



SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 26th January, 2022

1. The Senate met at 10:42 a.m. The President of the Senate read prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings:**
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 25th January, 2022.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) *Membership of the Committee on Oil and Gas Host Communities:*

The President of the Senate named the following Senators as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee:

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (i) | Senator Biobaraku W. Degi-Eremienyo | — | Chairman |
| (ii) | Senator Nora L. Daduot | — | Vice Chairman |

(b) *Thanksgiving:*

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Albert B. Akpan (*Akwa Ibom North East*) as follows:



Senator Albert Bassey Akpan
Akwa-Ibom North East Senatorial District
Chairman, Senate Committee on Upstream Petroleum Resources

21st January, 2022

*The Senate President,
Senator (Dr) Ahmad Lawan
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arms Zone,
Abuja.*

Your Excellency,

THANKSGIVING SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Kindly notify Distinguished Colleagues of my Thanksgiving Service and commissioning of Multipurpose Recreational Facility, slated to hold on Saturday, January 29, 2022 at Ifa Iko Akpan, Etoi, off Airport Road, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State by 10:00am.

Distinguished Colleagues who are interested in attending the event are kindly requested to indicate by endorsing the attached form to enable the planning committee make adequate logistic arrangements for all attendees.

While thanking you for your usual support, please accept my high regards always.

(Signed)

SENATOR ALBERT BASSEY AKPAN
(LEADER, AKWA IBOM STATE CAUCUS, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY)

(c) *Presidential Interest:*

The President of the Senate read a letter from Senator Anayo R. Okorochoa (*Imo West*) as follows:



His Excellency
SEN. OWELLE ROCHAS A. OKOROCHA
(GCSI, OON) DAN JEKAN SOKOTO
IMO WEST SENATORIAL DISTRICT
Chairman, Senate Committee on Culture & Tourism

25th January, 2022

*His Excellency,
Dist. Sen. Ahmad Lawan
The President of the Nigerian Senate,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.*

Distinguished Senate President,

Distinguished Colleagues,

**NIGERIAN PRESIDENT 2023
WORLD PRESS CONFERENCE**

As you are aware, the Independent National Electoral Commission has announced the time table for the conduct of 2023 general election, including that of the office of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

With elections drawing nearer as the days go by, our citizens are concerned about the quality of persons to run the affairs of our nation: one who can address some of their major concern which includes;

- ~ A detribalized Nigerian who can unite our country,*
- ~ A leader with a compassionate heart, who will care for the poor and downtrodden and the masses of our country, and*
- ~ A visionary leader who can create wealth for our teeming populace thereby, addressing the issues of poverty, insecurity and youth restiveness.*

It is as a result of these concerns that I wish to hold a world press conference on my intention to run for the office of the President of our dear Nation.

I therefore wish to solicit for your prayers as I make known my intention.

The press conference is scheduled as follows:

Date: 31st January, 2022
Venue: Executive Hall, ICC, Abuja.
Time: 11:00am.

Working together we shall build the Nigeria of our collective dreams and aspiration.

(Signed)

SEN. OWELLE ROCHAS A. OKOROCHA GCSI, OON
DAN JEKAN SOKOTO

4. Petitions:

(a) Rising on Order 40, Senator George T. Sekibo (*Rivers East*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Tokunagbasiye Oba against the management of Shelf Drilling Nigeria Limited over an alleged wrongful termination of his employment from the Company.

He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Order 40(3)] to report within four (4) weeks.

(b) Rising on Order 40, Senator Abba P. Moro (*Benue South*) drew the attention of the Senate to a petition from Napoleon Otache over an alleged murder of Mr. Shedrack Ochoche by men of the Nigeria Police Force, Mabushi on 19th January, 2022.

He urged the Senate to look into the matter.

Petition laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Order 40(3)] to report within four (4) weeks.

(c) Rising on Order 40, Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure (*Ondo Central*) drew the attention of the Senate to five (5) petitions received from the Office of the President of the Senate as follows:

(i) Comrade Oji Ndukwu U.O. on behalf of Nigeria Union of Pensioners against the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) over an alleged non-payment of 2.5% employers shortfall/differential to Contributory Pension Scheme Retirees/Pensioners;

(ii) Kehinde Bamiwola Esq. & Co., on behalf of Kazeem Adebayo, AP No. 160584 against the Inspector General of Police appealing for the reinstatement of their client into the Force;

(iii) A. Ofili Okonkwo of Autobahn Techniques Limited, against the Federal Inland Revenue Service over an alleged illegal sealing of their premises;

(iv) Abdulmalik Ahmad Lawan and 7 others, against the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria over an alleged misappropriation in the conduct of Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria Examination and a call for scrapping of the outrageous increment of the examination fee to the tune of ₦900,000; and

(v) P.S. Tunyang & Co., on behalf of 12 Members of the Plateau State House of Assembly, over an alleged invasion and illegal impeachment of Rt. Hon. Abok Nuhu Ayuba, Speaker, Plateau State House of Assembly and threat to democracy.

He urged the Senate to look into the matters.

Petitions laid and accordingly referred to the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions [Order 40(3)] to report within four (4) weeks.

5. Presentation of Bills:

- (i) Federal University of Agriculture and Entrepreneurship, Saki (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (HB. 548) — *Read the First Time.*
- (ii) Federal College of Agricultural Technology Opialu-Ojapo, Benue State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 897) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iii) Bank Employees Assets Declaration Act (Amendment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 900) — *Read the First Time.*
- (iv) Federal College of Fisheries and Aquatic Studies Kotonkarfe, Kogi State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 901) — *Read the First Time.*
- (v) Federal University of Environmental Technology Saakperwa Tai Ogoni, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 902) — *Read the First Time.*

6. Motion:

Re-Committal of the National Transport Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 427) to the Committee of the Whole:

Motion made: That the Senate recalls that the National Transport Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2022 was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives and sent to the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Arm Forces of the Federation but Assent was withheld with observations;

notes the critical observations by the Technical Team of the National Assembly and critical Stakeholders;

Convinced to address these observations and make necessary amendments in order to rejig the transport sector of the economy; and

relies on Order 1 (b) and 52 (6) of Senate Standing Orders, 2022 (As Amended).

The Senate accordingly resolves to:

Rescind its decision on the Bill as passed and re-commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage (*Senate Leader*).

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do rescind its decision on the Bill as passed and re-commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do rescind its decision on the Bill as passed and re-commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and passage (*S/Res/060/03/22*).

Motion made: Pursuant to Resolution number; (*S/Res/060/03/22*), that the Senate do resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

CONSIDERATION OF A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION AS AN INDEPENDENT MULTI-MODAL ECONOMIC REGULATORY AUTHORITY, AND PROVIDE FOR A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ECONOMIC REGULATION OF TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE INDUSTRY, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2022

Consideration of the Report on the Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

Chairman to report progress.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Transport Commission as an Independent Multi-modal Economic Regulatory Authority, and Provide for a Legal Framework for the Economic Regulation of Transport Services in the Industry, and for Related Matters, 2022 and deferred the consideration of the Report to another Legislative Day.

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

7. **Public Complaints Commission (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 644):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Public Complaints Commission Act, Enact the Public Interest Disclosure and Complaints Commission, to provide a framework for making disclosure and protection of discloser, and for Other Related Matters, 2022 be read the Second Time (*Senator Suleiman A. Kwari — Kaduna North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Anti-Corruption; and Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions to report within four (4) weeks.

8. **Federal Medical Centre, Onitsha, Anambra State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 814):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to provide for the legal framework to establish the Federal Medical Centre Onitsha, Anambra State and for Related Matters, 2022 be read the Second Time (*Senator Stella A. Oduah — Anambra North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) to report within four (4) weeks.

9. **Public Interest Disclosure Bill, 2022 (SB. 645):**

Motion made: That a Bill for an Act to make comprehensive provisions for seizure, confiscation, forfeiture, and management of properties reasonably suspected to have been derived from unlawful activities and for related matters, 2022 be read the Second Time (*Senator Suleiman A. Kwari — Kaduna North*).

Debate:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the Second Time and referred to the Committees on Anti-Corruption; and

Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters to report within four (4) weeks.

10. Committee on Finance:

Report on the Federal Inland Revenue Service Budget 2022:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Finance on the Federal Inland Revenue Service Budget 2022 (*Senator Solomon O. Adeola — Lagos West*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the Senate do approve a Total Expenditure of ₦215,811,290,243 (Two Hundred and Fifteen Billion, Eight Hundred and Eleven Million, Two Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Two Hundred and Forty-Three Naira) which consist of:

| | | | |
|----|----------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Personnel Cost | - | ₦119,684,218,735 |
| 2. | Overhead Cost | - | ₦60,160,518,057 |
| 3. | Capital Cost | - | ₦35,966,553,451 |

for Federal Inland Revenue for the Fiscal Year 2022

— *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do approve a Total Expenditure of ₦215,811,290,243 (Two Hundred and Fifteen Billion, Eight Hundred and Eleven Million, Two Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Two Hundred and Forty-Three Naira) which consist of:

| | | | |
|----|----------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Personnel Cost | - | ₦119,684,218,735 |
| 2. | Overhead Cost | - | ₦60,160,518,057 |
| 3. | Capital Cost | - | ₦35,966,553,451 |

for Federal Inland Revenue for the Fiscal Year 2022 (*S/Res/061/03/22*).

11. Committee on Aviation:

Report on the Nigerian Metrological Agency Act, 2003 (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2022 (SB. 192):

Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Aviation on the Nigerian Metrological Agency Act, 2003 (Repeal & Re-enactment) Bill, 2021 (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

CONSIDERATION OF A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE NIGERIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY (ESTABLISHMENT, ETC.) ACT NO. 9 OF 2003 AND TO RE-ENACT THE NIGERIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF METEOROLOGY; AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS, 2022.

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, ETC. OF THE NIGERIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

- Clause 1: Establishment of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency**
- (1) There is established a body to be known as the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (in this Act referred to as "the Agency").
 - (2) The Agency —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal;
 - (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold, purchase, mortgage and deal howsoever with property, movable or immovable, real or personal, subject to the provisions of the Land Use Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 1 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 2: Establishment of the Governing Board**
- (1) There is established for the Agency a Governing Board (in this Act referred to as "the Board") which shall consist of —
 - (a) a part-time Chairman;
 - (b) a representative each not below the rank of a Director from the Federal Ministries in charge of —
 - (i) Aviation,
 - (ii) Agriculture and Natural Resources,
 - (iii) Environment,
 - (iv) Transportation, and
 - (v) Water Resources;
 - (c) two other persons with cognate experience in meteorological matters representing public interest; and
 - (d) the Director-General of the Agency.
 - (2) The Chairman and other members of the Board other than ex-officio members as specified in subsection (1)(b) of this section shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister.
 - (3) The composition of the Board shall reflect equity and fairness as enshrined in Section 14(3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended)
 - (4) The Chairman shall be a person with background in meteorology, or related sciences.
 - (5) The Board may co-opt any person to attend and participate at any of its meetings provided that the person so co-opted shall only be in attendance and shall not count towards the quorum or vote at the meeting.

- (6) The Supplementary Provisions set out in the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and other matters contained in it.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3: Tenure of office

The Chairman and other members of the Board, other than ex-officio members as specified in section 2(1)(b) of this Act shall hold office for a period of 4 years on such terms and condition as may be specified in their letters of appointment and may be re-appointed for a further term of 4 years and no more.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 4: Cessation of membership

(1) The office of a member of the Board shall become vacant where—

- (a) his term of office expires;
- (b) he resigns his appointment by a notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President;
- (c) he is bankrupt;
- (d) he dies;
- (e) he is incapable of performing the functions of his office due to mental or physical illness;
- (f) he has been convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty;
- (g) he is found guilty of gross misconduct;
- (h) in the case of a person possessed of professional qualifications, he is disqualified or suspended from practicing his profession in any part of the world by an order of a competent authority made in respect of that member;
- (i) the President directs his removal on the satisfaction that it is not in the interest of the Agency or the public for the person to continue in office as a member of the Board; or
- (j) in the case of an ex-officio member, he ceases to hold the office on the basis of which he became a member of the Board.

(2) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board, it shall be

filled by an appointment by the President of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor and the successor shall represent the same interest as that member whose exit created the vacancy.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 4 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: Emoluments etc.

The Chairman and members of the Board shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and benefits as the Federal Government may, from time to time, direct in accordance with extant laws and regulations.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 5 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 5 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 6: Powers and functions of the Board

The Board shall have power to—

- (a) formulate the general policies and guidelines for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Agency;
- (b) monitor and ensure the implementation of the policies and programmes of the Agency;
- (c) receive and review annual reports from the Management of the Agency and submit same to the Minister not later than 30th day of June each year;
- (d) determine the job description, title, terms, qualifications and salaries, including allowances of the employees of the Agency, subject to the approval of the National Income, Salaries and Wages Commission in the case of remunerations;
- (e) make rules relating generally to the conditions of service of employees of the Agency, including rules providing for the appointment, promotion, advancement, determination of appointment and disciplinary control of employees; and
- (f) exercise such other powers as may be necessary or expedient to ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Agency under this Act.

