

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21 April, 2021

- 1. The House met at 11.27 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 *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 20 April, 2021.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. Admittance into the Chamber

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, Rt Hon. Asiforor Okere, Chairman, Peoples' Democratic Party, Abia State, Engr Chinedum Orji, Speaker, Abia Sate House of Assembly, and members of their entourage, to witness the swearing-in ceremony of Member-elect, Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency, pursuant to Order Twenty-One, Rule 8 (1)" (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

Agreed to.

5. Oaths of Allegiance and Membership

A Member-elect, Mr Chimaobi Ebisike (*Aba North/Aba South Federal Constituency*), took and subscribed the Oaths of Allegiance and Membership as prescribed by law.

6. Announcement

(a) Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker recognised the presence of Members of the Student's *Union, Supreme Council,* University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Benue State.

(b) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Thomas Ereyitomi (*Warri South/Warri West/Warri North Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of His Majesty, Ogiame Ikenwoli, The Olu of Warri Kingdom, Delta State.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (c) Notification of Election into the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE);
 - Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Sani Umar Bala (*Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*), notifying the House of his election as a Fellow, Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), on Thursday, 18 March, 2021.
- (d) Appointment of a new Deputy Chairman, Committee on Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring:

Mr Speaker announced Hon. Ladan Mukhtar Shehu as the Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring.

(e) Need to Provide Relief Materials to Victims of Fire Incidence at the Katsina Central Market:

Mr Speaker announced the Membership of the Delegation as follows:

- (1) Hon. Ahmed Idris Leader of Delegation
- (2) Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura *Member*
- (3) Hon. Babangida Ibrahim *Member*
- (4) Hon. Sada Soli *Member*
- (5) Hon. Salisu Iro Isansi *Member*
- (6) Hon. Sarkin Adar Musa *Member*
- (7) Hon. Edun Olanrewaju Oladapo *Member*
- (8) Hon. Bello Usman Kumo *Member*
- (9) Hon. Igariwey Iduma Enwo *Member* (10) Hon. Julius O. Ihonvbere *Member*
- 7. Petitions
 - (i) A petition from Chika James Nnaobi and one other, on the alleged non-disbursement of their invested fund by Union Homes Savings and Loans Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Anayo Edwin (Ezza/Ishielu Federal Constituency);
 - (ii) A petition from Iheanyi Uzoukwu, on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Henry Nwawuba (Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency);
 - (iii) A petition from Castefield Attorneys (Solicitors & Advocates), on behalf of Akinwale Akintomiwa, on alleged non-payment of his medical bills by the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), was presented and laid by Hon. Adejoro Adeogun (Akoko South East/Akoko South West Federal Constituency).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

8. Matter Requiring Urgent Intervention of the House

A Call to Investigate Sheik Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami, Minister of Communication and Digital Economy's Link to Terrorist Groups — A Potential Threat to National Security:

The House:

Notes that **Sheik Ali Isah Ibrahim Pantami** is the Minister for Communication and Digital Economy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the portfolio he currently occupies gives him the free latitude to administer, coordinate and manage flow of sensitive information within and outside the shores of Nigeria;

Also notes that there have been repeated insinuations that **Sheik Ali Ibrahim Isa Pantami** has direct links and personally subscribes to the extreme Islamic beliefs of Al Queada, Taliban and Boko Haram sects;

Aware that there are compelling evidence in the cyber space to buttress and lend strong credence to a relationship and existing mutual collaboration between **Sheik Ali Isah Ibrahim Pantami** and deceased Yemeni terrorist Al Barnawi, a mentor to the Nigerian born Christmas day bomber, **Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab**:

Also aware that the Minister, while answering questions during his daily **Ramadan lecture** at **Annor Mosque** a few days back, owned up to the fact that he took extreme positions in support of the brutal exploits of Al Quaeda and the Taliban out of ignorance;

Concerned that these allegations and relevant evidence in the cyber space and other informative platforms have been overlooked and glossed over by relevant authorities, thereby refusing to take appropriate security measures in examining the strands of facts and its implication on national security;

Also concerned that for over ten years, the insurgency in the North East has cost Nigerian military high casualty level, moral depletion amongst its personnel, billions of dollars in financial resources, huge human and material displacement, culminating in high level of unemployment amongst the populace of that region;

Worried that there have been instances in the recent past where top government officials have been complicit and acted as moles at divulging government strategy to the insurgents without traces, and some openly lend financial support to the insurgency in the North East;

Also worried that if these allegations are allowed to wear away without proper investigation and taking necessary actions, this may be the beginning of an end to our great country Nigeria (Hon. Ndudi Godwin Elumelu — Aniocha North/South/Oshimili North/South Federal Constituency).

Mr Speaker noted the matter.

