



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 21 September, 2021

1. The House met at 11.59 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 Thursday, 16 September, 2021.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Message**
Mr Speaker read a message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:



**PRESIDENT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

16th September, 2021

*Rt Hon. Femi Gbajabamila
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Dear Rt Hon. F. Gbajabamila,

**FORWARDING ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AMENDMENTS
TO THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ACT (PIA) 2021**

I wish to forward to the House of Representatives, the attached Administrative Structure Amendments of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021 for your kind consideration and approval please.

2. Having carefully reviewed the administrative structure of both the Commission and the Authority; I would like to propose the following amendments to the PIA 2021:

(a) **APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

The Petroleum Industry Act 2021 provided for the appointment of two non-executive members for the board of the two regulatory institutions. I am of the view that this membership limitation has not addressed the principle of balanced geopolitical representation of the Country. I therefore, pray for the intervention of the 9th Assembly to correct this oversight in the interest of our national unity. Needless to add that this amendment will provide a sense of participation and inclusion to almost every section of the Country in the decision making of strategic institutions such as the oil industry.

If this amendment is approved, it will now increase the number of the non-executive members from two to six that is: one person from each of the six geopolitical zones of the Country.

(b) **REMOVAL OF THE MINISTRIES OF PETROLEUM AND FINANCE FROM THE BOARD OF THE TWO INSTITUTIONS**

The proposed amendment will increase the membership of the board from nine (9) to thirteen (13) members that is representing 44% expansion of the board size. This composition would strengthen the institutions and guarantee national spread and also achieve the expected policy contributions.

The two ministries already have constitutional responsibilities of either supervision or inter-governmental relations. They can continue to perform such roles without being in the board. It is also important to note that administratively, the representatives of the ministries in the board will be Directors — being the same rank with the Directors in the institution. This may bring some complications in some decision making especially on issues of staff related matters.

(c) **APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

The Act has made provision for 7 Departmental Heads in the Authority to be known as Executive Directors. Their appointment will also be subject to Senate confirmation. This category of Officers are civil servants and not political appointees.

The House is invited to note the need to exempt serving public officers from the established confirmation process for political appointments. This will ensure effective management of the regulatory institutions through uniform implementation of public service rules for employees of the Authority. In the future, these positions will obviously be filled by the workers in the Authority through career progression in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Federal Civil Service.

3. The proposed amendments to the Petroleum Industry Act, 2021 which is strictly about the administrative structure of the institutions is aimed at laying sound administrative structures governed by simple operational laws that will ensure smooth take-off and consequent growth of the two institutions. It is also in line with this administration's commitment to carry-out petroleum industry reforms. Find attached Annex "1".

4. While I request for your kind consideration and amendment of the Petroleum Industry Act to reflect this important national aspiration. Please accept, Mr Speaker, the assurances of my highest consideration.

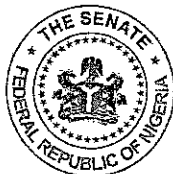
Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Muhammadu Buhari

5. **Announcement**

Mr Speaker read a communication from Sen. Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe (Cross River North Senatorial District) as follows:



DISTINGUISHED SEN. JARIGBE AGOM JARIGBE
CROSS RIVER NORTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

15th September, 2021

The Speaker
House of Representatives
National Assembly
Abuja

Your Excellency,

**RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

I wish to formally, notify you, of my assumption of Office, as Senator for Cross River North Senatorial District, following the administering of my Oath of Office, on the 15th of September, 2021, by the Clerk of the Senate, at the Plenary.

I hereby resign my Office, as Member of the House of Representatives, for Ogoja/Yala Federal Constituency.

This is forwarded, for Mr Speaker's information and necessary action.

I am leaving the House of Representatives with mixed feelings, but it is a clarion call to serve my people in the Upper Chamber, which cannot be suppressed.

I enjoyed my stay in the House of Representatives, under your detribalised and competent leadership, coupled with the conviviality I shared with my other colleagues.