PART II — FUNCTIONS OF THE AGENCY

Clause 7: Functions of the Agency

- (1) The Agency shall be the authority for the performance of meteorological activities and shall—
 - (a) advise the Federal Government on all aspects of meteorology;
 - (b) project, prepare and interpret Government policies in the field of meteorology;

- (c) issue weather forecasts for the safe operation of air-crafts, ocean going vessels and oil rigs in accordance with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Standard and Recommended Practices (SARPs);
- (d) promote the service of meteorology in agricultural, drought and desertification activities;
- (e) provide meteorological services in operational hydrology and water resources activities;
- (f) provide weather services in marine, environmental pollution and bio-meteorology for climatic and human health activities;
- (g) provide and operate telecommunications systems for meteorological purposes subject to regulations made by the Nigerian Communications Commission;
- (h) proffer advice to the Federal, State and Local Government on volcanic ash advisories;
- (i) collect, process and disseminate all meteorological data and information within and outside Nigeria;
- (j) keep in safe custody all meteorological data and records in the National Meteorological Archive;
- (k) be the sole authority to approve, licence, certify and regulate the establishment of meteorological stations for meteorological observations, the operators and operating personnel at a fee to be prescribed by the Agency and where, necessary make regulation in this regard, save for aeronautical meteorological services;
- (l) charge cost and sustainability recovery charges for services and consultancy rendered by the Agency to users;
- (m) ensure uniform standards of observation of all meteorological phenomena in Nigeria;
- (n) keep and maintain a register of all meteorological stations, observatories, operators and operating personnel;
- (o) levy fees, penalties and administrative cost of proceedings or other charges on any person in relation to the functions of this Agency as prescribed in this Act;
- (p) enter and seal or close up synoptic stations and observatories at the premises of persons illegally carrying out any meteorological activities;
- (q) call for or furnish such data and information generated in the course of carrying out meteorological activities in Nigeria as may be considered necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions;
- (r) prepare adequate guidelines and organise training

- programmes for the training of all meteorological professionals and for other meteorological related activities;
- (s) establish training schools for the training of observers, forecasters, meteorologists, metrological engineers/technicians and for other related activities;
 - (t) ensure that international standards and practice in meteorological operations is maintained;
 - (u) train, conduct and undertake research in the field of tropical, agricultural, hydro and marine meteorology and other areas of meteorology;
 - (v) provide consultancy and advisory services on meteorology and meteorological engineering and technology;
 - (w) monitor and issue meteorological components of environmental pollution and ozone concentration;
 - (x) calibrate, develop and fabricate meteorological conventional equipment for export and national needs;
 - (y) report to the relevant authority or organisation and demand appropriate sanction or closure of any station or premises where meteorological information is used in contravention to the provisions of this Act; and
 - (z) carry out other activities as are necessary and expedient for the full discharge of any of its functions under or pursuant to the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Without prejudice to the functions specified in subsection (1) of this section, the Agency shall be the sole authority to prescribe and issue the meteorological information and data required for all sectoral activities in Nigeria including—
- (a) aviation;
 - (b) defence;
 - (c) finance;
 - (d) agriculture;
 - (e) construction works;
 - (f) environment;
 - (g) industries;
 - (h) marine;
 - (i) natural disaster and relief management;
 - (j) water resources;
 - (k) power and steel;

- (l) transport;
 - (m) science and technology;
 - (n) oil and gas;
 - (o) sports;
 - (p) tourism;
 - (q) communication;
 - (r) insurance; and
 - (s) health.
- (3) A person, organisation or corporate body shall not carry out or undertake any of the sectoral activities listed under subsection (2) of this section without complying with the meteorological requirements as prescribed by the Agency.
- (4) In this section, "synoptic stations" includes stations where meteorological parameters are observed.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 7 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 8: Powers of the Agency

- (1) The Agency shall enforce and administer the provisions of this Act and all other laws impacting on meteorology in Nigeria.
- (2) The Agency shall be the sole authority to regulate, licence, approve and authorise the standard of meteorological activities and operations in Nigeria save for aeronautical meteorological services.
- (3) The Agency shall provide aeronautical meteorological services for aviation in Nigeria in line with the Nigerian Civil Aviation Regulations.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 8 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 9: Intellectual Property

- (1) All data generated or acquired by the Agency either processed or unprocessed shall be the property of the Agency.
- (2) The Agency shall have the power to receive or acquire intellectual property of any kind on meteorological information and data generated from its activities.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 9 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART III — MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE AGENCY

Clause 10: Appointment of the Director-General of the Agency

- (1) There shall be for the Agency a Director-General who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment or as may be determined, from time to time, by the Federal Government.
- (2) The Director-General shall be —
 - (a) the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Agency;
 - (b) responsible to the Board for the day-to-day administration of the Agency; and
 - (c) appointed for a term of 5 years in the first instance and may, subject to satisfactory performance, be re-appointed for a further term of 5 years and no more.
- (3) A person shall not be appointed as the Director-General, except he has a recognised professional degree in meteorology or any other meteorological related sciences with at least 15 years cognate experience, 5 of which shall be at senior management level.
- (4) The Director-General shall be the permanent representative of Nigeria in the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in accordance with the provisions of Article 6, Part V of the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization, 1947.
- (5) The Director-General may be suspended or removed from office by the President on the recommendation of the Minister where he—
 - (a) has demonstrated inability to effectively perform the duties of the office;
 - (b) has been absent from 5 consecutive meetings of the Board without the consent of the Chairman unless he shows good reason for such absence;
 - (c) is found guilty of gross misconduct;
 - (d) in the case of a person possessed of professional qualifications, is disqualified or suspended from practicing his profession in any part of the world by an order of a competent authority; or
 - (e) is in breach of the conflict of interest and use of insider information for personal gain as stipulated under section 40 of this Act and in the Schedule to this Act.
- (6) The Director-General of the Agency shall not be removed from office except in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 11: Appointment of Legal Adviser

- (1) The Board shall appoint a Legal Adviser for the Agency.
- (2) The Legal Adviser shall be the Secretary to the Board and shall be—
 - (a) a Legal Practitioner with not less than 12 years post call experience;
 - (b) the Director, Legal Services;
 - (c) be responsible for keeping the books and proper records of proceedings and correspondence of the Board;
 - (d) administer and discharge all legal obligations and insurance requirements of the Agency;
 - (e) retain external legal services on behalf of the Agency as he may deem necessary or expedient;
 - (f) ensure the enforcement and compliance with the provisions of this Act;
 - (g) carry out the registration and licencing of third parties and keep records of third party relationships with the Agency;
 - (h) participate in meteorological inspections and investigation; and
 - (i) perform such other functions as the Board or the Director-General, as the case may be, may from time to time, assign to him.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 11 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 11 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 12: Other employees of the Agency and conditions of service

- (1) The Agency shall appoint, designate or cause to be deployed, directly or on secondment from any public or private bodies such number and category of employees as it may require to assist it in the effective discharge of its duties and functions under this Act.
- (2) The composition of the Directors and Senior Management staff of the Agency appointed under sub-section (1) of this Section shall reflect equity and fairness as enshrined in Section 14(3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended)
- (3) The terms and conditions of service including remuneration,

allowances, benefits and pensions of the employees of the Agency shall be as may be determined by the Board in line with existing laws and regulations.

- (4) The Agency may with the approval of the Board, make staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of its employees and providing for—
 - (a) the appointment, promotion and staff discipline;
 - (b) appeals by employees against disciplinary measures; and
 - (c) such other matters as it may deem necessary to ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Agency under this Act.
- (5) Staff Regulations and conditions of service made under subsection (3) of this section shall not have effect until it is published in the Gazette and website of the Agency.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 12 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 12 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 13: Directorates of the Agency

- (1) The Agency may with the approval of the Board—
 - (a) set up or collapse Directorates, Departments, Special Units, technical committees, working groups and task forces to assist the Agency in the performance of its duties and functions under this Act; and
 - (b) make changes to its structure, from time to time.
- (2) There shall be appointed for each of the departments and special units, a principal officer who shall be known by such designation as the Agency may determine.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 13 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 13 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 14: Service in the Agency to be Pensionable

- (1) Service in the Agency shall be approved public service for the purpose of the Pension Reform Act, No. 4 of 2014 and accordingly, officers and other staff of the Agency shall in respect of their service in the Agency, be entitled to such pension and other retirement benefits as are prescribed in the Pension Reform Act, No. 4 of 2014.
- (2) Nothing in subsections (1) of this section shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which may preclude the grant of a pension, gratuity or other retirement benefits in respect of that office.

- (3) For the purposes of the application of the provisions of the Pension Reform Act, No. 4 of 2014, any power exercisable under it by a Minister or other authority of the Government of the Federation, not being the power to make regulations, is hereby vested in and shall be exercisable solely by the Board.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 14 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 14 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15: Co-operation

In exercising and performing the powers, functions and duties conferred on it under this Act, the Agency may appoint, contract, liaise or co-operate with experts, relevant organisations, international institutions including specialised agencies, resource persons, academic and technical institutes, advisory committees and any other person or authority in order to assist it in carrying out its functions or duties under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 15 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 15 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART IV — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 16: Fund of the Agency

- (1) There is established for the Agency a fund into which shall be paid or credited—
- (a) all subventions and budgetary allocations from the Federal Government;
 - (b) gifts, loans, grants-in-aid from national, bilateral and multilateral agencies;
 - (c) administrative penalties payable for violation of meteorological regulations;
 - (d) returns on investments made by the Agency;
 - (e) 10 percent of landing charges from the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria;
 - (f) 10 percent of en-route and over flight charges from the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency;
 - (g) 9 percent of the 5 percent sales tax surcharged on tickets and cargo charges by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority;
 - (h) fees or funds, approved by the Board in respect of such services provided by the Agency including—
 - (i) rendering of climatic information to the Power and Energy Sector operators, marine and ocean going vessels and crude oil explorers in Nigeria,

- (ii) provisions of agricultural, marine and non-aeronautical meteorological services,
 - (iii) exhibition and sale of meteorological data, information or equipment,
 - (iv) production and sale of books, pamphlets, bulletins, etc. on meteorological services,
 - (v) provision of consultancy services on meteorology including investigative meteorological activities and meteorological training,
 - (vi) rentals of property, plant and equipment including rents and fees received from the use of pamphlets and documentaries owned by the Agency, sale, rent or lease of landed properties,
 - (vii) fees from personnel licencing,
 - (viii) establishment, registration, licencing, monitoring and supervision of meteorological stations, telecommunication masts, including observatories on all on-shore and off-shore platforms used by oil and gas companies in Nigeria,
 - (ix) provision of meteorological information on the construction of Government and non-Government owned four storey building and beyond, roads, dams, telecommunication masts and other related projects, or
 - (x) any other commercial activities;
- (i) any other fund which the Federal Government may designate for the development of Civil Aviation or Meteorology in Nigeria; and
 - (j) such other moneys as may be received by the Agency in the course of its operations or in relation to the exercise by the Agency of any of its functions under the Act.

- (2) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (As Altered), the fund established pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall be managed in accordance with extant Financial Regulations applicable in the Public Service of the Federation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 16 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 16 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 17: Expenditure of the Agency

The Agency may, from time to time, apply the proceeds of the fund established under section 16 of this Act—

- (a) to the cost of administration of the Agency;
- (b) to the payment of the allowances and benefits of members of the Board and for reimbursing members of the Board or of any committee of the Board and for such expenses as may be expressly authorised by the Board;
- (c) to the payment of the salaries, fees or other remuneration or allowances, gratuities and pensions, and other benefits payable to the officers and other employees of the Agency, provided that no payment of any kind under this paragraph, except such as may be expressly authorised by the Board, shall be made to any person who is, within the relevant period, in receipt of emoluments from the Federal or State Government;
- (d) for the development and maintenance of any property vested in or owned by the Agency;
- (e) to publicise and promote the activities of the Agency; and
- (f) to undertake such other activities as are connected with the functions of the Agency under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 17 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 17 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 18: Annual estimates and accounts

- (1) The Agency shall not later than 30th September in each year, submit to the Minister an estimate of its expenditure and income including payments to the Agency's fund for the next succeeding year.
- (2) The Agency shall keep proper accounts in respect of each year and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall cause its accounts to be audited within 6 months after the end of each year by auditors from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 18 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 18 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 19: Annual Reports

The Agency shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive Council, through the Minister, not later than 6 months after the end of each year, a report in such form as he may direct on the activities of the Agency during the immediately preceding year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the Agency for that year and the auditor's report on the accounts.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 19 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed*

to.