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

- (i) Need for Intervention in the Numerous Kidnapping Incidents and Destruction of Farmlands in Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State:

 Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe (Oluyole Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
 - (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
 - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — **Agreed to.**

Need for Urgent Intervention on the Numerous Kidnapping Incidents and Destruction of Farmlands in Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State:

The House:

Notes that some unknown gunmen suspected to be kidnappers have, on numerous occasions, stormed Oluyole Local Government Area of Oyo State, kidnapping residents and destroying farms;

Also notes that on Saturday, 17 April, 2021, several newsprint reports confirmed that no fewer than fifteen (15) residents of Oyo State have been kidnapped in the last one month with majority of those kidnappings occurring in the Idi Ayunre axis of Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State, on the Idi Ayunre-Ijebu Ode Road;

Informed that some of the recent incidents include the kidnap of four people along Ijebu-Ode/Ibadan Road on Monday, 15 March, 2021; the kidnap of three farmers at Sanyo and Soka area on Monday, 29 March, 2021; the kidnap of four people (among whom three were employees of Megabolex Quarry Site) on Tuesday, 6 April, 2021 and the recent kidnap of three women at Onipe village on Monday, 12 April, 2021;

Also informed that though some of the victims had been released, they were released by the abductors after the payment of millions of Naira as ransom with a minimum ransom value of №5,000,000.00 paid for each victim;

Further informed that there have been several other cases like that of Lukman Jimoh, a former Councilor and car dealer, who was kidnapped in the early hours of Sunday, 28 February, 2020. His abductors demanded for a ramsom of \$\frac{N}{1}\$,500,000.00 but the sum of \$\frac{N}{1}\$,000,000.00 was paid to the kidnappers before he was released, eight days after his return, another resident, Mr Wasiu Wahab, a cattle breeder, was kidnapped and only released upon the payment of a \$\frac{N}{2}\$,000,000.00 ransom;

Aware that some of the kidnapping incidents in the State ended in casualties as on Wednesday, 17 March, 2021, some gunmen stormed a farm in Fiditi, Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State and kidnapped a security guard, unfortunately, the invasion process led to the death of one person and there have been several of such cases resulting in loss of innocent lives:

Also aware that it has become very unsafe for residents of Oluyole Federal Constituency and Oyo State in general to go about earning their livelihoods without the fear of being kidnapped and putting their families under undue pressure to source the ransom money;

Cognizant of the urgent need for the Federal Government to forge a lasting solution to the inumerable kidnappings and attacks on farmers' livelihood across the country, thereby turning many of them into destitutes and also cases where their farms are intentionally dug up and fed to animals;

Also cognizant of the need for a compensation programme for victims of kidnapping and their families, in the case of loss of life and to farmers for loss of livelihood, among other sufferings caused by this menace;

Resolves to:

- (i) call for urgent intervention of the Federal Government to find a lasting solution to the inumerable kidnappings in the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to create a compensation programme for victims of kidnapping, the affected families who have lost loved ones, and farmers who have lost their sources of livelihood;
- (iii) also urge the Nigeria Police Force to formulate strategies to destabilize those criminal operations, establish more police presence within the State and the country, rescue abductees and apprehend the abductors (Hon. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe Oluyole Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that some unknown gunmen suspected to be kidnappers have, on numerous occasions, stormed Oluyole Local Government Area of Oyo State, kidnapping residents and destroying farms:

Also noted that on Saturday, 17 April, 2021, several newsprint reports confirmed that no fewer than fifteen (15) residents of Oyo State have been kidnapped in the last one month with majority of those kidnappings occurring in the Idi Ayunre axis of Oluyole Local Government Area, Oyo State, on the Idi Ayunre-Ijebu Ode Road;

Informed that some of the recent incidents include the kidnap of four people along Ijebu-Ode/Ibadan Road on Monday, 15 March, 2021; the kidnap of three farmers at Sanyo and Soka area on Monday, 29 March, 2021; the kidnap of four people (among whom three were employees of Megabolex Quarry Site) on Tuesday, 6 April, 2021 and the recent kidnap of three women at Onipe village on Monday, 12 April, 2021;

Also informed that though some of the victims had been released, they were released by the abductors after the payment of millions of Naira as ransom with a minimum ransom value of ₹5,000,000.00 paid for each victim;

Further informed that there have been several other cases like that of Lukman Jimoh, a former Councilor and car dealer, who was kidnapped in the early hours of Sunday, 28 February, 2020. His abductors demanded for a ramsom of ₹1,500,000.00 but the sum of ₹1,000,000.00 was paid to the kidnappers before he was released, eight days after his return, another resident, Mr Wasiu Wahab, a cattle breeder, was kidnapped and only released upon the payment of a ₹2,000,000.00 ransom;