I look forward to working with all my colleagues, as we strive to make Nigeria a better country.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed)

Dist. Sen. Jarigbe Agom Jarigbe

6. Petitions

- (i) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Babatunde Hunpe (*Badagry Federal Constituency*):
- (a) Okoya Adegoke & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Ismaila Alao, on alleged unlawful withholding of his emolument and salary for over four years by the Nigerian Navy;
 - (b) Resonances Solicitors (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Sanlu community and Concerned Community Development Association in Badagry Local Government Area of Lagos State, on alleged wrongful acquisition of his ancestral farmland;
- (ii) A petition from Azubike Ogbonna, on the non-payment of his retirement benefits by the Nigerian Postal Services, was presented and laid by Hon. Samuel Onuigbo Ifeanyi (*Ikwuano/Umuahia North/South Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

**7. Matter of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)
Need to Arrest Frequent Attacks by Bandits on Villages and Towns in Rogo Local Government Area of Kano State:**

Hon. Haruna Isa Dederi (*Karaye/Rogo 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 to Arrest Frequent Attacks by Bandits on Villages and Towns in Rogo Local Government Area of Kano State:

The House:

Notes that ensuring security and welfare of the people is the primary purpose of government as clearly provided under section 14 (2) (b) of the 1999 Constitution as amended;

Also notes that Rogo and Karaye Local Government Areas, share borders with Katsina and Kaduna States which for quite sometime have been bedeviled by the nefarious activities of armed bandits, kidnappers and cattle rustlers;

Further notes that as a result of the military operation against bandits in Zamfara and Katsina States, the bandits are now fleeing into other States including Kano, Kogi and Abia States;

Disturbed that in the last few weeks, these bandits had attacked towns and villages in Rogo Local Government Area including Jajaye, Zarewa, Ruwan-Sago, Sari, Falgore, Dutsen- Sari and Hawan -Gwamna (Fulatan), where they kidnapped people (men and women) who are still mostly in their captivity and are demanding several millions of Naira for their release;

Recalls that in the month of March 2020, the House considered and approved a similar motion to check the likely infiltration of bandits into the border Local Government Areas of Kano State;

Disturbed that if urgent measures are not immediately taken to stop the activities of these bandits in Rogo Local Government Area, other border Local Government Areas of Kano State, and other States above, their nefarious activities could spread to other Local Government Areas of Kano State, and the country in general, thereby upsetting the relative peace enjoyed by the States;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to set up a well- equipped Joint Security Taskforce with the mandate to operate along the border lines between Katsina, Kaduna and Kano States to address these frequent attacks by armed bandits in Rogo Local Government Area and other affected border Local Government Areas of Kano State;
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to step up efforts to consolidate the gains recorded in the military operation against armed bandits in Zamfara and Katsina State by expanding the operation in a co-ordinated and simultaneous manner to cover all other affected States to prevent the movement of the bandits from one place to the other; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Army, and Police Affairs to ensure compliance (*Hon. Haruna Isa Dederi — Karaye/Rogo Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (i), immediately after the words "Kano State", *insert* the words "Isuikwuato and Umunneochi Local Government Areas of Abia State" (*Hon. Onyecheoja Nkeiruka — Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (iv) as follows:
"Urge the Executive Arm of Government to set down security force in Yagba East, Yagba West and Mopamuro Local Government Areas in Kogi State" (*Hon. Leke Abejide — Yagba East, Yagba West and Mopamuro Federal Constituency*)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that ensuring security and welfare of the people is the primary purpose of government as clearly provided under section 14 (2) (b) of the 1999 Constitution as amended;

Also noted that Rogo and Karaye Local Government Areas, share borders with Katsina and Kaduna States which for quite sometime have been bedeviled by the nefarious activities of armed bandits, kidnappers and cattle rustlers;

Further noted that as a result of the military operation against bandits in Zamfara and Katsina States, the bandits are now fleeing into other States including Kano, Kogi and Abia States;