Question that Clause 19 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 20: Power to accept gifts

- (1) The Agency may accept any gift of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- (2) The Agency shall not accept any gift where the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Agency under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 20 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 20 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 21: Power to borrow

- (1) The Agency may with the approval of the Minister, borrow such sums by way of loan, overdraft or from any source, as may be required for the performance of its functions and meeting its obligations under this Act; and any interest payable on monies so borrowed shall be paid out of the fund of the Agency.
- (2) The Agency shall not, without the approval of the Board borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the amount set by the Government as the limit of the borrowing powers of the Agency.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 21 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 21 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 22: Investment in securities

- (1) The Agency may, subject to the provisions of this Act and the conditions of any trust created in respect of any property, invest any or all monies in its fund, not immediately required for its current expenditure in—
 - (a) any security prescribed by the Trustee Investments Act, Cap T22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 or in such other securities as may, from time to time, be approved by the Minister;
 - (b) any securities created or issued by or on behalf of the Federal Government, as may be approved by the Board, from time to time;
 - (c) the purchase or improvement of any land in any part of the Federation; or
 - (d) any venture in Nigeria as may be approved by the Minister, including investment in stocks quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

- (2) In the exercise of its powers of investment of its fund under subsection (1) of this section, the Agency may, from time to time, vary any of such investments and may deposit any monies for the time being un-invested with any bank approved by the Agency in line with Government Regulations.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 22 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 22 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 23: Exemption from tax

- (1) The Agency shall be exempted from the payment of income tax on any income accruing from investments made by the Agency.
- (2) The provision of any law relating to the taxation of companies or trust shall not apply to the Agency.
- (3) The Agency shall be exempted from taxes, levies and tenement rates and any arrears whatsoever in connection thereto.

PART V — PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION OF LAND

Clause 24: Acquisition of land, etc.

- (1) The Agency, may subject to the Land Use Act, Cap L4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 or any relevant law acquire any land for the purpose of discharging its functions under this Act.
- (2) Where there is any hindrance in the acquisition of any land by the Agency under this Act, including any failure by the Agency to reach an agreement as to the amount to be paid in respect of the acquisition, the Agency may apply to the Minister for a declaration under subsection (3) of this section.
- (3) The Minister on receiving an application from the Agency and after such enquiry as he may deem fit in the circumstance, may request the Governor of the State or the relevant authority where the land is situated to declare that the land is required for the service of the Agency and accordingly for an over-riding public purpose.
- (4) Where a declaration is made under subsection (3) of this section, the land to which the declaration relates shall be deemed to be land required for the purpose of the Federation within the meaning of the Land Use Act, Cap L4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and the Agency shall acquire the land accordingly.
- (5) Where a declaration has been made under subsection (3) of this section in respect of any land and the—
- (a) land has been acquired pursuant to subsection (4) of this section; or
- (b) Governor of the State concerned is satisfied that there is no rights subsisting in respect of the land,

the Governor of the State may vest the land in the Agency by issuing

a certificate of occupancy in respect of it, in favour of and in the name of the Agency.

- (6) The compensation, if any, payable under the Land Use Act, Cap L4, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 for the revocation of any rights relating to the land, where applicable, shall be paid by the Agency.
- (7) The plan of the land referred to in subsection (2) of this section—
 - (a) containing measurement of the boundaries of the land;
 - (b) showing the relationship of the land to any sufficient identifying mark; and
 - (c) signed by the Surveyor-General of the Federation or of the State concerned,
 - (d) shall be a sufficient description of the land for the purpose of an application under that subsection.
- (8) The Agency shall not, without the prior approval in writing by the Governor of the State in which the land is situated, alienate, mortgage, charge or otherwise demise any immovable property which has been vested in the Agency under this section or in respect of which a right of occupancy has been granted to the Agency.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 24 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 24 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 25: Power to enter land to make survey, etc.

- (1) Subject to this section, the Agency may by its officers, employees, workmen or agents enter, from time to time, upon any land for the purpose of the discharge of any of the functions of the Agency under this Act and, in particular, may enter upon any of such land for the purpose of—
 - (a) inspecting and examining lands, buildings and equipment of meteorological stations;
 - (b) inspecting and examining accounts, records and memoranda required to be kept by meteorological stations; and
 - (c) cutting down and removing a tree, underwood or structures that may interfere with surveys and any installation which constitute hindrance to meteorological or climate activity.
- (2) The Agency shall, when practicable, serve on the occupier of any land on which it intends to enter pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, a notice in writing giving description of the nature of the work intended to be carried out on the land.
- (3) In the discharge of its functions under subsection (1) of this section, the officers, employees, workmen or agents of the Agency may remain on any land for such reasonable time as may enable them to

execute and do all such work and things as may be necessary for the discharge of the functions of the Agency under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 25 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 25 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 26: Compensation for damages, etc

- (1) In the exercise of the power conferred upon it by section 25 of this Act, the Agency, its officers, employees, workmen or agents shall ensure that buildings, crops and economic trees are protected from damages and the Agency shall pay compensation for any damage done to any building, crops and economic trees.
- (2) In the case of dispute as to the amount of compensation payable, the same shall be determined by the Federal High Court.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 26 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 26 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 27: Establishment of Staff Housing Scheme

- (1) The Agency may with the approval of the Minister engage in the establishment of staff housing scheme.
- (2) The Agency shall with the approval of the Board issue guidelines for the establishment and management of the staff housing scheme referred to under subsection (1) of this section.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 27 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 27 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 28: Establishment of Meteorological Calibration Laboratories

- (1) The Agency shall establish and operate Calibration Laboratories at designated locations for purposes of carrying out regular calibration of meteorological instruments and equipment.
- (2) The Agency shall have power to certify that calibrated meteorological equipment meets the standard specified by the World Meteorological Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization and the Standard Organisation of Nigeria.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 28 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 28 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 29: Duties of an authorised officer of the Agency

- (1) Any authorised officer of the Agency who has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence under his Act has been or is being committed on any premises or there is on any premises, anything connected with the commission of any offence under this Act or any regulation made under it, may enter upon such premises, to—
- (a) conduct a search and inspection of the premises;
 - (b) take measurement and samples, where necessary, for conducting analysis and tests of any substance found on any premises pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection;
 - (c) arrest any person whom he reasonably suspects to have committed an offence;
 - (d) take photographs, films, audio, video and other recordings or extracts from documents; and
 - (e) seal up any premises or seize any articles including plant, equipment, substance, or any other thing whatsoever used in the commission of an offence or in respect of which an offence has been committed.
- (2) A written receipt shall be given for any article or item seized under subsection (1) of this section and the grounds for such seizure shall be stated on the receipt.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 29 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 29 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 30: Offences and penalties

- (1) Any person who—
- (a) hinders or obstructs an authorised officer in the exercise of his duties under this Act or regulations made under it;
 - (b) fails to comply with a lawful order or requirement made by an authorised officer pursuant to the provisions of this Act or regulations made under it; or
 - (c) fails, neglects or refuses to carry out a meteorological order issued under this Act,

commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than ₦250,000 or to a term of 6 months imprisonment or to both.

- (2) Any person who—
- (a) collects, uses or disseminates weather forecast or any other meteorological information obtained from any other source outside the approval, licence or authority of the Agency for commercial or public purpose; or
 - (b) impersonates an authorized officer of the Agency, refuses to

state or wrongly states his address and misleads or gives wrongful information to an authorized officer of the Agency,

commits an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction—

- (i) in the case of an individual, be liable to a fine of ₦1,000,000.00 or to a term of 3 years imprisonment or to both; and
 - (ii) in the case of a body corporate, be liable to a fine of not less than ₦1,000,000 for every day after receipt of notice of the commission of the offence from the Agency.
- (3) Where a body corporate is proved to have been committed on the instigation or with the connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of a director, manager, secretary, head of branch or project manager or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person purporting to act in any of such capacity, he as well as the body corporate, where practicable, shall be deemed to have committed that offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly in line with the provisions of subsection (1) of this section.
- (4) Where an offence under this section continues unabated, the offender shall be liable, upon conviction to twice the fine and term of imprisonment imposed under this section.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 30 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 30 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 31: Power to investigate and impose fine, etc.

- (1) The Agency shall after notice and hearing the complaint or on its own initiative and investigation determine whether any person is violating any provision of this Act, regulations, rules or orders made under it.
- (2) Where the Agency is satisfied after such hearing that such a person is violating any provisions of this Act, regulations, rules or orders, as the case may be, it shall by order require the person to pay penalty, revoke its licence or take such action consistent with the provisions of this Act, regulations, rules or orders, as may be necessary in the opinion of the Agency to prevent further violation of the provisions of the Act, regulations, rules or orders.
- (3) In the exercise of its power, the Agency shall appoint an administrative panel to give effect to the provision of this section.
- (4) The decision of the administrative panel appointed under subsection (3) of this section shall become effective upon confirmation by the Board provided that an appeal from the decision of the administrative panel as may be confirmed by the Board shall lie to the Minister.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 31 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 31 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 32: Meteorological Orders

- (1) The Agency may cause an order known as Meteorological Order to be issued or served on any person where it has reasonable grounds for believing that the person has contravened or is contravening, or there exists a likelihood of contravention of the provision of this Act or regulations made under it.
- (2) A Meteorological Order shall—
 - (a) specify the provision of the Act contravened;
 - (b) state the specific content of the permit or licence contravened;
 - (c) direct the owner or person in possession to take remedial measures to terminate or prevent further re-occurrence; and
 - (d) set out maximum fine for failure to comply with the order.
- (3) A Meteorological Order may impose any other requirements for the purpose of preventing, remedying or minimising harm which may include an order that a person should—
 - (a) stop the commencement of a specified activity, indefinitely or for a specified period of time;
 - (b) take certain measures within a specified period to prevent harm, remedy or restore the environment to its original state; or
 - (c) not conduct a specific activity except within a specified time or subject to specified conditions.
- (4) The issuance of or compliance with an order in respect of a person's alleged contravention of this Act or the regulations made under it shall not be a bar to any proceedings against the person under this or any other Act in relation to the alleged contravention by that person.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 32 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 32 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 33: International treaties, conventions or agreements

Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (As Altered), the Agency shall take necessary measures to give effect to any international treaty, convention or agreement concerning any aspect of meteorology to which Nigeria is a party.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 33 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 33 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

ESTABLISHMENT PERMIT

Clause 34: Grant of a meteorological permit

- (1) The Agency may on application made to it by any person, grant a meteorological permit in respect of any activity prescribed by the Agency, including permit to --
 - (a) conduct meteorological research activities; or
 - (b) develop or test experimental equipment.
- (2) Activities for which meteorological permits or licence may be granted shall include activities specified under sections 7(1)(k) and 7(2) of this Act.
- (3) A person, organisation or corporate body shall not carry out or undertake such sectoral activities as mentioned in subsection (2) of this section and any other meteorological activity without obtaining the Agency's certification, permit or licence and complying with the meteorological requirements as prescribed by the Agency.
- (4) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (3) of this section shall be liable; where the contravention is by a corporate body to a fine not exceeding ₦5,000,000 and where the contravention is by an individual, to a fine not exceeding ₦2,000,000;
- (5) Where the contravention mentioned in subsection (4) of this section continues unabated, the fine imposed under that subsection shall be twice.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 34 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 34 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART VIII— LEGAL PROCEEDING

Clause 35: Limitation of suits against the Agency, etc.

- (1) The provisions of the Public Officers Protection Act, Cap P41, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against a member of the Board, an officer or employee of the Agency.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any law, no suit against the Agency, Members of the Board, Director-General or any employee shall lie or be instituted in respect of any act done in pursuance to or in execution of the functions, powers and public duties prescribed under this Act, or in an action in contract, tort, or howsoever unless it is commenced—
 - (a) within 3 months next after the act, neglect or default complained of; or
 - (b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury, within 6 months next after cessation of it.
- (3) A suit shall not be commenced against a member of the Board, the

Director-General or any other officer or employee of the Agency before the expiration of a period of 1 month after written notice of the intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the Agency by the intending plaintiff or his agent.

