

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Thursday 10 December, 2020

- 1. Prayers
- 2. National Pledge
- 3. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
- 4. Oaths
- 5. Messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
- 6. Messages from the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*if any*)
- 7. Messages from Other Parliament(s) (*if any*)
- 8. Other Announcements (*if any*)
- 9. **Petitions** (*if any*)
- 10. Matters of Urgent Public Importance
- 11. Personal Explanation

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. Committees on Finance, North–East Development Commission and Public Procurement: Hon. James Abiodun Faleke:

"That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Finance, North–East Development Commission and Public Procurement on Investigation of the Alleged Misappropriation of the One Hundred Billion Naira (\$100, 000, 000, 000.00) only in the North–East Development Commission" (23/7/2020).

2. Committee on Public Petitions: *Report of the Petition by I B. Ahmad and Co:* Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso:

"That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by I B. Ahmad and Co against the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) over the Non–Payment of the Entitlement and Benfit of Late Cpl. Olajide Adewale, Force *No. 64226* to his Family an Appeal for urgent Intervention" (*Referred: 7/10/2020*).

3. Committee on Public Petitions: *Report of the Petition by Bankole Olawale:* Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso:

"That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Bankole Olawale against the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) (*Referred: 17/11/2020*).

4. Committee on Public Petitions:

Report of the Petition by Arewa R. Olufemi: Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso: "That the House do receive the Report of the

"That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Arewa R. Olufemi against the Federal Road Safety Commission on dismissal from Service (FRSC) (*Referred:* 7/11/2019).

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BILLS

- 1. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Capital Gains Tax Act, Companies Income Tax Act, Personal Income Tax Act, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Establishment) Act, Customs and Excise Tariff, Etc. Consolidated) Act, Value Added Tax Act, Federal Inland Revenue Services (Establishment) Act, Nigerian Export Processing Zone Act, Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Act, Fiscal Responsibility Act, Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020, Public Procurement Act, in order to make further Provisions in Connection with the Federal Government Financial Management, Public Revenue; and for Related Matters (HB. 1139) (*Leader*) *Second Reading*.
- 2. A Bill for an Act to Alter Section 254 (f)(2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to delete the entire Provision on the ground that the Reflection of the Evidence Act, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Criminal Procedure Code in this Provision is Superfluous; and for Related Matters (HB. 1063) (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen*) *Second Reading*.
- **3.** A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to set time within which Civil and Criminal Causes and Matters are Heard and Determined at Trails and Appellate Courts in order to eliminate unnecessary delay in Justice Administration and Delivery; and for Related Matters (HB. 1056) (*Hon. Onofiok Luke and 7 Others*) *Second Reading.*
- **4.** A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) to Provide that the Federal and States Governments shall have Concurrent Legislative Authority on Railway; and for Related Matters (HB. 1070) (*Hon. Babajimi Benson*) *Second Reading*.
- 5. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Institute of Strategic Management of Nigeria charged with the duty of among others, determining what Standards of knowledge and Skills are to be Attained by Persons seeking to become Members of the Institute; and for Related Matters (HB. 1024) (*Hon. Chinyere E. Igwe*) *Second Reading*.

MOTIONS

6. Need for Construction of Ihunbo–Itaegbe Oniro–Ipokia Road: Hon. Kolawole Lawal.

The House:

Notes that Ihunbo–Itaegbe–Oniro–Ipokia road is a 35km major route in Ipokia Local Government Area of Ogun State and the people are predominantly farmers through which they earn their livelihood;

Aware that road infrastructure helps farmers to transport their agricultural products within the State and to other States as well as access essential services;

Worried that the deplorable state of the road has paralyzed socio-economic activities of the area as some portions of the road have completely been cut-off, thereby making it impossible for vehicles to ply;

Concerned that the continuous neglect of the road over a long period has left it in a state of disrepair and poses a major risk to commuters as well as community dwellers in the surrounding areas;

Cognizant that prompt reconstruction of the road will boost socio-economic activities as well as reduce the rate of accidents and crimes in the area;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) Urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to make provisions in the 2021 budget estimates for the reconstruction of Ihunbo–Itaegbe–Oniro–Ipokia road;
- (*ii*) mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to ensure implementation.

7. Need to Investigate the Corporate Governance of the Nigerian Communications Commission to Protect the Interests of Subscribers: Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka.