Disturbed that in the last few weeks, these bandits had attacked towns and villages in Rogo Local Government Area including Jajaye, Zarewa, Ruwan-Sago, Sari, Falgore, Dutsen- Sari and Hawan -Gwamna (Fulatan), where they kidnapped people (men and women) who are still mostly in their captivity and are demanding several millions of Naira for their release;

Recalled that in the month of March 2020, the House considered and approved a similar motion to check the likely infiltration of bandits into the border Local Government Areas of Kano State;

Disturbed that if urgent measures are not immediately taken to stop the activities of these bandits in Rogo Local Government Area, other border Local Government Areas of Kano State, and other States above, their nefarious activities could spread to other Local Government Areas of Kano State, and the country in general, thereby upsetting the relative peace enjoyed by the States;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to set up a well- equipped Joint Security Taskforce with the mandate to operate along the border lines between Katsina, Kaduna and Kano States to address these frequent attacks by armed bandits in Rogo Local Government Area and other affected border Local Government Areas of Kano State, and Isuikwuato and Umunneochi Local Government Areas of Abia State;
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to step up efforts to consolidate the gains recorded in the military operation against armed bandits in Zamfara and Katsina State by expanding the operation in a co-ordinated and simultaneous manner to cover all other affected States to prevent the movement of the bandits from one place to the other;
- (iii) further urge the Executive Arm of Government to set down security force in Yagba East, Yagba West and Mopamuro Local Government Areas in Kogi State; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on National Security and Intelligence, Army, and Police Affairs to ensure compliance (HR. 62/09/2021).

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1598).
- (2) Federal Medical Centre, Abuja (Establishment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1599).
- (3) Federal Medical Centre, Okigwe (Establishment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1603).
- (4) Federal University of Health, Sciences and Technology, Enugu (Establishment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1604).

9. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Finance:*

Report of the Committee on Finance on the 2022-2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper (MTEF/FSP).

Order deferred by leave of the House.

(ii) **Committee on Health Institutions:**

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Health Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Provide the Legal Framework to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Fufu, Kwara State, to provide for the Manner of Running the Hospital, including Establishment Board of Management, Chief Medical Director and other Staff and to Provide for Discipline of Staff and for Related Matters (HB. 530)" (Hon. Jimoh Abdulraheem Olajide — Lagos Mainland Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition on behalf of Anselm Nwachukwu of Nigerian Police Force Number, 164574:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition on behalf of Anselm Nwachukwu of Nigerian Police Force Number, 164574 against the Nigeria Police Force on the Unlawful Dismissal from Service" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iv) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Onoriode Odjegba, Managing Director, Eurafic Energy Limited:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Onoriode Odjegba, Managing Director, Eurafic Energy Limited against the Hon. Minister of State Petroleum and Director, Department of Petroleum Resources and Petral on Energy Limited on Dawis Island Marginal Field and the Revocation of their Field Licence on April 2020 for Failure to bring field into Production" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(v) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by Akindele Ebenezer Adebisi and 12 Others:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Akindele Ebenezer Adebisi and 12 others against the Standard Insurance Plc for Re-Financial Impropriety by the Insurance Company" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(vi) **Committee on Public Petitions:**

Report on the Petition by P.T.E. Titus Onwumiri:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by P.T.E Titus Onwumiri against the Nigerian Army on the Non-payment of Salary since March 2001- to date and Unlawful Discharge from Service" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

10. Consolidation of Bills

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Third) (Alteration) Act, 2011 to Provide for Establishment of the Code of Conduct Tribunal as a Superior Court of Record to try Offences under the Code of Conduct and Tribunal; and for Related Matters (HB.961); and a Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to Provide for Establishment of the Code of Conduct Tribunal as Part of the Judicature under the Constitution in order to Ensure its Independence; and for Related Matters (HB. 999)” (*Hon. Fulata Abubakar Hassan — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

11. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Chartered Institute of Directors of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 1571) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

12. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Agriculture and Technology, Aboh; and for Related Matters (HB.1590) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

13. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of National Agency for Albinism and Hypo Pigmentation (NAAH) and for Related Matters (HB. 670) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of National Agency for Albinism and Hypo Pigmentation (NAAH) and for Related Matters (HB. 670) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Jude Ise-Idehen — Egor/Ikpoba/Okha Federal Constituency*).