- (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall clearly and explicitly state the cause of action, the particulars of the claims, the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he claims.
- (5) In any proceeding before a court of law or tribunal, the Agency may, with the consent of the Attorney-General of the Federation, be represented by its Legal officers or any legal practitioner authorized by the Agency who shall have the right to appear at any stage of a proceedings and who shall satisfy the court that he is duly authorised by the Agency in that behalf.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 35 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 35 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 36: Service of documents, notices or processes

- (1) A notice, summons or other document required or authorised to be served on the Agency under the provisions of this Act or any other law may be served by delivering the same to the Director-General of the Agency or by sending it by registered post addressed to the Director-General at the headquarters of the Agency.
- (2) Service of notices, warrants, orders, summons, proceedings, documents or written communication of which service is required, shall be made by a person appointed for that purpose by the Agency, provided that where a party is represented by a legal practitioner, service of notices, warrants, orders, summons, proceedings, documents or written communication of which service is required may be made through such legal practitioner or through a partner, counsel or clerk under his control.
- (3) All notices, warrants, order, summons, proceedings, documents or written communications in respect of which service is required by this Act shall be sufficient service if left with an adult person resident or employed at the address for service; provided that where there is no person on the premises at the time of service, service shall be effected by posting the process sought to be served at the main entrance gate or wall of the premises or by advertisement or otherwise as may be deemed necessary and proper in the circumstances.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 36 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 36 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 37: Service of notice on individual or body corporate

- (1) Any notice required or authorised under this Act to be served on any

person may be served either by —

- (a) delivering it to the person or his agents or servants;
 - (b) leaving it at the person's proper address; or
 - (c) posting it to the person's principal office by registered post or courier.
- (2) Any notice required or authorised to be served upon a body corporate shall be deemed to have been duly served if it is served on a Director of or the Secretary to the body corporate.
- (3) For the purpose of this section, the proper address of any person on whom such notice is to be served shall—
- (a) in the case of a body corporate, be that of the registered or principal office of the body corporate; and
 - (b) in any other case, be the last known address of the person.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 37 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 37 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 38: Restriction on execution against property of the Agency

In any action or suit against the Agency, no execution or attachment of process in any nature of it shall be issued or levied against the Agency unless—

- (a) not less than three months' notice of the intention to execute or attach has been given to the Agency; and
- (b) the consent of the Attorney-General of the Federation has been obtained before execution of the judgment.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 38 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 38 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 39: Indemnity of officers

- (1) A member of the Board, the Director-General or any officer or employee of the Agency shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Agency against any liability incurred by him in defending any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, where the proceeding is brought against him in his capacity as a member of the Board, Director-General, officer or employee of the Agency.
- (2) Any sum of money which may be the judgment of any court awarded against the Agency shall, subject to any direction given by the court where no notice of appeal against the judgment has been given, be paid from the fund of the Agency.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 39 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed*

to.

Question that Clause 39 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

- Clause 40: Conflicts of interest and use of insider information for personal gain**
- (1) Members of the Governing Board, Director-General, Directors and employees of the Agency shall not manage or operate any meteorological enterprise while in office.
 - (2) Any of the persons specified in subsection (1) of this section, having a financial interest in any meteorological enterprise—
 - (a) shall make full disclosure of such interest to their respective appointing Authorities and to the Agency;
 - (b) is prohibited from participating in any action or decision that may, directly or indirectly, affect their financial interest in any meteorological enterprise.
 - (3) A member of the Board or the Director-General or any other officer or employee of the Agency shall—
 - (a) not for his personal gain, make use of any information which has come to his knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by him in the ordinary course of his duty as a member of the Board or as the Director-General, officer or employee of the Agency;
 - (b) treat as confidential any information which has come to his knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by him in the performance of his duties under this Act; and
 - (c) not disclose any information referred to under paragraph (b) of this subsection, except where required to do so by a court or in such other circumstances as may be prescribed by the Agency and approved by the Board, from time to time.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 40 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 40 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 41: Jurisdiction

The Federal High Court shall have jurisdiction to try offences, hear and determine proceedings arising under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 41 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 41 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART IX — MISCELLANEOUS

Clause 42: Power of the Minister to give directives of general character to the Agency

- (1) The Minister may from time to time, give general policy guidelines to the Agency.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Minister may give to the Agency directives of a general or specific nature relating generally to a particular matter or case, as the case may be.
- (3) The Agency shall comply with any policy guidelines or any directive given to it by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 42 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 42 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 43: Power to make regulations or issue guidelines

- (1) The Agency may with the approval of the Board, make rules, guidelines or regulations as in its opinion are necessary or expedient for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act and for the due administration of its provisions, save for aeronautical meteorological services.
- (2) The contravention of any regulations issued pursuant to any of the provisions of this Act shall constitute an offence and shall be punishable as prescribed in the particular regulations.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 43 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 43 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 44: Repeal and savings provision

- (1) The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (Establishment, Etc.) Act No. 9 of 2003 is hereby repealed.
- (2) Without prejudice to section 6 of the Interpretation Act, Cap I23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 the repeal of the Act specified in subsection (1) of this section, shall not affect anything done under or pursuant to the Act.
- (3) Every regulation, order, requirement, certificate, notice, direction, decision, authorisation, consent, application, request or thing made, issued, given or done under the repealed Act shall, if in force at the commencement of this Act, continue to be in force and have effect as if made, issued, given or done under the corresponding provisions of this Act.
- (4) All assets, funds, resources and other movable and immovable property which, immediately before the commencement of this Act, vested in the Agency established under the repealed Act shall by virtue of this Act and without further assurance be vested in the Agency established under section 1 of this Act.
- (5) Every reference to the former Agency, Board, Minister, Director-General, Chairman or any person under their control or a document issued in the name of the former Agency, Board, Minister, Director-General, Chairman of the former Board or employee of the

former Agency shall be read, unless the context otherwise requires, as a reference to the Agency, Minister, Board, Director-General, Chairman, or an employee of the Agency established under this Act, as the case may be.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 44 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 44 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 45: Transitional provisions

- (1) Any person who immediately before the commencement of this Act was a staff of the Agency established under the repealed Act shall continue in office and be deemed to have been appointed under this Act for purposes of pension.
- (2) Any person who immediately before the coming into force of this Act is the holder of any office in the Agency existing before the commencement of this Act shall on the commencement of this Act continue in office and be deemed to have been appointed to his office unless the authority by which the person was appointed terminates the appointments.
- (3) Properties held immediately before the commencement date of this Act on behalf of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency by any person shall, by virtue of this Act, be vested in the Agency established under this Act.
- (4) The Agency established in section 1 of this Act shall be subject to all the obligations and liabilities to which the former Agency was subject immediately before the commencement of this Act and all other persons shall have the same rights, powers and remedies against the Agency established by this Act as they had against the Agency immediately before the commencement of this Act.
- (5) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing immediately before the commencement of this Act by or against the Agency established under the repealed Act in respect of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Agency may be continued or commenced, as the case may be, and any determination of a court of law, tribunal or other Commission or person may be enforced by or against the Agency established by this Act to the same extent that such proceeding, cause of action or determination might have been continued, commenced or enforced by or against the Agency existing before the commencement of this Act.
- (6) As from the commencement of this Act, any disciplinary proceeding pending or existing against any employee of the Agency shall be continued and completed by the Agency established under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 45 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — *Agreed to.*

Question that Clause 45 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 46: Interpretation

(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
"aeronautical service" includes information, direction and other facilities furnished, issued or provided in connection with meteorological forecasts or data;

"Agency" means the Nigerian Meteorological Agency established under section 1 of this Act;

"agro-meteorology" means the application of meteorological information and data in the monitoring, management of agricultural activities and in aid of food production and security;

"airport" means any area on land or water including any building, installation and equipment intended to be used either wholly or in part for the arrival, departure and surface movement of aircraft;

"authorised officer" means the Director-General or any other officer of the Agency specifically or generally authorised by the Director-General to carry out the functions of the Agency under this Act;

"Board" means the governing Board of the Agency established under section 2(1) of this Act.

"Convention of the World Meteorological Organization" is found in the Basic Documents of the World Meteorological Organization Publication Number 15. Authentic text of the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization, adopted by the Washington Conference on 11 October 1947, is as amended by Resolutions 1 and 2 adopted by the Third Congress in 1959; Resolutions 1 and 2 adopted by the Fourth Congress in 1963; Resolutions 1, 2 and 3 adopted by the Fifth Congress in 1967; Resolution 48 adopted by the Seventh Congress in 1975; Resolution 50 adopted by the Eighth Congress in 1979; Resolutions 41, 42 and 43 adopted by the Ninth Congress in 1983; Resolutions 39 and 41 adopted by the Fourteenth Congress in 2003; and Resolution 44 adopted by the Fifteenth Congress in 2007;

"Government" means Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

"hydro-meteorology" means the application of meteorological information and data in the monitoring and management of water resources sector and water related phenomenon;

"marine-meteorology" means the application of meteorological information and data in the monitoring and management of coastal and ecosystem and maritime activities such as ocean transportation and shipping, fisheries, oil exploration etc.;

"member" means a member of the Board and includes the Chairman;

"meteorology" means the study dealing with the phenomena of the atmosphere;

"Minister" means the Minister in charge with the responsibility of matters relating to aviation and "Ministry" shall be construed

accordingly;

"Ministry" shall be construed accordingly;

"policy and guidelines" means policy and guidelines made for the administration of the functions of the Agency;

"power" includes functions and duties;

"premises" includes lands, plants and ancillary works;

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

"Regulations" means rules that may be established by the Agency from time to time for the administration and regulation of meteorological services in Nigeria;

"synoptic station" means a meteorological observatory where all the meteorological parameters are observed and reported on a 24 hourly basis;

"volcanic ash" means a mixture of rock, mineral and glass particles expelled from a volcano during a volcanic eruption;

"weather" means the state of the atmosphere which consists of the short-term minutes to months variation of the atmosphere; and

"WMO" means World Meteorological Organisation.

- (2) Every other term shall have the same meaning as contained in the Basic Documents of the World Meteorological Organisation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 46 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 46 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 47: Short title

This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Metrological Agency (Establishment, etc.) Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2022.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 47 be retained (*Senator Smart Adeyemi — Kogi West*) — Agreed to.

Question that Clause 47 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

SCHEDULE

[SECTION 2(5)]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD ETC.

Proceedings of the Board

1. Subject to this Act and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, Cap I23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, the Board shall have power to regulate its proceedings and may make Standing Order with respect to the holding of its meetings, and those

of the committees, notices to be given, the keeping of minutes of its proceedings, the custody and production for inspection of such minutes and such other matters as the Board may from time to time, determine.

2. At every meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall preside and in his absence the members present at that meeting shall appoint one of their numbers to preside at the meeting.
3. The quorum at a meeting of the Board consists of the Chairman or, in an appropriate case, the person presiding at the meeting pursuant to paragraph 2 of this schedule, and 4 other members.
4. The Board shall for the purpose of this Act, meet not less than 4 times in each year and subject to it, the Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman, and if required to do so, by notice given to him by not less than 4 other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within 14 days from the date on which the notice is given.
5. Where the Board desires the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Board may invite that person to attend for such period as it thinks fit, but a person who is invited by virtue of this paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards the quorum.

Committees

6. Subject to its standing orders, the Board may appoint such number of standing or Ad-Hoc Committees as it thinks fit to consider and report on any matter with which the Agency is concerned.
-
7. A committee appointed under paragraph (6) shall—
 - (a) consist of such number of persons (not necessarily members of the Board as may be determined by the Board) and a person other than a member, of the Board, shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of this appointment; and
 - (b) be presided over by a member of the Board.
 8. The quorum of any committee set up by the Board shall be determined by the Board.

Miscellaneous

9. The common seal of the Agency shall be kept in the custody of the Director Legal Services.
10. The fixing of the seal of the Agency shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director-General and the Director Legal Services/Secretary of the Agency.
11. Any contract or instrument which if made by a person not being a body corporate would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Agency by the Director-General or any other person generally or specifically authorised by the Board to act for that purpose.
12. Any contract or instrument which if made by a person not being a body corporate would not be requires to be under seal may be made or executed on behalf of the Agency by the Director-General or any other person generally or specifically authorised by the Board to act for that purpose.

13. Any document purporting to be a contract instrument or other document duly signed or sealed on behalf of the Agency shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved be presumed without further proof to have been so signed or sealed.
14. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or any of its committees shall not be affected by—
- (a) any vacancy in the membership of the Board or committee; or
 - (b) any defect in the appointment of a member of the Board or committee; or
 - (c) reason that any person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings of the Board or committee.
15. A disclosure under paragraph 14 of this Schedule shall be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the Board and the member concerned shall—
- (a) not, after the disclosure, take part in any deliberation or decision of the Board; and
 - (b) be excluded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of any meeting of the Board for any deliberation or decision, with regard to the subject matter in respect of which his interest is so disclosed.
16. A member of the Board or a committee shall not be personally liable for any act or omission done or made in good faith while engaged on the business of the Agency.

Question that the provision in this Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Aviation on A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (Establishment, Etc.) Act No. 9 of 2003 and to Re-enact the Nigerian Meteorological Agency Act to Provide for the Regulation of Meteorology; and for Other Related Matters, 2022 and approved as follows:

Clauses 1-47 — As Recommended

Schedule — As Recommended

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Motion made: That the Bill be now Read the Third Time (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly Read the Third Time and Passed.

12. **Committee on Primary Health Care and Communicable Diseases:**
Report on the National Health Emergency Bill, 2022 (SB. 413):

Motion made: That the Senate do receive and consider the Report of the Committee on Primary Health Care and Communicable Diseases on the National Health Emergency Bill, 2022

(Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Motion made: That the Senate do resolve into the Committee of Whole to consider the Report (Senate Leader).

Question put and agreed to.

(SENATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

CONSIDERATION OF A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONTROL OF OUTBREAKS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER EVENTS ENDANGERING PUBLIC HEALTH AND REQUIRING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY MEASURES AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS, 2022

PART I - OBJECTIVES

Clause 1: Objectives

- (1) The objectives of this Act are to -
- (a) provide for an effective and efficient legal and administrative machinery to address the challenges posed by public health emergencies as defined under this Act;
 - (b) ensure a timely response, control and management of public health emergencies;
 - (c) ~~channel available national human and other resources during~~ periods of public health emergencies towards the mitigation or eradication of the infectious diseases and public health events;
 - (d) streamline all existing rules and regulations for the control of public health during periods of public emergencies for their early containment;
 - (e) maintain appropriate balance between health measures required to be taken by appropriate authorities under any declaration of public health emergency and the constitutionally guaranteed rights of citizens and the general public in the overriding national public health interest;
 - (f) ensure proper coordination in the administration and management of public health during periods of public health emergencies with necessary checks and balances, accountability and control;
 - (g) provide an appropriate legal platform for a concerted and effective inter-action among Federal and State Governments during periods of public health emergencies; and
 - (h) ensure coordination and organised national responses during periods of public health emergencies with relevant international bodies on disease control to enable Nigeria to meet international obligations in the management of public health emergencies.

- (i) support the implementation of the International Health Regulations in Nigeria in relation to public health emergencies.
- (2) In this Act, "appropriate authorities" includes-
 - (a) the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
 - (b) the Minister in charge of matters pertaining to health;
 - (c) the Minister in charge of matters pertaining to agriculture;
 - (d) the Minister in charge of matters pertaining to aviation;
 - (e) the Minister in charge of matters pertaining to transportation;
 - (f) any committee or body charged with any responsibility under this Act or under any existing legislation to carry out any specific duty under this Act;
 - (g) the Director-General, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention;
 - (h) the Director of Port Health Services;
 - (i) a Health Officer or a Port Health Officer authorised to carry out responsibilities under this Act; and
 - (j) such other persons or authorities as may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 1 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 1 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

**PART II - DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND
APPOINTMENT OF TASK FORCE, ETC.**

Clause 2: Declaration of Public Health Emergency

- (1) The President may, if satisfied that there is an outbreak or imminent outbreak of an infectious disease or dangerous infectious disease as specified in the First and Second Schedules to this Act or public health event that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidents of severe disability in Nigeria, by an Order, published in the Gazette, declare a public health emergency for not more than three months.
- (2) Before making an order under subsection (1) of this section or renewing such an order, the President shall take into account factors including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) The recommendations of the Minister of Health;
 - (b) The declaration of a public health emergency of international concern;
 - (c) the magnitude of the public health risk;
 - (d) the likelihood of spread of the public health event;

- (e) the mortality rate of the infectious disease or the public health event;
 - (f) whether or not there is a vaccine, cure or treatment and the degree of accessibility to such a vaccine, cure or treatment;
 - (g) availability of less restrictive alternative measures that would achieve the same public health objective; and
 - (h) any other relevant scientific and ethical factors.
- (3) An order declaring a public health emergency shall contain the following:
- (a) The nature of the emergency;
 - (b) The geo-political or geographic zone(s) subject to the order;
 - (c) The conditions that have brought about the public emergency; and
 - (d) The duration of the public health emergency.
- (4) The President may, if it appears necessary or expedient for the securing of public health or safety during a public health emergency, declare the whole of or such area in Nigeria to be a public health emergency zone and may in such order prohibit or restrict, subject to such conditions as he may think fit-
- (a) the movement of persons, vehicles, aircraft and water craft within, into or out of a Public Health Emergency Zone, except for workers involved in the delivery of essential services;
 - (b) prohibit movement between and within the Public Health Emergency Zone, except for workers involved in the delivery of essential services as set out in this Act; and
 - (c) the holding of, or the attendance of persons at any meetings, receptions, processions or other gatherings within the Public Health Emergency Zone, except for the transportation of persons performing essential services or obtaining essential supplies.
- (5) The President may, from time to time, by notice published in the Gazette, extend an order made under subsection (1) or (2) of this section for such period, not exceeding three months at a time, as may be specified in the notice.
- (6) Every order made under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall remain in force until it is revoked by the President.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 2 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3: Declaration of Public Health Emergency in a State

If and to the extent that any declaration has not been made by the President under section 2 of this Act and to the extent that regulations under sections 69

and 70 of this Act have not been made by the President or Minister, power to make any such declaration or regulations may be exercised, in respect of a State, by the Governor of a State as fully as such power may be exercisable by the President or Minister, and subject to the same conditions and limitations.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 3 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 3 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 4: Public Health Emergency Area

- (1) The President may, on the advice of the Minister of Health, if it appears necessary or expedient for the securing of public health or safety during a public health emergency, by order declare any place, area or territory outside Nigeria to be a Public Health Emergency Area.
- (2) The President may, in his discretion, issue an order prohibiting the entry into Nigeria of any person or class of persons from a Public Health Emergency Area declared under subsection (1) except under such conditions as he may specify.
- (3) Nothing contained under subsection (1) and (2) of this section shall preclude the entry into Nigeria of a citizen of Nigeria from a Public Health Emergency Area provided that upon entry into Nigeria, the person may be subjected to quarantine, isolation, or treatment, as may be specified in this Act or any regulations made under this Act or any relevant law.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 4 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 4 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 5: Appointment of Task Force

- (1) The President shall appoint a Task Force known as the "Public Health Emergency Task Force" upon the declaration of a public health emergency as set out in this Act.
- (2) The Task Force shall operate only for the duration of the public health emergency, and its functions shall be brought to an end by termination or effluxion of the public health emergency Order by the President.
- (3) The Task Force, shall upon the declaration of a public health emergency, be charged with the following duties -
 - (a) coordinate and oversee multi-sectoral intergovernmental efforts to contain public health emergencies;
 - (b) monitor the implementation of all administrative and other decisions relating to public health emergencies;
 - (c) Receive reports as required by relevant ministries and agencies of government regarding the management of the public health emergencies;
 - (d) evaluate the implementation of emergency response and

- measures after a public health emergency;
- (e) provide regular reports to the President on the response and control of the public health emergencies;
 - (f) enforce all public health emergency measures prescribed in this Act for containment, mitigation or eradication of public health emergencies; and
 - (g) carry out such other functions as the President may direct.
- (4) The Task Force established under subsection (1) of this section shall consist of-
- (a) the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, who shall be the Chairman;
 - (b) the Federal Minister of Health;
 - (c) the Director-General of Nigerian Centre for Disease Control and Prevention;
 - (d) the Federal Minister of Finance;
 - (e) the Federal Minister of Environment;
 - (f) the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development;
 - (g) the Federal Minister of Information;
-
- (h) the Federal Minister of Aviation;
 - (i) the Federal Minister of Transport;
 - (j) the Federal Minister of Interior;
 - (k) the Federal Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development;
 - (l) the Executive Director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency;
 - (m) the Director-General of the National Emergency Management Agency;
 - (n) Six State Governors on the recommendation of the Nigerian Governors' Forum with one from each geopolitical zones;
 - (o) the Chairman of the Committee of Chief Medical Directors of Federal Teaching Hospitals and Medical Directors of Federal Medical Centres;
 - (p) two representatives of the Civil Society Organisations; and
 - (q) such other members as the President may determine.
- (5) The Secretariat of the Task Force shall be domiciled at the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

- (6) The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control shall provide all technical support and guidance as the Task Force may require for the implementation of this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 5 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 5 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 6: Funding

- (1) There is hereby established a Public Health Emergency Fund.
- (2) The Fund shall consist of:
 - (a) monies appropriated by the National Assembly specifically for the purposes set out in this Act;
 - (b) such other monies as may be provided by the Federal and State Governments;
 - (c) such monies as may be granted or received from:
 - (i) the organised private sector,
 - (ii) international or donor organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations; and
 - (d) gifts, grants-in-aid, testamentary dispositions or otherwise, where the terms and conditions, if any, attached to any of them are not inconsistent with the objectives of this Act.
- (3) The Fund shall be used to finance the following:
 - (a) Emergency response activities;
 - (b) the provision of essential commodities, state emergency stockpile, personal protective equipment, and other preventive public health measures;
 - (c) the mitigation, response, and recovery from public health emergencies under this Act;
 - (d) payment of additional hazard allowances and employment of ad-hoc workers, as may be needed during public health emergencies;
 - (e) coordination and integration of surveillance and response activities across sectors during public health emergencies;
 - (f) payment for the deployment of experts, including appropriate Rapid Response Teams, to the affected zones to investigate and respond;
 - (g) acquisition of equipment for testing in laboratories across the country; and
 - (h) other activities targeted at the control of the public health emergency in Nigeria.
- (4) The Task Force shall develop appropriate guidelines for the

administration, disbursement and monitoring of the Fund to meet exigencies of the public health emergencies under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 6 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 6 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 7: Termination of a Declaration of Public Health Emergency

- (1) The President shall terminate the declaration of a public health emergency by an executive order published in the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federation upon recommendation by the Task Force.
- (2) An Order of Termination by the President shall contain the following:
 - (a) the nature of the emergency;
 - (b) the zone(s) that was threatened; and
 - (c) the conditions that made possible the termination of the declaration.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the declaration of a public health emergency shall be terminated automatically after three months unless renewed by the President under section 2(5) of this Act, provided that any such renewal shall also be terminated automatically after three months unless further renewed by the President.
- (4) At the termination of a Declaration of Public Health Emergency, all non-expendable items, goods, or equipment acquired, bought or given to the Task Force for the period of that public emergency shall be transferred to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control for continued use, except as ordered by the President.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 7 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 7 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 8: Responsibilities of State Governments During Public Health Emergency

Where a public health emergency has been declared by the President under Section 2 of this Act or by the State Government under section 3, the State shall have responsibilities for-

- (a) providing relevant information to the Task Force;
- (b) collaborating with the Task Force to respond to the public health emergency; and
- (c) requesting assistance from the Task Force to respond to a public health emergency declared under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 8 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 8 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 9: Designation of Isolation Centres, Quarantine Stations, and Makeshift Hospitals

- (1) During a public health emergency, the Task Force may designate any or all Federal Government stadia, Federal quarantine stations, or makeshift hospitals as isolation centres or quarantine stations to manage diseases conditions or other public health events.
- (2) The Governor or the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory may by order designate any public place or building within the State, or in the Federal Capital Territory as the case may be, to be an isolation centre.
- (3) The Governor or the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory may, where he has previously designated a place an isolation centre, amend, cancel or reinstate such designation.
- (4) The Governor or Minister of the Federal Capital Territory shall adequately compensate for using the isolation centre, quarantine station, or makeshift hospital.
- (5) The Task Force shall inspect any place designated an isolation centre, quarantine station, or makeshift hospital and may make recommendations for improvement to the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory or the Governor.
- (6) The Task Force may establish a quarantine station at any place or hospital in Nigeria.

PART III - ADMINISTRATION***Committee's Recommendation:***

That the provision in Clause 9 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 9 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 10: Responsibility for administration of this Act

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Task Force shall be responsible for the administration of this Act.
- (2) The Task Force shall ensure the active collaboration and coordination among relevant agencies in the administration of this Act.
- (3) Nothing shall preclude the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control from performing its functions of detection, prevention, mitigation and monitoring of infectious diseases and public health events in Nigeria under its enabling Act or any other legislation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 10 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 11: Secondment and deployment of relevant personnel

- (1) The Task Force may, subject to such conditions or restrictions as it thinks fit, and in order to meet the public health human resource requirements and any increased demand of health personnel during the period of any public health emergency-

- (a) request for deployment or secondment of any public officer or employee from any Ministry, Department or Agency of Government or from any prescribed institution; and
 - (b) appoint other qualified persons as Health Officers.
- (2) All appointments and secondments made under this section shall be for the period of the public health emergency only.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 11 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 11 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 12: Extraordinary powers in relation to emergency measures

Subject to the provisions of sections 2 and 5 of this Act, the Task Force may formulate health measures, which shall be published in the Gazette, for the control of public health emergencies.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 12 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 12 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART IV - CONTROL OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES WITHIN NIGERIA

Clause 13: Notification of Declared Infectious Diseases

- (1) A medical practitioner who has reason to believe or suspect that any ~~person attended to or treated by him is suffering from an infectious~~ disease or is a carrier of that infectious disease, as defined under this Act, shall notify the Local Government Health Authority, the Health Officer, the medical practitioner of the State Ministry of Health or the State Commissioner of Health within such time and in the form or manner prescribed by the National Technical Guidelines for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response or any extant guidelines on public health surveillance in force.
- (2) A person in charge of a laboratory used for the diagnosis of diseases who becomes aware of the existence of an infectious disease, as defined under this Act, in the course of his work shall notify the Local Government Health Authority, the Health Officer, the medical practitioner of the State Ministry of Health or the State Commissioner of Health within such time and in the form or manner prescribed by the National Technical Guidelines for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response or any extant guidelines on public health surveillance in force.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provision of any Act or regulation, all infectious diseases discovered under subsections (1) and (2) shall be reported to the Task Force within 24 hours of observation or notification as the case may be.
- (4) Any person who fails to comply with the requirement of subsections (1) and (2) of this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand naira or imprisonment of not less than six months or both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 13 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 13 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 14: Notification of Infectious Animal Diseases