The House:

Informed that on September 2, 2019, Dr. Ernest Ndukwe was appointed as the Chairman of the Board of MTN Nigeria;

Recalls that Dr. Ernest Ndukwe was the Executive Vice–Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) from 2000–2010 and it was during his tenure in 2001 that MTN Nigeria obtained its operating license and went ahead to become a dominant Service provider in the sector;

Also recalls that the evolution of MTN as a dominant player in the Industry was as a result of stringent conditions allegedly put in place against other service providers to favour MTN at its inception;

Worried that MTN, under its new Board, could use privileged information at its disposal to the detriment of the sector, judging from the precedents of MTN;

Aware that while Dr. Ndukwe was at the helm of NCC, appointments into the Commission were undertaken and most of those appointees have probably risen to sensitive positions in the Commission;

Concerned that those appointees sponsored by Dr. Ndukwe could now profess loyalty to their benefactor by providing classified information to MTN to further hand it control of the industry;

Also concerned that with Dr. Ndukwe as Chairman of the Board of MTN and his benefactors as top bureaucrats of the NCC, the regulatory role of NCC may be compromised to the detriment of MTN's subscribers and Nigeria, at large;

Further concerned that the appointments of Dr. Ernest Ndukwe (a former Executive Vice Chairman of NCC), Dr. (Mrs.) Omogui (former Chairman, FIRS) and Mrs. Mobolaji Johnson (a former Minister of Communications) into the Board of MTN were premeditated and a tactful play by MTN to influence the policies of the regulatory bodies they headed in its favour;

Again concerned that MTN may be ingeniously working against the interests of Nigerians by recruiting former regulators of key sectors like the FIRS, NCC and Ministry of Communications into its Board;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Telecommunications to investigate the corporate governance of the Nigerian Communications Commission from 2000 to date, including the appointment of its current Board of Directors in order to protect subscribers from the influence of a dominant service provider and report back within eight (8) weeks for further legislative action.

8. Need to Combat the Rising Cases of Insecurity in Lame–Burra Game Reserve in Toro Federal Constituency, Bauchi State:

Hon. Muda Lawal Umar

Hon. Abdullahi Sa'ad Abdulkadir:

The House:

Notes that Lame–Burra Game Reserve, located in Lame District in Toro Local Government Area of Bauchi State, was established through a proclamation of the Federal Government in 1972 and just like the Yankari Game Reserve, it inhabits rare species of birds, monkeys and other wild animals;

Concerned that the Game Reserve has become a haven for insurgents, bandits, armed robbers, kidnappers, cattle rustlers and all other criminal elements who have converted the Reserve to their operational base as insurgents and bandits relocating from Zamfara State and other parts of the country seem to be regrouping in the Reserve;

Worried that most Game Reserves, Forests and Wild Life Parks within Nigeria such as Palgore Game reserve in Kano State, Kudaru Forest in Lere–Kaduna State, Zurok Forest in Plateau State, Pandam Wild Life Park in Plateau State, Nabardo in Toro-Bauchi State, Jengre in Plateau State and Igabi in Kaduna State share similar security threats as the Lame-Burra Game Reserve.

Cognizant of the need to combat the rising cases of insecurity in Lame–Burra Game Reserve in Toro Local Government Area;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Chief of Defence Staff, the Chief of Army Staff, the Inspector General of Police and other Security Agencies to investigate the rising cases of insecurity in Lame–Burra Game Reserve, Pal gore Game Reserve, Kudaru Forest, Zurok Forest, Pandam Wild Life Park, Jengere, Igabi and Nabardo with a view to prosecuting the criminals operating therein and improving security in the area;
- (*ii*) also urge the Federal Government to establish security formations within Lame–Burra Game Reserve, Palgore Game Reserve, Kudaru Forest, Zurok Forest, Pandam Wild Life Park, Jengre, Igabi and Nabardo;
- *(iii)* further urge the Federal Government to provide infrastructure like roads, electricity and institutes in the Game Reserves with a view to boosting their tourism potentials;
- *(iv)* mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance.

9. Need for Banks to Adopt Non-Interest Banking (NIB) System to Stimulate the Economy: Hon. Kabir Ibrahim Tukura.

The House:

Notes that non–interest banking, also known as Profit and Loss Sharing (PLS) banking system prohibits the payment of interest in all ramifications and then adopts the principle of profit and loss sharing between the parties;

Also notes that under non–interest banking, both the investor and the entrepreneur are seen as partners, thus when profit or losses are made, same is shared according to the formula that reflects their level of financial participation;

Further notes that non-interest banking encourages asset banking as financial transactions are tied to tangible assets like real estate investment or investment on goal, which usually appreciates over time and does not depreciate;

Concerned that conventional banking is an interest-based system whose relationship with their customer is that of creditor and borrower, where interest is fixed in advance and risk or loss is only incurred by the borrower;

Also concerned that a large number of Nigerians, especially those from the Northern part of the country, do not take loans with interest due to religious concerns, which thus short changes them from benefitting from Federal Government policies and stimulus packages and is constituting one of the major reasons for the slow economic growth of the region;

Further concerned that Nigeria's lending rate, in conventional banking, is one of the highest in the world, and creates serious hardship, particularly on low–income earners, most especially in this period of the COVID–19 Pandemic;

Disturbed that with higher interest rates, interest payments on credit cards and loans are more expensive, consequently discouraging people from borrowing and spending with the attendant decrease in consumption;