Bill withdrawn by leave of the House.

14. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Health Sciences, Ijebu Ode to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 1459) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Health Sciences, Ijebu Ode to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Administration; and for Related Matters (HB. 1459) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Kolapo Korede Osunsanya — Ijebu-Ode/Ijebu North East/Odogbolu 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.

15. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Pension Reform Act, 2014 to Provide for Exemption of the Nigeria Police Force from the Contributory Pension Scheme; and for Related Matters (HB. 1578) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Pension Reform Act, 2014 to Provide for Exemption of the Nigeria Police Force from the Contributory Pension Scheme;

and for Related Matters (HB. 1578) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu 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 Pensions.

16. Need for Provision of Food and Relief Materials to Victims of Insurgency in Isa and Sabon Birni Local Government Areas of Sokoto State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the victims of banditry attacks in over (30) villages across Isa and Sabon Birni Local Government Areas of Sokoto State displaced to various locations within the neighbouring towns and states have started returning to their homes and villages given a fair improvement in security situation in the Area;

Also notes that at the moment as a result of improved security situation, inhabitants of Gazau, Tozai, Modachi, Tsullawa, Kalage, Lugu, Dan-zanke, Modachi, Bargaja, Satiru, and Shalla towns/villages in Isa Local Government as well as inhabitants of Gidan Buta, Kalage, Kyara, Garin Idi, Burkusuma, Tara, Ganji, Dakura, Rambadawa, Lajinge, and other Villages in Sabon-Birni Local Government have returned;

Concerned that due to unavailability of food, shelter, farmland and business premises which were destroyed by insurgents, the returnees in Isa and Sabon Birni Local Government Areas are living in abject poverty and suffering untold hardship which could continue if urgent intervention is not provided by the appropriate authorities;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and other basic necessities to the people of Isa/Sabon Birni Federal Constituency who had returned to their homes after being displaced;
- (ii) also urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons to provide necessary assistance to the victims;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (Hon. Mohammed Sa'idu, Bargaja — Isa/Sabon Birni Federal Constituency).

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “Birni Federal Constituency”, insert the words “and Dange, Shunni, Tureta, Tangaza, Gudu, Rabah, Goro, as well as Illela Local Government Areas of Sokoto State” (Hon. Ahmad Abdullahi Kalambiana — Kware/Wamakko Federal Constituency)

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the victims of banditry attacks in over (30) villages across Isa and Sabon Birni Local Government Areas of Sokoto State displaced to various locations within the neighbouring towns and states have started returning to their homes and villages given a fair improvement in security situation in the Area;

Also noted that at the moment as a result of improved security situation, inhabitants of Gazau, Tozai, Modachi, Tsullawa, Kalage, Lugu, Dan-zanke, Modachi, Bargaja, Satiru, and Shalla towns/villages in Isa Local Government as well as inhabitants of Gidan Buta, Kalage, Kyara, Garin Idi, Burkusuma, Tara, Ganji, Dakura, Rambadawa, Lajinge, and other Villages in Sabon-Birni Local Government have returned;

Concerned that due to unavailability of food, shelter, farmland and business premises which were destroyed by insurgents, the returnees in Isa and Sabon Birni Local Government Areas are living in abject poverty and suffering untold hardship which could continue if urgent intervention is not provided by the appropriate authorities;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and other basic necessities to the people of Isa/Sabon Birni Federal Constituency, and Dange, Shunni, Tureta, Tangaza, Gudu, Rabah, Goro, as well as Illela Local Government Areas of Sokoto State, who had returned to their homes after being displaced;
- (ii) also urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons to provide necessary assistance to the victims;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (HR. 63/09/2021).