- (1) Every veterinarian, livestock owner, veterinary diagnostic laboratory director, or other person caring for animals shall report animals having or suspected of having any disease that may be a potential cause of a public health emergency.
- (2) The report shall be made electronically or in writing within twenty-four (24) hours to the relevant authority, including the State Ministry of Agriculture or the Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service, and shall include as much of the following information as are available:
 - (a) the specific illness or health condition that is the subject of the report;
 - (b) the suspected location information of the animal,
 - (c) the name and address of any known owner, and the name and address of the reporting individual; and
 - (d) any other relevant information.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with the requirement of subsections (1) and (2) of this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand naira or imprisonment of not less than six months or both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 14 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 14 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15: Medical Examination

- (1) A person who-
 - (a) is, or has been confirmed to have been exposed to a public health risk that could be a possible source of the spread of an infectious disease; or
 - (b) is a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease, may be required to submit to medical examination within or at such time, and at such place, as the Task Force may determine.
- (2) Where the person who is or has been confirmed to have been exposed to a public health risk that could be a possible source of the spread of an infectious disease is a child, the Task Force may require the parent or guardian of the child to have the child medically examined or treated at such times and at such hospital or other places as the Task Force may determine.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 15 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 15 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 16: Post-mortem Examination

- (1) Where a person has died whilst being, or suspected of being, a case, carrier or contact of an infectious disease the basis upon which a public health emergency that has been declared under this Act, the relevant Federal or State Health Authorities may request the Coroner to issue an order for a post-mortem examination of the body of that person for the purpose of-
 - (a) determining the cause or circumstances of the death of that person; or
 - (b) Investigating any outbreak or suspected outbreak of or preventing the spread or possible outbreak of that disease.
- (2) The request to the Coroner in subsection (1) may be made in collaboration with the families or relatives of the deceased.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 16 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 16 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 17: Information to be provided by healthcare professionals, etc.

- (1) For the purpose of investigating into any public health emergency under this Act, including but not limited to an outbreak or suspected outbreak of infectious disease, and preventing the spread or possible outbreak of infectious disease, or treating any person who is, or is suspected to be a case or carrier or contact of infectious disease the Task Force or any relevant State health authority may require any healthcare professional to obtain from his patient-relevant information as may be reasonably required for that purpose and transmit the information to the Task Force or State health authority as the case may be in accordance with the requirements under the National Technical Guidelines on Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response or any extant guidelines on public health surveillance in force.
- (2) A healthcare professional shall comply with a requirement under subsection (1) of this section to the extent provided under any existing law, rule or regulation on the disclosure by a healthcare professional of a patient's confidential information where the transmission of such information to the Task Force or to relevant State health authority is required in the overriding public interest.
- (3) A healthcare professional who transmits to the Task Force or to relevant State health authority the information under subsection (2) of this section shall not be in breach of any law, rule or contract for such transmission.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 17 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 17 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 18: Decontamination of premises or conveyances

- (1) Where a public health emergency is declared under this Act, and

based on an examination of premises by authorised officers, the relevant Federal and State agencies finds that the condition of the premise is likely to lead to the outbreak or spread of infectious disease, such agency may, by written notice, require the owner or occupier of any such premise or conveyance to cleanse or disinfect it or take any remedial action in the manner and within the time specified in the notice.

- (2) The relevant Federal and State agencies shall take necessary steps to enforce measures required during a public health emergency

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 18 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 18 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 19: Destruction and Disposal of Infected Animals, Food and Water

- (1) Where a public health emergency requires the immediate destruction and disposal of infected animals, food or water which is established to be a source for the transmission of infectious disease, the relevant Federal or State health authorities shall notify the owner of the infected animals, food or water, or the occupier of the premises where the infected animals, food or water is found of the infection and the plan for their destruction and disposal.
- (2) The Task Force shall take necessary steps to enforce measures required during public health emergencies, including orders for the immediate destruction and disposal of infected animals, food, or water, which is established to be a source for the transmission of an infectious disease.
- (3) The Task Force shall take steps, based on the value of the animals, food, or water, to pay reasonable compensation to the owner provided that the infection of the animals, food or water did not arise as a result of the willful conduct or negligence of the owner.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 19 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 19 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 20: Wake-keeping or other pre-burial rites and disposal of corpses

- (1) The Task Force shall make regulations for the burial, wake-keep and other pre-burial rites and disposal of corpses of persons who die whilst being, or suspected of being, cases or carriers or contacts of infectious disease during a public health emergency declared under this Bill.
- (2) A person who contravenes an order made under this sub section (1) of this section, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided in this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 20 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 20 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 21: Isolation and Quarantine of Certain Persons and Animals

- (1) The Task Force may, for the protection of the community, order any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease to be isolated or quarantined in a hospital or other place for such period of time and subject to such conditions as the Task Force may determine.
- (2) The Task Force or any appropriate agency may order any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of infectious disease, or who has recently recovered from or been treated for infectious disease, to remain and to be isolated or quarantined and, if considered necessary, be treated, in his own dwelling place-
 - (a) for such period of time as may be necessary for the protection of the community; and
 - (b) subject to such conditions as the Task Force may consider necessary for that purpose.
- (3) Where the person who is to be isolated or quarantined under subsection (1) or (2) of this section is a child, the Task Force may order the parent or guardian of the child to-
 - (a) take the child, within the time specified in the order, to the place in which he is to be isolated or quarantined; or
 - (b) ensure that the child remains in isolation or quarantine in his own dwelling place for such period of time and subject to such conditions as may be specified by the Task Force.
- (4) Isolation shall apply to a person who is a case or a carrier of a declared infectious disease while quarantine applies to contacts of ~~declared infectious diseases who have not shown symptoms of the~~ disease.
- (5) In all relevant circumstances, including zoonotic infectious diseases, animals shall be subject to isolation or quarantine, and the owner or custodian of the animal shall be under obligation to carry out the relevant orders issued by the authorised officers.
- (6) Any person who without reasonable excuse:
 - (a) fails to proceed to the place in which he is to be isolated or quarantined within the time specified in the Order;
 - (b) without the permission of the Task Force, leaves or attempts to leave the place in which he is being isolated or quarantined; or
 - (c) fails to comply with any condition to which he is subject; or
 - (d) fails to carry out any order made against him.

Commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to the punishment provided in this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 21 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 21 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 22: Abatement of Overcrowding

- (1) If, based on an examination of a building, the Task Force or any authorised officer is of the opinion that the building is overcrowded as to expose the occupants of the building to the risk of infection by infectious diseases, the Task Force or any authorised officer may, by written notice, direct the owner or occupier of the building to abate the overcrowding or to close the building or any part of the building to the public within the time specified in the notice.
- (2) The owner or occupier of a building who fails to comply with a notice given to him by the Task Force or any authorised officer under subsection (1) of this section and after the provision of alternative accommodation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided in this Act.
- (3) When a building or any part of it has been directed to be closed under subsection (1) of this section and an alternative accommodation has been provided, any person who enters the building or any part of it without the permission of the Task Force commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided in this Act.
- (4) Without prejudice to any proceedings under subsection (3) of this section, where a notice issued by the Task Force or any authorised officer under subsection (1) has not been complied with, and alternative accommodation has been provided, the Task Force or any authorised officer shall obtain a court order, and with the assistance of a police officer, may enter the building and take or cause to be taken such measures as are necessary to abate the overcrowding or to close the building or any part of the building as may have been specified in the notice.
- (5) Without prejudice to the duty to comply with any order or directive under this section, the Task Force may in its discretion and under appropriate circumstance provide an alternative accommodation to the owner or occupier of such building.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 22 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 22 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 23: Contact Tracing Measures

- (1) The Task Force shall prescribe regulations for contact tracing measures and these measures shall be implemented by authorised officers in relevant agencies.
- (2) Any person who fails to comply with any regulation made pursuant to subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand naira or imprisonment of not less than six month or both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 23 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 23 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 24: Requiring Information Where Person Believed to have or has been Exposed to an Infectious Disease

- (1) Where an authorised officer reasonably believes that a person is a case or a carrier of an infectious disease, or has been, or may have been, exposed to an infectious disease, the authorised officer may require the affected person to give the authorised officer the following information -
 - (a) the affected person's name, residential address, telephone numbers, email address, date of birth and gender;
 - (b) information about any circumstances in which the affected person may have acquired, or been exposed to, the infectious disease;
 - (c) information about any circumstances in which the affected person may have exposed another person to the notifiable infectious disease;
 - (d) the name, residential address, telephone numbers, email address, date of birth and gender of any person the authorised officer reasonably believes is a contact person in relation to the affected person;
 - (e) any other information prescribed by regulations.
- (2) If an authorised officer reasonably believes that an affected person or an exposed person does not have the capacity to provide the required information or after making reasonable efforts, has been unable to identify or contact the affected person or exposed person, the authorised officer may require any of the following persons to give the required information in relation to the affected person or the exposed person, as the case requires -
 - (a) if the affected person or exposed person is a child, a parent or guardian of the child;
 - (b) if the affected person or exposed person is believed to be attending, or to have attended, a school, university or other educational institution, a teacher, lecturer, or other member of staff of the school, university or institution;
 - (c) a relative of the affected person or exposed person;
 - (d) the affected person's or exposed person's employer or former employer;
 - (e) any other person the authorised officer reasonably believes may be able to provide the required information.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with any request for further information made pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) of this section or who gives false information in respect thereof commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand naira or imprisonment of not less than six month or both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 24 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 24 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 25: Restrictions of Meetings, Gatherings, and Public Entertainment

- (1) Where during the period of an order made under Section 2 of this Act declaring any public health emergency or any period extending the order as provided under that section, the Task Force finds that the holding of any meeting, gathering or any public entertainment in any place is likely to increase the spread of any infectious disease, the Task Force may, by order, prohibit or restrict the holding of the meeting, gathering or public entertainment, subject to such conditions as it may think fit, for a period of time as the case may be.
- (2) An order under subsection (1) of this section may be renewed by the Task Force from time to time for such period, not exceeding thirty days, as it may, by written notice, specify.
- (3) A person who holds, is present at or has taken part in any meeting, gathering or public entertainment in contravention of an order by the Task Force under subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided under this Act.
- (4) An authorised officer may take such action as considered necessary and lawful to give effect to an order issued under subsection (1) of this section.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 25 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 25 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 26: Control of Occupation, Trade or Business

- (1) The Task Force may give directive to-
 - (a) any person who is a case or a carrier or contact of an infectious disease and is carrying on or likely to carry on any occupation, trade or business; or
 - (b) any person carrying on any occupation, trade or business in a manner as is likely to cause the spread of any infectious disease,

to take any preventive action that it reasonably believes is necessary to prevent the possible outbreak or prevent or reduce the spread of an infectious disease.
- (2) Subject to the provision of subsection (1) of this section, "preventive action", in the case of a directive given to a person carrying on or who may carry on any occupation, trade or business, includes requiring the person to do any one or more of the following-
 - (a) stop carrying on, or not carry on, the occupation, trade or business during a period of time specified in the directive;
 - (b) take specified steps within a period of time specified in the directive to ensure that the occupation, trade or business is

conducted in compliance with conditions specified in the directive.

- (3) Where a person refuses or fails to comply with any requirement of a directive given to him under subsection (1) of this section, the Task Force or any authorised officer may apply to Court for an order to
 - (a) take control of any vehicle, plant, article, machinery or equipment on the premises; or
 - (b) take such other steps as are necessary to ensure control of the premises at which an occupation, trade or business is or likely to be conducted and to prevent the spread of the infectious disease.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 26 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 26 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 27: Certain Persons not to Act in a Manner Likely to Spread Disease

- (1) A person who knows that he is a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease shall not expose other persons to the risk of infection by his presence or conduct in any public place or any other place used in common by the public.

- (2) A person taking care of another person whom he knows is or suspects to be a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease shall not cause or permit that person to expose other persons to the risk of infection by that person's presence or conduct in any public place or any other place used in common by the public.
- (3) A person shall not lend, sell, transmit or expose, without previous disinfection, any substance or material which he knows to have been exposed to infection from an infectious disease, or any other article which he knows to have been so exposed and which is likely to carry such infection.
- (4) A person who contravenes subsection (1), (2) or (3) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided under this Act.
- (5) In proceedings for an offence under subsection (4) of this section for contravening the provisions of subsection (1) or (2) of this section, it is a defence for the person charged with the offence to prove, on a balance of probabilities, that his presence or conduct in the place mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) of this section, as the case may be
 - (a) was necessary for the purpose of obtaining medical treatment; or
 - (b) was authorised by the Task Force, or
 - (c) being a person who takes care of the affected or suspected person under subsection (2) promptly reported to the Task

Force uncooperative attitude or conduct of such affected or suspected person.