Aware that some of the kidnapping incidents in the State ended in casualties as on Wednesday, 17 March, 2021, some gunmen stormed a farm in Fiditi, Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State and kidnapped a security guard, unfortunately, the invasion process led to the death of one person and there have been several of such cases resulting in loss of innocent lives;

Also aware that it has become very unsafe for residents of Oluyole Federal Constituency and Oyo State in general to go about earning their livelihoods without the fear of being kidnapped and putting their families under undue pressure to source the ransom money;

Cognizant of the urgent need for the Federal Government to forge a lasting solution to the inumerable kidnappings and attacks on farmers' livelihood across the country, thereby turning many of them into destitutes and also cases where their farms are intentionally dug up and fed to animals;

Also cognizant of the need for a compensation programme for victims of kidnapping and their families, in the case of loss of life and to farmers for loss of livelihood, among other sufferings caused by this menace;

Resolved to:

- (i) call for urgent intervention of the Federal Government to find a lasting solution to the inumerable kidnappings in the country;
- (ii) urge the Federal Government to create a compensation programme for victims of kidnapping, the affected families who have lost loved ones, and farmers who have lost their sources of livelihood;

- (iii) also urge the Nigeria Police Force to formulate strategies to destabilize those criminal operations, establish more police presence within the State and the country, rescue abductees and apprehend the abductors (HR. 70/04/2021).
- (ii) Fire Disasters at Oshigbudu in Agatu Local Government Area (LGA) of Benue State: A Call for Urgent Attention:

Hon. Samuel Godday Odagboyi (*Apa/Agatu Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — **Agreed to.**

Fire Disasters at Oshigbudu in Agatu Local Government Area (LGA) of Benue State: A Call for Urgent Attention:

The House:

Notes with sadness and grief the tragic fuel Tanker explosions on Sunday, 18 and Tuesday, 20 April, 2021, that razed down, leaving 12 people dead so far, several buildings and vehicles destroyed at Oshigbudu community in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State;

Also notes that this unfortunate incidents have left the entire people of Agatu and indeed Benue State in anguish and agony as goods and properties worth hundreds of millions of Naira were also lost to the inferno;

Aware that the Oshigbudu Community is a major settlement for farmers, and commercial activities in Benue State due to its strategic location and the volume of goods and commodities traded in the area, such as farm produce, building materials, poultry products, etc. and services to commuters plying the Abuja -Oweto-Otukpo route which links the Northern and Southern Nigeria;

Also aware that the destruction caused by this inferno has rendered thousands of Households, farmers, traders and retailers without shelter and means of livelihood;

Observes that the palliatives measures required to rebuild and resettle the affected persons is way beyond the capacity of Agatu Local Government Council and Benue Sate Government, hence there is an urgent need to draw the attention of the Federal Government and its relevant relief agencies to this unfortunate fire incidents that has consumed the populace and hit the nerve center of not only the Agatu people but the entire Benue State;

Resolves to:

- (i) commiserate with the people of Oshigbudu in Agatu LGA and the Government and the people of Benue State over this fire disaster;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA); other relief agencies; and philanthropists to provide the necessary intervention to the affected members of the community;

- (iii) call on the Federal Fire service to immediately establish a fire service station within the Apa and Agatu Local Government Areas to curtail such incidents in the future; these fire stations will serve over five Local Government Areas of Benue South including neighbouring Nasarawa State;
- (iv) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to provide for the completion and dualization of the Keffi-Oweto -Otukpo Road Project and to also provide for the diversion or Bye Pass of the road from passing through Oshigbudu Township as a result of the numerous accidents being experienced;
- (v) set- up an Ad-hoc Committee to investigate the causes of the two tanker explosions within 48 hours intervals with a view to proffering solutions and prevent reoccurrence and report back within three (3) weeks; and
- (vi) observe a minute silence in honor of those who lost their lives as a result of these explosions (Hon. Samuel Godday Odagboyi Apa/Agatu Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 71/04/2021).

Motion referred to the **Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness**, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than 2 matters of urgent public importance" (*Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(iii) Recent Attack on Kwapre Community in Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State by Boko Haram:

Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub (Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — **Agreed to.**

Recent Attack on Kwapre Community in Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State by Boko Haram Insurgents:

The House:

Notes that in the early hours of Friday, 9 April, 2021, suspected Boko Haram insurgents, in their numbers, attacked Kwapre village, a community in Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State;

Also notes that the insurgents killed some and maimed many other unsuspecting dwellers, most of whom are currently in hospitals and health facilities in the Local Government Headquarters and they also destroyed homes, properties and abducted women and children;