17. Need to Relocate the Yola Correctional Centre from Modibbo Adama Way, Yola South Local Government Area to Its Permanent Site in Yolde Pate, Yola South Local Government Area of Adamawa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Nigerian Prison Service, Yola now known as the Correctional Centre was established in 1914 to rehabilitate inmates and facilitate their training for eventual reintegration into the society;

Also notes that the Correctional Centre has the capacity to accommodate 500 inmates but currently accommodates over 1,000 inmates representing an excess of over 200%, thus overstressing the facilities in the Centre thereby exposing inmates to infectious diseases especially under COVID-19 Pandemic;

Informed that a new Correctional Centre of 1,000 inmates capacity was built in Yolde Pate, Yola South Local Government Area, an area that is strategic and the Centre is equipped with standard and modern facilities and quarters for the personnel of the Centre;

Aware that the old Correctional Centre in Yola town creates a lot of inconveniences for residents and visitors due to frequent road block especially in times of rampage by inmates or anticipated attack by insurgents;

Also aware that the sewage system is directly connected to the Yola South Central Mosque, Yola South Local Government Headquarters and the Palace of His Royal Highness the Lamido of Adamawa which exposes the residents to health hazards especially in the event of epidemic outbreak given its proximity and drainage linkages;

Regrets that the convenience and peace of residents of Yola will continue to be disturbed as long as the Correctional Centre is not urgently relocated to its permanent site;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Federal Government to relocate the Correctional Centre from its present location at Modibbo Adama Way, to its new site at Yolde Pate, Yola;
- (ii) urge the Comptroller- General of the Nigeria Correctional Service to stop the 9:00 pm closure of the main Yola town road due to the location of the Centre; and
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Reformatory Institutions to conduct verification visit to Yola Correctional Centre and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action (*Hon. Jafaru Suleiman Ribadu — Yola North/Yola South/Gire Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 64/09/2021).

Motion referred to the Committee on Reformatory Institutions, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

18. Need to Enforce Compulsory Teaching of Moral Lessons and Orientation Subjects/Courses in Nigeria's Educational Curricula

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

19. Need to Address the Falling Standard of Education in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that quality education is a crucial tool for economic growth of any country, thus Goal 4 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is focused on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting life-long learning opportunities for all;

Also notes that Section 18 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that the Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels;

Aware that the Nigeria's education system within the last decade has been on a steady decline, ranging from influx of illegal institutions of learning as well as unqualified teachers in the system to poor funding, overcrowding and plethora of decaying infrastructure in schools across the Federation;

Also aware that according to the United Nations, Nigeria has one of the largest populations of out-of-school youth in the world, with more than ten million Nigerian children, 60 per cent of them girls, not in school and will therefore not have the skills they need to get jobs and build secured and stable future;

Recalls the United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Reports that for a nation to achieve the goal of providing quality education for all by 2030, the country would have to allocate at least 26 percent of its national budget to Education, however, Nigeria's budgetary allocation for Education in the last five years are 7.38% in 2017, 7.03% in 2018, 7.05% in 2019, 6.7% in 2020 and 5.6% in 2021, a far cry from the expected standards;

Acknowledges that Nigeria has achieved some progress in expanding access to school under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the domestic Universal Basic Education (UBE) Scheme, however, the expansion has not resulted in improved learning, as the flat learning curve in Nigeria is a proof that getting children to school does not automatically translate to adequate infrastructure, qualified teachers, conducive learning environment, frequent attendance, grade progression, effective classroom governance and more importantly, learning;

Concerned that the adverse effects of falling standard of Education to a nation is very grave, and the fall in educational standard in Nigeria implies a continued decline in its level of economic growth;

Also concerned that with the current population of about 200 million, 45 per cent of which are below 15 years, there is high demand for learning opportunities translating into increased enrolment which has created challenges in ensuring quality education since resources are spread more thinly;

Worried that the burden on education in Nigeria has become even more overwhelming, resulting in more than 100 pupils to one teacher as against the UNESCO benchmark of 35 pupils per teacher; culminating in students learning under trees for lack of classrooms and other harsh conditions;