- (6) Where the Task Force has designated a hospital or other place for the treatment of an infectious disease, subsection (5) (a) of this section shall only apply in relation to the obtaining of medical treatment at the designated hospital or place for that disease.
- (7) A person shall not incur any liability for contravening the provision of subsection (3) of this section by transmitting with proper precautions any substance or material for the purpose of having it disinfected.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 27 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 27 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 28: Obligation to Minimise the Risk of Infection

Any person providing any health service during a public health emergency shall take reasonable precautions and care to minimise the risk of infection to other persons.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 28 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 28 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 29: Dissemination of Health Advisory and Notification of Infectious Diseases

- (1) The Task Force may direct any relevant operator to disseminate any health advisory, in such form and manner as may be specified, for the purpose of preventing the spread or possible outbreak of any infectious disease in Nigeria or the spread of any infectious disease within Nigeria or from Nigeria to outside of Nigeria.
- (2) For the purpose of this section-
 - (a) "a relevant operator" includes any government agency or authority closely monitoring an epidemic or pandemic outbreak of diseases, providing daily updates on the outbreak, issuing health advisory, answering questions about the current outbreak, or providing up-to-date facts and figures about the outbreak;
 - (b) "a public health advisory" means a statement containing a finding that a release of hazardous substances or diseases pose a significant risk to human health, recommending measures to be taken to avoid exposure and eliminate or substantially mitigate the risk to human health.
- (3) A relevant operator who, without reasonable excuse, refuses or fails to comply with an order under subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the punishment as provided in this Act.
- (4) This section does not affect any other right of disclosure that a relevant operator may have under any other law, rule, or regulation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 29 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 29 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART V - PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES AT POINTS OF ENTRY AND EXIT
DURING AN EMERGENCY

Clause 30: Implementation of Public Health Emergency Measures at Points of Entry and Exit

The Task Force shall ensure the implementation and enforcement of all public health emergency measures relating to entry into or exit from Nigeria by Nigerians or any person or conveyance from an infected area or any other place or territory outside Nigeria during the period of public health emergencies under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 30 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 30 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 31: Protection of International Travel and Trade

- (1) The Task Force shall ensure that all health measures implemented during public health emergency shall be applied in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner in a way as to avoid unnecessary restrictions on international traffic and trade and damage to cargoes and goods.
- (2) Measures applied to cargoes, containers or conveyances, the parts treated, the methods employed, and the reasons for their application shall be indicated in writing.
- (3) Unless as required under this Act, conveyances shall:
 - (a) be allowed to call at any point of entry for public health reasons if the point of entry is equipped to apply the required public health measures or the conveyance is unable to proceed to the nearest suitable point of entry;
 - (b) be granted free pratique by radio or other communication means when based on the information received there is no scientific evidence that the arrival of the conveyance will result in the introduction or spread of the disease; and
 - (c) be able to transit through the territory of Nigeria without being subject to public health measures owing that there is no embarking, disembarking, loading, discharging or transhipment of goods in Nigerian territory.
- (4) Unless travellers are seeking temporary or permanent residence, any quarantine or isolation requirements, medical or supplementary examination, certificates, and health measures applied to baggage accompanying the traveller, and any new vaccinations or other prophylaxis requirements that have been published for less than fourteen days shall be free of charges.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 31 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 31 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 32: Medical examination of persons and animals arriving in Nigeria

- (1) The Task Force may, for the purpose of preventing the spread of or a possible outbreak of any infectious disease in Nigeria, issue an Order, requiring that all or any persons arriving in Nigeria to undergo any medical examination specified in the Order provided that such medical examination shall not involve invasive sample collection.
- (2) A person who refuses or fails to comply with the Order under subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.
- (3) The medical examination of animals shall be in accordance with the relevant law.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 32 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 32 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 33: Medical Examination of Persons and Animals Leaving Nigeria During a Public Health Emergency

- (1) During a public health emergency, the Task Force may, for the purpose of preventing the spread of the infectious disease outside Nigeria, by a written Order, require all or any persons or animals leaving Nigeria to undergo any medical examination specified in the order in accordance with international standards and procedures.
- (2) A person, or owner custodian of any animal, who, without reasonable excuse, refuses or fails to comply with the order under subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 33 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 33 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART VI - ENFORCEMENT

Clause 34: Powers of the Task Force in Dealing with Outbreaks or Suspected Outbreaks Forming the Basis of a Public Health Emergency

- (1) For the purpose of investigating into any outbreak or suspected outbreak of infectious disease upon which a public health emergency is declared under this Act or for the purpose of preventing the spread or possible outbreak of such disease, the Task Force through any authorised officer may-
 - (a) stop, board, inspect and search any conveyance;
 - (b) at any time with a warrant and notice enter, inspect and search any premises;

- (c) take samples of any substance or matter, wherever found, if the authorised officer has reason to believe that the substance or matter is the cause of, is contributory to or is otherwise connected with, the occurrence of the outbreak or suspected outbreak, and send such samples for such test, examination or analysis as the authorised officer may consider necessary or expedient;
 - (d) on the authority of a court order seize any substance or matter, wherever found, if the authorised officer has reason to believe that the substance or matter is the cause of, is contributory to or is otherwise connected with, the occurrence of the outbreak or suspected outbreak;
 - (e) require any person-
 - (i) to furnish any information within his knowledge; or
 - (ii) to produce any book, document or other records which may be in his custody or possession for inspection by the authorised officer and for the making of copies of them thereof; or
 - (iii) to provide the authorised officer with copies of any book, document or other records specified in sub-paragraph (ii) of this paragraph, within such time and in such form or manner as the authorised officer may specify, and if necessary, further require the person to attend at a specified time and place for the purposes of complying with subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iii) of this paragraph;
 - (f) on the authority of a Court Order, subject to subsection (5) of this section, order the closure or cordoning off of any public place in which the outbreak or suspected outbreak, or the transmission or suspected transmission, of an infectious disease has taken place;
 - (g) by an Order prohibit or restrict the movement of persons, animals, or conveyance within or out of any public place.
- (2) Where the authorised officer seizes any substance or matter under subsection (1) (d) of this section-
- (a) the authorised officer shall immediately give written notice of the seizure to the owner of, or to the person from whom, the substance or matter was seized and may-
 - (i) direct that the substance or matter under seizure be kept or stored in the premises or conveyance where it was seized or be removed to any other place to be kept or stored thereat, or
 - (ii) dispose of the substance or matter immediately if the authorised officer is of the view that the substance or matter is decayed, putrefied or harmful to health;
 - (b) a person aggrieved by the seizure of any matter or substance made under the provisions of this section may complain to appropriate court and the court may-
 - (i) confirm the seizure wholly or in part,

- (ii) disallow the seizure wholly or in part,
 - (iii) order that any substance or matter that has been seized be returned to its owner, subject to any condition which the court may deem fit to impose to ensure that the substance or matter is preserved for any purpose for which it may subsequently be required, or
 - (iv) order payment to be made to the owner of or person entitled to the substance or matter seized of such amount as the court considers reasonable compensation to him for any loss or depreciation resulting from the seizure.
- (3) Where the appropriate court confirms the seizure of the substance or matter under subsection (2)(b)(i) of this section, the substance or matter seized in its entirety or to the extent to which its seizure was confirmed by the appropriate court, as the case may be, shall become the property of the Federal Government and shall be disposed of in accordance with the law.
- (4) Any person who fails to comply with any requirement or Order made by the authorised officer under subsection (1) (d) or (f) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one million naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both the fine and imprisonment.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1) (e) of this section, where any document or record required by the Task Force is kept in electronic form, then-
- (a) the power of the Task Force or an authorised officer to require the document or record to be produced for inspection includes the power to require a copy of the document or record to be made available for inspection in legible form; and
 - (b) the power of the Task Force or an authorised officer to inspect such document or record includes the power to require any person on the premises in question to give the Task Force or an authorised officer such assistance as the Task Force may reasonably require to enable it to inspect and make copies of the document or record in legible form or to make records of the information contained in it.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 34 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 34 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 35: Powers of Investigation

- (1) For the purposes of an investigation into an offence punishable under this Act, an authorised officer may-

- (a) require any person to-
 - (i) furnish any information within his knowledge; or
 - (ii) produce any book, document or other records which may be in his custody or possession for inspection by the authorised officer and the making of copies of the book, document or other records, or provide the authorised officer with copies of such book, document or other records, and may, if necessary, further require the person to attend at a specified time and place for the purposes of complying with this paragraph;
 - (b) at any time with a warrant, stop, board, enter, inspect and search any premises or conveyance;
 - (c) with an appropriate court order-
 - (i) take samples of or seize any substance or matter found in any premises or conveyance mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection unless delay in obtaining an order of court can lead to the spread of the declared infectious disease in which case a validating court order shall be obtained thereafter; and
 - (ii) seize any book, document or record produced under paragraph (a) of this subsection or found in any premises or conveyance mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection.
-
- (2) A statement made by any person giving evidence under subsection (1) (a) of this section shall-
 - (a) be reduced to writing and read over to him; and
 - (b) after correction, if any, be signed by him.
 - (3) A person who, without reasonable excuse-
 - (a) refuses or fails to comply with any requirement of an authorised officer under subsection (1) of this section; or
 - (b) refuses to answer or gives a false answer to any question put to him by the authorised officer, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.
 - (4) For the purposes of subsection (3) of this section, it is a reasonable excuse for a person to refuse or fail to furnish any information, produce any book, document or other record or answer any question if doing so might tend to incriminate him.
 - (5) For the purposes of subsection (1) (a) (i) of this section, where any document or record required by an authorised

officer is kept in electronic form, then the power of the authorised officer to-

- (a) require such document or record to be produced for inspection includes the power to require a copy of the document or record to be made available for inspection in legible form; and
- (b) inspect such document or record includes the power to require any person on the premises in question to give the authorised officer such assistance as the authorised officer may reasonably require to enable him to inspect and make copies of the document or record in legible form or to make records of the information contained in the document.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 35 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 35 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 36: Disposal of Document, Substance, or Matter

- (1) Any book, document, record, sample, substance, or matter produced, taken or seized under this Act shall-
 - (a) where the book, document, record, sample, substance or matter is produced in any criminal trial, be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of any relevant law on the administration of criminal justice;
 - (b) where the owner of the book, document, record, sample, substance or matter consents to its disposal, be disposed of accordingly; or
 - (c) in any other case, be returned to the owner or reported to an appropriate court.
- (2) Where any book, document, record, sample, substance or matter is deposited to the appropriate court under subsection (1)(c) of this section, the appropriate court may order the document, substance or matter to be-
 - (a) forfeited;
 - (b) disposed of in such manner as the appropriate court deem fit.
- (3) Subject to any order to the contrary by the appropriate court, at the conclusion of a case, any book, document, record, sample, substance or matter shall be returned to the owner or destroyed.
- (4) Where the court order is for the forfeiture of a book, document, record, sample, substance or matter, the forfeited items shall be retained by the State.
- (5) This section does not affect any right to retain or dispose of property that may exist in any other law or regulation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 36 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 36 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 37: Powers of Arrest

- (1) A law enforcement officer or any authorised officer may arrest with or without warrant any person committing or whom he has reason to believe has committed any offence under this Act for the purpose of bringing the person before a court of law within a reasonable time for trial and release the person unconditionally or upon such conditions as are reasonably necessary to ensure that he appears for trial at a later date.
- (2) Subject to subsection (6) of this section, a law enforcement officer or any authorised officer may arrest without warrant any person who is required to-
 - (a) be isolated in any place under the provisions of this Act, has failed to proceed to that place or has left or attempted to leave that place;
 - (b) undergo or submit to any surveillance, quarantine, medical examination under the provisions of this Act, has failed to undergo or submit to the surveillance, examination or comply with any condition relating to his surveillance; or
 - (c) comply with any requirement mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection, attempts to leave Nigeria without the approval of the Task Force.
- (3) A person who fails to comply with any requirement mentioned in subsection (2) of this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both.
- (4) A person arrested under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall within twenty-four hours from the time of arrest be taken before an appropriate court excepting weekends and public holidays.
- (5) The Task Force may issue any order under this section for the isolation, quarantine, surveillance, or medical examination of a person arrested under subsection (2) of this section.
- (6) A law enforcement officer or authorised officer may, instead of arresting a person referred to in subsection (3) of this section, take such measures and-
 - (a) if a person is to be isolated-
 - (i) cause that person to be taken to the place where he is to be isolated, or
 - (ii) ensure that the person remains in isolation in his own dwelling place, for such period of time as may be necessary for the protection of the public;
 - (b) if that person is to undergo surveillance or quarantine, cause the person to undergo surveillance or quarantine for such period of time as may be necessary for the protection of the public; or
 - (c) if the person is to undergo medical examination, cause the person to be medically examined.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 37 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 37 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 38: Law Enforcement or Authorised Officer may Demand Names and Addresses in Certain Cases

- (1) A person who is required by any law enforcement officer in connection with any public health emergency disease or public health event or by any authorised officer shall on demand give his name and address and other proof of identity to the law enforcement officer or authorised officer.
- (2) The owner or occupier of any premises shall if required by any law enforcement officer or by an authorised officer give his name and address and other proof of identity.
- (3) A person who fails, without reasonable cause to comply with any requirement properly made to him by a law enforcement officer or authorised Officer under subsection (1) or (2) of this section, or wilfully misstates his name and address or the name and address of the owner of any premises, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 38 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 38 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 39: Enforcement of physical distancing and other non-pharmaceutical health measures

All law enforcement officers or authorised officers shall, to all reasonable extent possible, prioritise methods or procedures that reduce non-essential contact with persons or animals to reduce the risk of contamination and severity of the infectious disease while enforcing any provision of this Act or regulations made under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 39 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 39 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 40: Disclosure of User Information to Prevent Spread or Possible Outbreak of Infectious Disease, etc.