Believes that the Federal Government and law- enforcement agencies must live up to the sworn duties of protecting lives and maintaining the welfare of the people in order to operate optimally and fulfill its ideals;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the North East Development Commission (NEDC), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to provide relief materials to the victims of the affected community;
- (ii) call on the Nigerian Army and other relevant security Agencies to improve on their operations in the Zone in order to forestall any further attacks on any of the communities in the North East;
- (iii) also call on the Nigerian Army to establish a Military base in Garkida or Mubi to increase Military presence in the area;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on North East Development Commission, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Army to ensure compliance (Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in the early hours of Friday, 9 April, 2021, suspected Boko Haram insurgents, in their numbers, attacked Kwapre village, a community in Hong Local Government Area of Adamawa State;

Also noted that the insurgents killed some and maimed many other unsuspecting dwellers, most of whom are currently in hospitals and health facilities in the Local Government Headquarters and they also destroyed homes, properties and abducted women and children;

Believed that the Federal Government and law- enforcement agencies must live up to the sworn duties of protecting lives and maintaining the welfare of the people in order to operate optimally and fulfill its ideals;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the North East Development Commission (NEDC), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to provide relief materials to the victims of the affected community;
- (ii) call on the Nigerian Army and other relevant security Agencies to improve on their operations in the Zone in order to forestall any further attacks on any of the communities in the North East;
- (iii) also call on the Nigerian Army to establish a Military base in Garkida or Mubi to increase Military presence in the area;
- (*iv*) mandate the Committees on North East Development Commission, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Army to ensure compliance (HR. 72/04/2021).

No. 52

1785

10. Presentation of Reports

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do Receive the Report of Committee on Customs and Excise on the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigeria Customs Service the total sum of ₹1,678,715,061,014.00 (One Trillion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Eight Billion, Seven Hundred and Fifteen Million, Sixty-One Thousand, Fourteen Naira) only, the Nigeria Customs Service expected Revenue from the 7% collection and 60% from the comprehensive Import Suspension Scheme (CISS) is the sum of ₩257,183,671,694.71 (Two Hundred and Fifty-Seven Billion, One Hundred and Eighty-Three Million, Six Hundred and Seventy-One Thousand, Six Hundred and Ninety-Four Naira, Seventy-One Kobo) only out of which ₹99,719,722,681.71 (Ninety-Nine Billion, Seven Hundred and Nineteen Million, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighty-One Naira, Seventy-One Kobo) only, is for Personnel Cost, while the sum of ₹19,530,769,000.00 (Nineteen Billion, Five Hundred and Thirty Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Nine Thousand Naira) only, is for Overhead Cost and the sum of ₩137,933,270,013.00 (One Hundred and Thirty-Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and Thirty-Three Million, Two Hundred and Seventy Thousand, Thirteen Naira) only, is for Capital Cost of the Nigeria Customs Service for the year ending 31 December, 2021" (Hon. Leke Abejide Joseph — Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Finance:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do Receive the Report of Committee on Finance on the Issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) the total sum of ₹216,646,579,231.00 (Two Hundred and Sixteen Billion, Six Hundred and Forty-Six Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-One Naira) only, out of which the sum of ₹107,521,496,984.00 (One Hundred and Seven Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-One Million, Four and Ninety-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four Naira) only, is for Personnel Cost, while the sum of ₹56,469,218,415.00 (Fifty-Six Billion, Four Hundred and Sixty-Nine Million, Two Hundred and Eighteen Thousand, Four Hundred and Fifteen Naira) only is for Over Head Cost, and the sum of ₹52,655,863,832.00 (Fifty-Two Billion, Six Hundred and Fifty - Five Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Two Naira) only, is for Capital Project of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) for the year ending 31 December, 2021" (Hon. James Abiodun Faleke — Ikeja Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by U. C. Oparaugo and Co. against the Nigeria Police Force and the Police Service Commission on the Unlawful Dismissal of CPL Ezemadu Collins: Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by U. C. Oparaugo and Co. against the Nigeria Police Force and the Police Service Commission on the Unlawful Dismissal of CPL Ezemadu Collins" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Ekeson Onyekachi:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Ekeson Onyekachi against the Nigeria Police Force on the Persistence and Continuous Harassment, Unlawful Detention, Intimidations, Breach of Fundamental Human Rights and Abuse of Power" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(v) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Ex-Nigeria Airways Casual Staff:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Ex-Nigeria Airways Casual Staff on the Non-Inclusion in the Ongoing Final Settlement-Pay-Off and Terminal Benefits against the Federal Ministry of Aviation and the Federal Airports Authority" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(vi) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Styben Law Office:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Styben Law Office on behalf of Anselem Nwachukwu of Nigeria Police Force No: 164574 against the Nigeria Police Force on the Unlawful Dismissal from the Service" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(vii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by S. O. Wobodo and Associates on behalf of the Displaced Search and Rescue Marshals:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by S. O. Wobodo and Associates on the Petition for Justice and Protection, an Appeal for the Payment of the sum of №17,640,000.00 (Seventeen Million, Six Hundred and Forty Thousand Naira) only, being the Arrears of Salary and Entitlements owed to Displaced Search and Rescue Marshals (SAR) of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(viii) Committee on Public Petitions:

Report on the Petition by Alhaji Ali:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Alhaji Ali "An Appeal for Reinstatement" against the Public Complaints Commission" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ix) Committees on Interior, Federal Character, and Reformatory Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committees on Interior, Federal Character, and Reformatory Institutions on Call for Intervention in the On-going Recruitment Exercise into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) and the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) (HR. 99/12/2020)" (Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura — Zango/Baure Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(x) Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Aids, Loan and Debt Management on the Request for the Approval of External Loans to Finance the Priority Projects of the Federal Government" (Hon. Ahmed Safana Dayyabu — Batsari/Safana/Damusa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

11. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide a Legal Framework for the Establishment of the National Social Investment Programmes for the Assistance and Empowerment of Poor and Vulnerable in Nigeria; and to Establish the National Social Investment Programmes Coordination Office within the Federal Ministry Responsible for Social Development to Manage the Implementation of the Programmes; and for Related Matters (HB. 1153); and a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Social Investments Trust Fund to Alleviate Poverty among Vulnerable Nigerian Citizens through Targeted Programmes for the Aged, Infirm, Unemployed and Students; and for Related Matters (HB.907) now consolidated" be (Hon. Fulata Abubakar Hassan Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(ii) Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Broadcasting Commission Act, Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for the Payment of all Monies Received by the Commission into the Federation Account in accordance with Section 162 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended); and for Related Matters (HB. 234); a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Broadcasting Commission Act, Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Strengthen the Commission and make it more Effective to Regulate Broadcasting in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB.332) and a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Broadcasting Commission Act, Cap. N11, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to encourage Liberal, Openness and Favourable Competition in the Industry; and for Related Matters (HB. 833) be now consolidated" (Hon. Fulata Abubakar Hassan — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

12. A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Urban Development and Planning Commission for the Purpose of Formulation and Preparation of Physical Development Plans and the Improvement of Social Amenities within the FCT; and for Related Matters (HB. 707) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Urban Development and Planning Commission for the Purpose of Formulation and Preparation of Physical Development Plans and the Improvement of Social Amenities within the FCT; and for Related Matters (HB. 707) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Jimoh Abdulraheem Olajide — Lagos Mainland Federal Constituency and 1 other).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

13. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Hong, Adamawa State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1264) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Hong, Adamawa State; and for Related Matters (HB. 1264) be read a Second Time" (Hon Yusuf Buba Yakub — Gombi/Hong Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

14. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Polytechnic, Orozo, Abuja to Provide Full-Time Courses in Technology, Applied Science, Management and Other Fields of Study and to make provisions for the Administration of such Polytechnic; and for Related Matters (HB.698) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal Polytechnic, Orozo, Abuja to Provide Full-Time Courses in Technology, Applied Science, Management and Other Fields of Study and to make provisions for the Administration of such Polytechnic; and for Related Matters (HB.698) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Micah Jiba Yohanna — Abuja Municipal/Bwari Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Tertiary Education and Services.

15. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Maritime Trust Fund for the purpose of Training, Provision of Security Equipment, and Related Facilities, Enhance the Skills of the Personnel of the Nigerian Navy; and for Related Matters (HB. 1243) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Maritime Trust Fund for the purpose of Training, Provision of Security Equipment, and Related Facilities, Enhance the Skills of the Personnel of the Nigerian Navy; and for Related Matters (HB. 1243) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi — Kanke/Paskshin/Kanam Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Navy.

16. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria Act, 2019 to Extend the Tenor of the Banking Sector Resolution Cost Funds; and for Related Matters (HB. 1296) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria Act, 2019 to Extend the Tenor of the Banking Sector Resolution Cost Funds; and for Related Matters (HB. 1296) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Victor Onyemaechi Nwokolo—Ika North East/Ika South Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

17. Need to Investigate the Acceptance Fees Charged by Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the arbitrary high acceptance fees charged by some public universities on new students across the country has become a matter of great concern to many families;

Also notes that amid the rising frustrations over the exorbitant fees, indigent families of new students that are forced to pay the acceptance fees are bemoaning the unusual astronomical increases against the backdrop of the fact that Federal Universities are supposedly tuition-free;

Aware that the acceptance fees are discriminatory, as they vary from one University to the other which clearly shows that they have become mere internal revenue-generating mechanisms thus constituting an impediment to the smooth process of entry into Universities;

Also aware that while some of the institutions are charging minimal fees, others are charging astronomically whereas, others do not charge anything, while most institutions do not charge acceptance fee against tuition fees, thus raising the question as to whether the institutions were not established under the same law;

