



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 24 November, 2020

1. The House met at 11.30 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 20 October, 2020.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**

(a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker announced the presence of the President and Executives of the Abuja Newspapers Distributors Association (ANDA) and the Newspaper Vendors Association of Nigeria (NVAA), Abuja Chapter.

(b) **Appointment of Deputy Clerk (Administration) of the House of Representatives:**

Mr Speaker announced the appointment of Dr Abel Daniel Ochigbo as the Deputy Clerk (Administration) of the House of Representatives by the National Assembly Service Commission with effect from Wednesday, 25 November, 2020.

(c) **Bereavement:**

Mr Speaker read the following communications from:

(i) Hon. Chinda Kingsley (*Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Hon. Appolos Emenike Amadi, a former Member (*Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency, 1999 - 2003*);

(ii) Hon. Yusuf Ahmed Tijani (*Okene/Ogori-Mangogo Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of Hon. Abdul Suleiman Kokori a former Member (*Okene/Ogori-Mangogo Federal Constituency, 2007 - 2011*).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

9. *For us in the House of Representatives, reforming the police is a commitment we made in our Legislative Agenda, and which we fully intend to keep. Last month, we committed that we will within the shortest possible time, present for consideration in the House, draft legislation that sets out a much-improved framework for holding police officers accountable for failures to act within the bounds of the law and the codes that govern them.*
10. *With the Police Service Commission (Reform) Bill, we have delivered on that promise. I thank the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) and all those who partnered with us to make this possible. That Bill will now begin its journey through the legislative process. During that time, we will continue to work to improve it and to build the consensus that will support passage in the National Assembly and assent into law by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*
11. *Our work on other Legislative Agenda priorities such as the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIS) and the institutionalisation of the National Social Investment Programmes will continue at pace.*
12. *As much as is possible, I encourage all the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the House Committees to seek out innovative avenues for public engagement, stakeholder collaboration and cross-pollination of policy ideas. Increased public participation in the legislative process is also part of our Legislative Agenda. When done appropriately, such interactions can build support for policy initiatives and promote relations between the House of Representatives and the public on the one hand, and the critical policy stakeholders on the other.*
13. *I note with displeasure the recurring practice in the media of ascribing to the House, the opinions, and personal pronouncements of individual members, especially when the statements may be considered controversial or provocative. There are no restrictions on the rights of members to speak to the press at any time and to espouse their ideas, and positions. However, these individual statements do not represent the official position of the House of Representatives. Treating them as if they were, usually to drive a particular narrative is a deliberate attempt to malign the House to further the known and unknown agendas of outside parties. It is time to put a definite stop to this. When the House speaks as a collective, we will do so through our resolutions and through the Spokesperson of the House. Any other pronouncements should be ascribed to the individuals that make them, as is the fair and proper journalistic practice.*
14. *On Thursday, 19 November, 2020, Mr Ifeanyi Okereke, a young Nigerian, died here in Abuja. His death was the result of a gunshot by a now-former member of my security detail. Ifeanyi Okereke was a son and brother, and he was also the father of two children, including a son who was born seven days before his untimely death. I mourn the end of this young man.*
15. *I have shared in his family's grief. There has been too much pain; there has been too much suffering. I have made personal pledges to the family regarding funeral costs, support for Ifeanyi's widow and the education of his children. I have initiated the process to formalise these commitments in a trust that gives the family the certainty that allows them to continue with their lives despite the unfortunate loss.*
16. *I am committed to making sure that deaths like this one do not occur in our country anymore. I ask this honourable House to join me in this commitment, and I ask you also to say a prayer for the peaceful repose of this young man's soul.*
17. *Honourable colleagues, the next few weeks, will be a hectic time for all of us. We are working against the clock to deliver on a range of promises we have made so that we can meet the targets we have set for ourselves for this year. I thank you all for your dedication to the cause.*
18. *I assure you once more of my support, and I encourage you to take advantage of whatever opportunities for collaboration exist so that your labours may yield more beneficial results. I welcome all of you once more to the House of Representatives, and I thank you all for being here this morning.*

Also notes that during such attacks on the villages, various food items were carted away;

Aware that all the villages under the attacks are along Kauji-Azir-Multe-Furfor-Takulashi-Korongitum route;

Worried that the absence of adequate security around the area further aids the insurgents and made the area prone to attacks by the Boko Haram Terrorists;

Concerned that the insurgents have established camps around the Korongitum-Forfor axis and threatened communities around the area to lay down their weapons or face series of attacks;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, to direct the Nigerian Army to establish security presence around the area now that the area is accessible;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government through the North East Development Commission (NEDC), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other relevant agencies to come to the aid of the victims to alleviate their sufferings; and
- (iii) observe a minute silence in respect of the people who lost their lives (*Hon. Ahmadu Usman Jaha — Mamboa/Gwoza/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that between 30 October, 2020 and 19 November, 2020, the Boko Haram terrorists attacked four (4) villages in Chibok and Damboa Local Government Areas of Borno State as follows:

- (1) on 30 October, 2020, Kauji village was attacked with five (5) people killed, twenty-eight (28) houses and thirty-two (32) shops burnt to ashes, three (3) bulls killed, three (3) vehicles and three hundred (300) bicycles carted away,
- (2) on 1 November, 2020, Takulashi village in Chibok was attacked with fourteen (14) people killed, nine (9) others abducted and fifty-three (53) houses burnt to ashes, while one (1) vehicle and three (3) motorcycles carted away,
- (3) on 16 November, 2020, Ntsiha village in Chibok was attacked, one (1) person died, fourteen (14) houses and shops, two (2) Churches were burnt, with drugs and other equipment in the clinic carted away,
- (4) on 19 November, 2020, Azir village in Damboa was attacked, three (3) persons died, with thirty-two (32) houses burnt to ashes;

Also noted that during such attacks on the villages, various food items were carted away;

Aware that all the villages under the attacks are along Kauji-Azir-Multe-Furfor-Takulashi-Korongitum route;

Worried that the absence of adequate security around the area further aids the insurgents and made the area prone to attacks by the Boko Haram Terrorists;

9. Presentation of Reports**(i) Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loans and Debts Management on the Promissory Notes Programme and Bond Issuance as refund to Rivers, Bayelsa, Cross River, Osun and Ondo States Government for projects executed on behalf of the Federal Government" (*Hon. Ahmed Safana Dayyabu — Batsari/Safana/Damusa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Commerce:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Commerce on the Need to Rescue the Businesses of Importers from Total Collapse (HR. 30/07/2020)" (*Hon. Femi Fakeye — Boluwaduro/Ifelodun/Ila Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) Committee on Public Petitions:**Report on the Petition by Ebocha Community:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Ebocha Community in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State Community Youth Association (EYA) against Addax Petroleum Nigeria Ltd on total neglect, abuse, violation and deprivation of their Rights" (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) Committee on Public Petitions:**Report on the Petition by Azebiokhe Fellarson:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Azebiokhe Fellarson against the Nigerian Immigration Service on the unjust dismissal from Service" (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(v) Committee on Public Petitions:**Report on the Petition by Mr. Joseph Egwubare:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mr Joseph Egwubare on the Inordinate withholding of his Pension Fund against APT Pension Fund Managers Limited" (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

13. **Adjournment**

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 25 November, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.37 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker