule 1) P. 29
 Order in the House or Committee;
 Other Special or Ad-Hoc Committees; (Rule 9) P. 109
 Open Meetings and Hearings; (Rule 6) P. 93
 Official Reports; (Rule 3) P. 210

P

Practice of the House to be observed as far as can be
 applied unless other provisions are made;
 Procedure if only one member nominated; (Rule 3(d)) P. 3
 Procedure if two members nominated; (Rule 3(e)) P. 4
 Procedure if more than two members nominated;
 (Rule 3(9)) P. 4
 Privileges; (Rule 2) P. 14
 Precedence to matter of privilege; (Rule 3) P. 15
 Privilege matter raised when House not sitting; (Rule 5) P. 15
 Petitions; (Rule 3) P. 30
 Personal Explanation; (Rule 5) P. 32
 Precedence of Orders of the Day postponed by request;
 (Rule 6(2)) P. 33
 Procedure for giving Notices; (Rule 9) P. 36
 Presentation and First Reading; (Rule 2) P. 60
 Procedure in Standing Committees on Bill; (Rule 7) P. 63
 Procedure on Bills in the Committee of the Whole House;
 (Rule 9) P. 64
 Printing Costs;

Procedure on Money Bills (Budget); (Rule 19) P. 73
 Press; (Rule 6) P. 211
 Privileges of the Floor; (Rule 8) P. 212
 Proclamation of a State of Emergency; (Rule 1) P. 83
 Point of Order during debate on Matters of Privilege;

Q

Quorum; (Rule 1) P. 9
 Quorum in Committee of the Whole House; (Rule 1(3)) P. 9
 Quorum in Committees; (Rule 8) P. 64 (Rule 1(3)) P. 9
 Quorum for Taking Testimony and Certain other Action;
 (Rule 7) P. 95

R

Roll call;
 Re-assembly of the House; (Rule 2) P. 11
 Relevance of Amendments; (Rule 10) P. 37
 Rules of Debate; (Rule 1) P. 38
 Raising a Point of Order;
 Reading of Newspapers;
 Relevancy in Debate; (Rule 5) P. 43
 Re-committal and Third Reading; (Rule 10) P. 65
 Rules of Procedure for Committees in general; (Rule 3) P. 88
 Reports of Committees; (Rule 3(c)) P. 89
 Regular meeting days; (Rule 4) P. 90
 Receipt of proclamation Documents; (Rule 2) P. 83
 Resolution;
 Relationship between Privilege and Petition;

S

Speaker takes chair and Mace laid upon the Table;
 (Rule 6) P. 5
 Seat of Members; (Rule 1) P. 11
 Sitting of the House; (Rule 2(4)) P. 12
 Speaker Pro-tempore; (Rule 3) P. 19
 Suspension of Rules; (Rule 7) P. 33