Further aware that if the situation is unchecked, acceptance fees may surreptitiously become the school fee, thus affecting the number of students that may gain entry into higher institutions in Nigeria;

Worried that the dire consequences of exorbitant acceptance fees in our Public Universities have led to many indigent students losing their admission as a result of their inability to afford the fees;

Resolves to:

(i) urge the Federal Government to increase the funding of Public Universities to moderate the excessive drive for Internally Generated Revenue at the expense of popular access to public education in Nigeria;

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(ii) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and Services to investigate the high acceptance fees charged by Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria and report back within four (4)

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the arbitrary high acceptance fees charged by some public universities on new students across the country has become a matter of great concern to many families;

Also noted that amid the rising frustrations over the exorbitant fees, indigent families of new students that are forced to pay the acceptance fees are bemoaning the unusual astronomical increases against the backdrop of the fact that Federal Universities are supposedly tuition-free;

Aware that the acceptance fees are discriminatory, as they vary from one University to the other which clearly shows that they have become mere internal revenue-generating mechanisms thus constituting an impediment to the smooth process of entry into Universities;

Also aware that while some of the institutions are charging minimal fees, others are charging astronomically whereas, others do not charge anything, while most institutions do not charge acceptance fee against tuition fees, thus raising the question as to whether the institutions were not established under the same law;

Further aware that if the situation is unchecked, acceptance fees may surreptitiously become the school fee, thus affecting the number of students that may gain entry into higher institutions in Nigeria;

Worried that the dire consequences of exorbitant acceptance fees in our Public Universities have led to many indigent students losing their admission as a result of their inability to afford the fees;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to increase the funding of Public Universities to moderate the excessive drive for Internally Generated Revenue at the expense of popular access to public education in Nigeria;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Tertiary Institutions and Services to investigate the high acceptance fees charged by Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 73/04/2021).

18. Need to Investigate the Delay in Conclusion of the Review and Renewal of Agreements for Concession of Seaports

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria, anchored the concession of Seaport Terminals between 2005 and 2006 for an initial period of 10 years, 15 years and 25 years across the NPA Port Complexes of Apapa, Tincan Island, Port Harcourt, Onne, Calabar, Koko and Warri, respectively;

Aware that some of the concessioned terminals with initial tenure of 10 and 15 years have expired while some will expire in May 2021 and needed renewal to avoid losses of hundreds of millions of dollars revenues accruable to the government and direct foreign investment by investors for further upgrade and rehabilitation of the Ports to achieve the modernization objectives of government;

Also aware that the review and renewal process had commenced in 2016 with the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Federal Ministry of Justice, the Federal Ministry of Transport, the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and Private Terminal Operators;

Concerned that the Concession Agreements that have expired are deemed to have been automatically renewed without the benefit of full renegotiation, provided that concessionaires served the lessor requisite notice of intent to renew in line with the provisions of the Agreements;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Ports and Harbours, and Privatization and Commercialization to interface with parties to the Concession Agreement with a view to determining reasons for the delay in conclusion of the review and renewal of the Agreements for Concession of Seaports and report back within four (4) weeks (Hon. Mohammed Shehu Koko — Koko-Besse/Maiyama Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the word "on", *insert* the words "Treaties and Agreements" (*Hon. Ndudi Elumelu —Aniocha South/North/Oshimili South/North Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Negatived.

Question on the Motion — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria, anchored the concession of Seaport Terminals between 2005 and 2006 for an initial period of 10 years, 15 years and 25 years across the NPA Port Complexes of Apapa, Tincan Island, Port Harcourt, Onne, Calabar, Koko and Warri, respectively;

Aware that some of the concessioned terminals with initial tenure of 10 and 15 years have expired while some will expire in May 2021 and needed renewal to avoid losses of hundreds of millions of dollars revenues accruable to the government and direct foreign investment by investors for further upgrade and rehabilitation of the Ports to achieve the modernization objectives of government;

Also aware that the review and renewal process had commenced in 2016 with the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Federal Ministry of Justice, the Federal Ministry of Transport, the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and Private Terminal Operators;

Concerned that the Concession Agreements that have expired are deemed to have been automatically renewed without the benefit of full renegotiation, provided that concessionaires served the lessor requisite notice of intent to renew in line with the provisions of the Agreements;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Ports and Harbours, and Privatization and Commercialization to interface with parties to the Concession Agreement with a view to determining reasons for the delay in conclusion of the review and renewal of the Agreements for Concession of Seaports and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 74/04/2021).