Cognizant that the Central Bank of Nigeria, which is the apex regulatory body for banks and other financial institutions has not done enough in encouraging non-interest banking which would provide another palliative measure in this season of COVID–19 Pandemic;

Also cognizant that few commercial banks that embraced non-interest banking have made profits with high returns to the investors and at the same time, created better opportunities for access to funds for business purposes with very low risk;

Resolves to:

- Urge the Federal Ministries of Finance, Agriculture and Commerce to provide a deliberate policy that will encourage the Bank of Industry (BOI), the Bank of Agriculture (BOA), Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing system for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL) Micro Finance Banks and other Government owned Financial Institutions to provide non-interest banking to their customers;
- (*ii*) also urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to review its current policy on non-interest banking and direct Federal Government Development Bank and Commercial Banks to integrate same into their systems; and
- (*iii*) further urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to review its policy on non-interest banking to allow Commercial Banks carry it out as a product rather than having to acquire a separate license for non-interest banking as is obtainable currently;
- (*iv*) mandate the Committee on Banking and Currency to ensure compliance.

10. Need to Curb the Rising Incidences of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Related Explosions Nationwide:

Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu:

The House:

Notes that on 4 January, 2020, a gas explosion along Kachia Road in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State claimed about 8 lives, including that of the Director–General of the Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC) who was reported to have gone to a nearby barber's shop located within the premises of the retail gas outlet when the incident occurred;

Also notes another gas explosion on 28 November, 2019 in Ajegunle, Apapa Area of Lagos State which claimed the lives of 2 children and left about 23 persons with varying degrees of burns resulting in the destruction of properties worth millions of naira;

Further notes another gas cylinder explosion in October, 2019 at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Victoria Island, Lagos leaving 3 persons seriously injured, with cars and nearby properties destroyed;

Worried that stakeholders in the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) value chain often point at the failure to enforce standards, failure to clamp down on violators and failure to prevent siting of gas stations and refill outlets in residential areas by regulatory bodies, including the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), as being responsible for the rise in cooking gas explosions in the country;

Also worried by accusations, counter accusations and claims among regulatory agencies and stakeholders on the cause(s) of gas explosions nationwide, for instance the DPR and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Retailers Association (LPGAR), a branch of NUPENG were at loggerheads over the cause(s) of the January 2020 explosion in Kaduna, a case where the DPR claimed that the explosion was as a result of decanting (transfer) of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) into another cylinder by operators of the facility, while LPGAR claimed that the disaster was as a result of acetylene and oxygen gases and not LPG, as widely circulated;

Again notes that the DPR, which is responsible for regulating gas activities and ensuring compliance with Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Standards in the sector, has consistently warned against siting gas stations in residential areas and unauthorized places, yet the number of unauthorized gas plants keeps increasing on an annual basis and as part of its enforcement procedures, the DPR sealed a total of 40 gas plants in December 2019 in Akwa Ibom State over unsafe practices;

Cognizant that the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) established standards for gas cylinders in Nigeria (NIS587) which among others specifies a 15–year life cycle for gas cylinders and provides for every gas cylinder to go through mandatory requalification process every 5 years, but there are no facilities for requalification, certification and re-certification of gas cylinders in Nigeria;

Also cognizant that in order to curb the domestic production and importation of substandard and fake gas cylinders, the then Director–General of Standards Organisation of Nigeria, Dr. Joseph Odumodu, in 2014, assured Nigerians of the implementation of a new policy on the ownership of gas cylinders;

Disturbed that six (6) years after the conception of the policy, the Federal Government is yet to commence the implementation of the new policy on ownership of cylinders in Nigeria while the production and importation of fake and substandard cylinders continue unabated while lives have been lost to the same problem which the proposed policy would have solved;

Believes that in line with the provisions of Section 14(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), government needs to take more appropriate steps to protect Nigerians from avoidable deaths by adopting relevant practices obtainable in other climes, especially in effectively monitoring the validity of LPG cylinders;

Resolves to:

- (*i*) Call on users of LPG, as part of safe ways of using same, to procure and install both active fire extinguishers and gas leakage detectors in their homes;
- *(ii)* urge the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), the National Orientation Agency (NOA) and Marketers to embark on aggressive but

consistent sensitization and awareness campaigns on safe ways of using gas cylinders to save lives; and

(iii) mandate the Committees on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) and Commerce to investigate the cause(s) of gas cylinders' explosions at LPG plants in order to find permanent and sustainable solutions which will save lives while encouraging safe use of LPG, and report back within six (6) weeks for further Legislative action.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

S/N	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Rules and Business	Thursday, 10 December, 2020	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 06 (White House) Assembly Complex
2.	Public Petitions (Investigative Hearing)	Thursday, 10 December, 2020	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 429 (New Building) Assembly Complex