Cognizant that if no urgent action is taken, the problem will gravely affect the young and future generations as well as stifle economic and social developmental prospects of the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning to give further considerations to Education in the subsequent budgetary allocations in order to attain the UNESCO projection by 2030;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, Basic Education and Services, Youth Development and Appropriations to liaise with relevant stakeholders with the aim of providing lasting solutions to falling standard of education in Nigeria, and report back within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Ganiyu Abiodun Johnson — Oshodi Isolo II Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that quality education is a crucial tool for economic growth of any country, thus Goal 4 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is focused on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting life-long learning opportunities for all;

Also noted that Section 18 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that the Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels;

Aware that the Nigeria's education system within the last decade has been on a steady decline, ranging from influx of illegal institutions of learning as well as unqualified teachers in the system to poor funding, overcrowding and plethora of decaying infrastructure in schools across the Federation;

Also aware that according to the United Nations, Nigeria has one of the largest populations of out-of-school youth in the world, with more than ten million Nigerian children, 60 per cent of them girls, not in school and will therefore not have the skills they need to get jobs and build secured and stable future;

Recalled the United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Reports that for a nation to achieve the goal of providing quality education for all by 2030, the country would have to allocate at least 26 percent of its national budget to Education, however, Nigeria's budgetary allocation for Education in the last five years are 7.38% in 2017, 7.03% in 2018, 7.05% in 2019, 6.7% in 2020 and 5.6% in 2021, a far cry from the expected standards;

Acknowledged that Nigeria has achieved some progress in expanding access to school under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the domestic Universal Basic Education (UBE) Scheme, however, the expansion has not resulted in improved learning, as the flat learning curve in Nigeria is a proof that getting children to school does not automatically translate to adequate infrastructure, qualified teachers, conducive learning environment, frequent attendance, grade progression, effective classroom governance and more importantly, learning;

Concerned that the adverse effects of falling standard of Education to a nation is very grave, and the fall in educational standard in Nigeria implies a continued decline in its level of economic growth;

Also concerned that with the current population of about 200 million, 45 per cent of which are below 15 years, there is high demand for learning opportunities translating into increased enrolment which has created challenges in ensuring quality education since resources are spread more thinly;

Worried that the burden on education in Nigeria has become even more overwhelming, resulting in more than 100 pupils to one teacher as against the UNESCO benchmark of 35 pupils per teacher; culminating in students learning under trees for lack of classrooms and other harsh conditions;

Cognizant that if no urgent action is taken, the problem will gravely affect the young and future generations as well as stifle economic and social developmental prospects of the country;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning to give further considerations to Education in the subsequent budgetary allocations in order to attain the UNESCO projection by 2030;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Tertiary Education and Services, Basic Education and Services, Youth Development and Appropriations to liaise with relevant stakeholders with the aim of providing lasting solutions to falling standard of education in Nigeria, and report back within four (4) weeks (HR. 65/09/2021).

20. Consideration of Reports

(i) Committee on Finance:

Report of the Committee on Finance on the 2022-2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper (MTEF/FSP).

Order deferred by leave of the House.

- (ii) ***A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of a Specialized National Dermatology Hospital, Garkida Management Board for the Hospital, provide Dermatological Treatment, Research and Training; and for Related Matters (HB.1382) (Committee of the Whole):***

Order deferred by leave of the House.

- (iii) *Report of the Conference Committee on Federal University of Technology, Auchi, Edo State:*
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Technology, Auchi, Edo State; and for Related Matters (HB. 527)" (Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma 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)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF
 FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, AUCHI, EDO STATE;
 AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 527)

Consideration deferred.

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Technology, Auchi, Edo State; and for Related Matters (HB. 527).

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

21. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 22 September, 2021 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Peter Akpatason — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.14 p.m.

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker

CORRIGENDUM

In the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 16 September, 2021, item 9, page 1052, in the referral, leave out the words "*Committee on Science and Technology*" and insert the words "*Committee on Industry*".

Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila
Speaker