19. Curbing Sea Piracy, Kidnappings and Killings on Bonny, Bile, Ke and Bakana Waterways

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Need to Rehabilitate the Dilapidated Isa-Kwanar Isa Road in Isa/Sabon Birni Federal Constituency of Sokoto State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the road from Isa to Kwanar-Isa connecting Sokoto and Zamfara States constructed in the early 1980s during the Administration of President Shehu Shagari has been useful for transportation of people, goods and facilitates commercial/agricultural activities in Sokoto and Zamfara States;

Worried that the 8 Kilometers stretch of road has not witnessed any form of rehabilitation since its construction despite its significance in boosting economic activities between the two states;

Also worried that the abandonment of the road is adversely affecting the means of livelihood of inhabitants of the Communities, thus making criminals to take undue advantage of its state to perpetuate their heinous activities;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to rehabilitate the dilapidated portion of the road from Isa to Kwanar-Isa to enhance the livelihood of inhabitants of the Communities;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to ensure compliance (Hon. Mohammed Saidu Baragaja Isa/Sabon Birni Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 75/04/2021).

Motion referred to the **Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA)**, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

21. Need to Prevail on Jos Electricity Distribution Company (JEDCO) to Restore Power Supply in the Communities of Darazo and Ganjuwa Local Government Area of Bauchi State Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the provision of electricity is critical to the socio-economic development of any given society;

Aware that private companies are empowered by the Electricity Power Sector Reform Act, 2005 to participate in the generation and transmission of electricity and Jos Electricity Distribution Company (JEDC) is responsible for the distribution of electricity in Darazo and Ganjuwa Local Government Area of Bauchi State;

Observes that communities of Yuli, Don, Badaromo, Dargomi, Dabe, Gere, DabenKasuwa, Jalingo, Kamfanin Dan Fulani, Zalanga, Gagira, KamfaninKutare, Gama-Dadi, GidanGona, Wailo, Kare-Kare, Marga, Lago, Konkiyel, Gabarin, Kili, Kunchi, Tashan-Ladi, Yunbunga, Dale-Gobe, Zandam, Babaye, Sade, Wahu, Magume, Garin-Lesa, Sauke, Bulawa, Lanzai, Tudun Wada, Lamba and Papa located on the Bauchi -Maiduguri highway have been in darkness for the past ten (10) years;

Commends the Government of Bauchi State under the leadership of Senator Bala Abdulkadir Mohammed (Kauran Bauchi) for its commitments through the State Ministry of Power to address a similar problem in the State;

Worried that residents of the affected communities are being denied benefits associated with provision of electricity due to the failure of Jos Electricity Distribution Company to supply electricity to the communities;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Power to interface with the Managing Director, Jos Electricity Distribution Company to provide reasons for the failure of JEDC to supply electricity to Communities in Darazo and Ganjuwa Local Government Area;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (Hon. Mansur Manu Soro Darazo/Ganjuwa Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

(HR. 76/04/2021).

Motion referred to the **Legislative Compliance**, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

22. Need to Control the Import and Export of Agricultural Commodities in Nigeria

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

23. Need to Investigate the Corporate Attitude of Exxon Mobil against Indigenous Service Providers

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House

Notes that Exxon Mobil and its affiliates are involved in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas and operate joint venture concessions and deep-water production with significant investment in Nigeria and has been a committed partner with the Federal Government in her drive for socio-economic growth of the nation;

Also notes that Exxon Mobil has equally been collaborating with various tiers of Government by providing employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled labour in line with the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (NOGICD) Act and recently, they were reported to have commenced a contract process which is splited to favour foreign companies to the exclusion of indigenous service providers;

Aware of reports of unfair treatment of Nigerians who render various services to the company, especially the termination of the catering contract of Royalty Hotels and Eden Hotels (catering companies owned by Nigerians) in August 2019 without clear reasons and re-awarding same to West African Caterers (a foreign company); and employing two expatriates to supervise catering services against the NOGICD Act;

Also aware that there is unequal/prejudiced and biased procurement requirements/conditions/processes for catering service provisions targeted at automatically disqualifying proficient Nigerian companies from participating in the new catering technical and commercial bid:

Disturbed that Exxon Mobil, known for appreciable commitment to the rule of law, respect for individuals and maintaining a harmonious relationship with indigenous host communities, will begin to 'without any sense of caution' manifest such indistinct tendencies of economic sabotage, particularly at the highest level of her management by ironically disregarding Nigerian government's efforts to ensure the development of local food and non-food products of high quality and standards for local consumption;

Also disturbed that Exxon Mobil could exhume such crass abuse and insult to Nigerian government's policy restrictions on foreign food items by deliberately listing ISO 2200 Certification (a foreign safety qualification) as a mandatory requirement in their Technical Bid document for catering service production not minding the logistic difficulties facing Local Catering Companies as a result of COVID-19 restrictions on international movements:

Worried that the glaring deliberate abuse of the NOGICD Act by Exxon Mobil and the contract termination of the Nigerian owned companies have caused untold economic hardship to those Indigenous companies and the host communities;

Also worried that if urgent action is not taken to call Exxon Mobil to order, the situation may degenerate to both legal and civil actions capable of undermining the relative peace currently subsisting between the parties;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge Exxon Mobil to immediately stop further procurement activities on their catering contracts and reinstate the contractors who were disengaged without reasons from 2019 till date;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring to investigate the matter by inviting the Exxon Mobil Management, National Petroleum Investment Management Services and Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board to appear before it and report back within four (4) weeks (Hon Henry Nwawuba Mbaitoli/Ikeduru Federal Constituency).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

(i) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word "Board", insert the words "and other relevant Agencies" (Hon. Babangida Ibrahim —Kafur Malumfashi Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ii) In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word "within", leave out the word and figure "four (4)", and insert the word and figure "two (2)", (Hon. Sada Soli — Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House

Noted that Exxon Mobil and its affiliates are involved in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas and operate joint venture concessions and deep-water production with significant investment in Nigeria and has been a committed partner with the Federal Government in her drive for socio-economic growth of the nation;

Also noted that Exxon Mobil has equally been collaborating with various tiers of Government by providing employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled labour in line with the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (NOGICD) Act and recently, they were reported to have commenced a contract process which is splited to favour foreign companies to the exclusion of indigenous service providers;

Aware of reports of unfair treatment of Nigerians who render various services to the company, especially the termination of the catering contract of Royalty Hotels and Eden Hotels (catering companies owned by Nigerians) in August 2019 without clear reasons and re-awarding same to West African Caterers (a foreign company); and employing two expatriates to supervise catering services against the NOGICD Act;

Also aware that there is unequal/prejudiced and biased procurement requirements/conditions/processes for catering service provisions targeted at automatically disqualifying proficient Nigerian companies from participating in the new catering technical and commercial bid:

Disturbed that Exxon Mobil, known for appreciable commitment to the rule of law, respect for individuals and maintaining a harmonious relationship with indigenous host communities, will begin to 'without any sense of caution' manifest such indistinct tendencies of economic sabotage, particularly at the highest level of her management by ironically disregarding Nigerian government's efforts to ensure the development of local food and non-food products of high quality and standards for local consumption;

Also disturbed that Exxon Mobil could exhume such crass abuse and insult to Nigerian government's policy restrictions on foreign food items by deliberately listing ISO 2200 Certification (a foreign safety qualification) as a mandatory requirement in their Technical Bid document for catering service production not minding the logistic difficulties facing Local Catering Companies as a result of COVID-19 restrictions on international movements;

Worried that the glaring deliberate abuse of the NOGICD Act by Exxon Mobil and the contract termination of the Nigerian owned companies have caused untold economic hardship to those Indigenous companies and the host communities;

Also worried that if urgent action is not taken to call Exxon Mobil to order, the situation may degenerate to both legal and civil actions capable of undermining the relative peace currently subsisting between the parties;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge Exxon Mobil to immediately stop further procurement activities on their catering contracts and reinstate the contractors who were disengaged without reasons from 2019 till date;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring to investigate the matter by inviting the Exxon Mobil Management, NAPIMS and NCMB, and other relevant Agencies to appear before it and report back within two (2) weeks (HR. 77/04/2021).

24. Consideration of Report

Committees on Interior, Federal Character, and Reformatory Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Interior, Federal Character and Reformatory Institutions on Call for Intervention in the On-going Recruitment Exercise into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) (HR. 99/12/2020)" (Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura — Zango/Baure Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Question that the House do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Report — Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Recommendation (i):

"That the introduction of Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) was to add value to the Civil Defence, Fire, Immigration and Prison Services Board's recruitment process and also ensure transparency and fairness" (Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura — Zango/Baure Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (ii):

"That the method (CBAT) employed by the Civil Defense, Fire, Immigration and Prison Services Board (CDFIPB) is faster, seamless, less cumbersome, devoid of almost 100% manipulation and above all in compliance with ICT since the whole world is embracing ICT and our youth and Nigeria by extension, should not be left out" (Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura — Zango/Baure Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Recommendation (iii):

"That the exercise should continue in earnest to ensure there is no delay in the assumption of duty of those officers who will form part of the solution to the internal security challenges the country is faced with and also reduce the overstretched labour market" (Hon. Nasiru Sani Zango Daura — Zango/Baure Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committees on Interior, Federal Character and Reformatory Institutions on Call for Intervention in the On-going Recruitment Exercise into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) and approved Recommendations (i) - (iii) of the Report.

Question that the House do adopt the Report of the Committee of the Whole — Agreed to.

25. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 22 April, 2021 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Garba Alhassan Ado — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.49 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila Speaker