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the Task Force or any relevant authorities may disclose any information it obtained under this Act which identifies any person who is or is suspected to be a case or carrier or contact of a declared infectious disease to any person if the disclosure is necessary for the person to take measures to prevent the outbreak or spread of the declared infectious disease.
- (2) The Task Force or any relevant authorities may, in disclosing any information to any person under subsection (1) of this section, impose such conditions as it thinks fit, and the person to whom the information is disclosed shall comply with such conditions.

- (3) A person to whom the Task Force or any relevant authorities have disclosed any information under subsection (1) of this section may only disclose or use such information to the extent necessary for implementing any measure permitted by the Centre for the purpose of preventing the spread of or a possible outbreak of that declared infectious disease, but not for any unauthorised purpose.
- (4) A person who-
 - (a) fails to comply with any condition imposed under subsection (2) of this section; or
 - (b) contravenes the provision of subsection (3) of this section, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.
- (5) This section shall apply without prejudice to any other right of disclosure under this Act or any other law or regulation.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 40 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 40 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 41: Disclosure of user information by Centre to a specified recipient

- (1) The Task Force may, by written notice, authorise a healthcare provider to disclose user information to a specified recipient, which identifies any person as-
 - (a) a case or carrier or contact of a person or animal with a declared infectious disease; or
 - (b) being suspected to be an affected person or animal, to enable the specified recipient to take the necessary measures to prevent the spread or possible outbreak of the declared infectious disease.
- (2) The Task Force may, in authorising the disclosure of any information under subsection (1) of this section by a healthcare provider, impose such conditions on the healthcare provider or the specified recipient of that information, and the healthcare provider or specified recipient, as the case may be, shall comply with the conditions.
- (3) A specified recipient of the information provided under subsection (1) of this section may disclose the information to another person providing prescribed healthcare services to an affected person on behalf of the specified recipient, or use that information, only to the extent necessary to take the necessary measures to prevent the spread or possible outbreak of the infectious disease, but not otherwise.
- (4) A person who, without reasonable excuse-
 - (a) fails to comply with any condition imposed under subsection (2) of this section; or
 - (b) contravenes subsection (3) of this section, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two

hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.

- (5) This section does not affect any other right of disclosure under any other law, rule or regulation.
- (6) In this section-
- "healthcare provider" means any person that provides a prescribed healthcare service;
- "prescribed healthcare service" means any healthcare service prescribed for the purposes of this section; and
- "specified recipient" means any person that provides a prescribed healthcare service to an affected person.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 41 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 41 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 42: Security Assistance

The Inspector-General of Police in collaboration with other security agencies, shall provide such security assistance as may be necessary for the carrying out of any of the provisions of this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 42 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 42 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART VII - RIGHTS OF PERSONS

Clause 43: Rights of Users subject to Public Health Measures

In addition to any other right conferred upon users by law, individuals subject to a public health measure under this Bill shall have the following rights-

- (a) the right to receive an explanation on the necessity of such an order made pursuant to the provisions in this Act in a language they understand;
- (b) the right to be treated with dignity in the execution of such an order;
- (c) the right to confidentiality of their health information except in circumstances where the publication of such information is required to be provided to public health authorities or is otherwise essential for the protection of public safety or health; and
- (d) the right to refuse treatment, vaccination, specimen collections and preventive treatment programs subject to compliance with isolation or quarantine orders and public health measures; and
- (e) the right to adequate food, shelter, clothing, washing facilities, medical care, and communication with others.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 43 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 43 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 44: Rights of Users Suspected of Having an Infectious Disease

- (1) A person who suspects that he may have an infectious disease must ascertain -
 - (a) whether or not he has the disease; and
 - (b) what precautions should be taken to prevent others from contracting the disease.
- (2) A person who has an infectious disease must take all reasonable precautions to ensure that others are not unknowingly placed at risk of contracting the disease.
- (3) To the extent to which the exercise of those rights does not infringe on the wellbeing of others, a person who is at risk of contracting, who suspects that he may have, or who has an infectious disease or an infectious disease-related condition has these rights -
 - (a) to be protected from unlawful discrimination;
 - (b) to have his or her privacy respected;
 - (c) to be given information about the medical and social consequences of the disease or condition and about any proposed medical treatment; and
 - (d) to have access to available and appropriate examination and treatment.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 44 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 44 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 45: Rights of Users under a Quarantine or an Isolation Order

- (1) All health facilities and other designated facilities shall adhere to the following conditions when isolating or quarantining individuals or groups of individuals-
 - (a) Health officials shall closely monitor people in quarantine to determine as quickly as possible if they are having symptoms, require treatment, or require transfer to isolation or release.
 - (b) Quarantine shall be done utilizing the least restrictive means necessary to prevent the spread of a declared infectious disease to others and may include but are not limited to confinement to private homes or other private and public premises.
- (2) Isolated individuals must be confined separately from quarantined individuals.
- (3) If a quarantined individual subsequently becomes infected or is reasonably believed to have become infected with an infectious disease, he shall promptly be removed to isolation.
- (4) Isolated and quarantined individuals must be immediately discharged when they have been medically certified to pose no risk of

transmitting the infectious disease to others.

- (5) Premises used for isolation and quarantine shall be built, equipped, and maintained safely and hygienically to minimise the likelihood of further transmission of infection or other harms to persons isolated or quarantined in accordance with the standards as approved by the Task Force.
- (6) Cultural and religious beliefs should be considered in addressing the needs of individuals and establishing and maintaining isolation and quarantine premises.
- (7) Persons subject to isolation or quarantine shall obey all regulations, rules, and orders issued by the Task Force and shall not go beyond the isolation or quarantine premises.
- (8) Persons under isolation or quarantine may be allowed access to their personal physicians, health care workers, or others as needed to address their specific needs.
- (9) Except authorized by the Task Force, no person shall enter or access an isolation or quarantine premises.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 45 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 45 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 46: Privacy and Confidentiality

- (1) Any health information, including personally identifiable information in health facility records, whether in paper or electronic formats, shall be confidential and shall be shared only with the consent of the user, or in accordance with this Act, the National Health Act of 2014, and other relevant law.
- (2) Any health information that is collected, analysed, reported, or stored under this Act shall be-
 - (a) processed fairly and lawfully, and not further processed in a way incompatible with the purpose of this Act;
 - (b) adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purposes of this Act;
 - (c) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date;
 - (d) erased or rectified where data is inaccurate or incomplete;
 - (e) kept only for the period necessary for the protection of public safety or health; and
 - (f) collected, transmitted, stored and archived in a manner that protects against unauthorized access, modification, damage, loss, and destruction.
- (3) The users' names shall not be included in any summaries of health facility reports to the public health authorities on infectious diseases.

- (4) Laboratory and health facility report to health authorities on immediately reportable cases that may contain users' names or use a unique identifier number or code assigned to a user in accordance with the National Health Act 2014 and regulations made under this Bill.
- (5) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), access to personally identifiable information in reporting site records shall be permitted to those persons having a legitimate need to acquire or use the information to-
- (a) provide treatment to the individual who is the subject of the information;
 - (b) investigate the causes of transmission; and
 - (c) follow-up with persons who may have come into contact with an infected person:

Provided that in the case that personally identifiable information is used to follow up with persons who have come in contact with a user, the user's identity and other personally identifiable information shall be confidential and shall be shared only by his consent or in accordance with this Bill and the National Health Act of 2014.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 46 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 46 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 47: Rights of Providers and Support Services

Every health care and support services provider providing services under this Act shall be entitled to adequate personal protective equipment and other safety measures and facilities, entire life and medical liability insurance, special allowance and additional hazard allowances paid from the Public Health Emergency Fund.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 47 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 47 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

PART VIII - MISCELLANEOUS

Clause 48: Designation of Special Sittings of Magistrate Courts for the trial of Offences under this Act

Upon the declaration of a public health emergency under sections 2 and 3 of this Act, the Chief Judge of a State or of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, as the case may be, shall set up appropriate magistrate courts at such locations affected by the public health declaration as he thinks fit for the purpose of issuing appropriate court orders and warrants for the implementation of this Act and speedy trial of offences.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 48 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 48 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 49: Services of Notices, Order or Other Documents

- (1) Any notice, order or other document required or authorised by this Act to be served on any person may be served by-
- (a) delivering it to the person or to some adult member or employee of his family or household at his usual or last known place of residence;
 - (b) leaving it at his usual or last known place of residence or business in an envelope addressed to the person;
 - (c) sending it by post to him at his usual or last known place of residence or place of business in Nigeria;
 - (d) in the case of a body corporate, delivering it to the secretary of the body corporate at its registered or principal office or sending it by post to the secretary of that body corporate at that office;
 - (e) if the document is to be served on the master of a conveyance or a person on board a conveyance, delivering it to any person being or appearing to be in command or charge of the conveyance; or
 - (f) if the document is to be served on the master of a conveyance and there is no master, by serving it on the owner of the conveyance or on the agent of the owner or, where no such agent is known or can be found, by affixing it on some conspicuous part of the conveyance.
- (2) Any notice, order or other document required by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises or conveyance or on the master of any conveyance shall be deemed to be properly addressed if addressed by the description of the "owner" or "occupier" or "master" or "pilot" "captain", of such premises or conveyance, as the case may be, without specifying any further name or description.
- (3) Any notice, order or other document required by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises may be served by delivering it to some adult person on the premises or, if there is no such person on the premises to whom the notice, order or other documents can with reasonable diligence be delivered, by affixing it on some conspicuous part of the premises.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 49 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 49 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 50: Default in Compliance with Notice

Where a notice, with evidence of proof of service, served in accordance with the provision of section 38 of this Act requires any act to be done or work to be executed by the owner or the occupier or the person in charge of any premises or conveyance and there is the default in complying with the requirement of the notice, the owner, occupier or the person in default shall, where no fine is specially provided for the default, be charged with committing an offence under this section and is liable on conviction to a fine

of not less than one hundred thousand naira or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both the fine and imprisonment.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 50 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 50 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 51: General Penalties

- (1) A person who commits an offence under this Act for which no penalty is expressly provided is in the case of —
 - (a) a first offence, liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both;
 - (b) a second or subsequent offence, liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand naira or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both; and
 - (c) a body corporate, liable on conviction for a first offence, to fine of not less than one million naira, and for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine of not less than two million naira.
- (2) A court convicting a person under this Bill may if it deem it appropriate, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, impose on the offender a penalty of community service in lieu of payment of a fine or term of imprisonment by the offender specified for the offence under this Bill.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 51 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 51 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 52: Prosecution of Defaulters, etc.

Proceedings against any person for an offence under this Act and the recovery of any penalties under this Act or any regulations made thereunder may be instituted by any person authorized by the Task Force, as the case may be, and such authorized person may prosecute or conduct such proceedings.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 52 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 52 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 53: Obstruction of Health Officers, etc.

- (1) A person shall not obstruct or assist in obstructing a health officer, an authorized officer or a person appointed under this Act in the exercise of a power or performance of a function under this Act.
- (2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine, not less than two hundred thousand naira or imprisonment for a term not less than three months or to both.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 53 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 53 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 54: Protection from Personal Liability

No liability shall lie personally against any authorised officer who, acting in good faith and with reasonable care, does or omits to do anything in the execution of this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 54 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 54 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 55: Immunity from liability for disclosure

No person shall be taken to have committed an offence under any law, or incurs any civil liability, or is liable to any disciplinary action by a professional body, by virtue merely of disclosing any information or providing anything, in good faith and with reasonable care—

- (a) in accordance with any requirement under this Act; or
- (b) as authorised by the Task Force under this Act.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 55 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 55 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 56: Offences by Bodies Corporate, etc.

Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body corporate or firm or by a registered trustee or other similar association of individuals —

- (a) every director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate;
- (b) every partner of the firm;
- (c) every trustee and person concerned in the management of the registered trustee; or
- (d) every person purporting to act in any management capacity in the body corporate or firm or registered trustee or similar association of individuals, is deemed to have committed the offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished for the offence in like manner as if he had himself committed the offence, unless he proves that the act or omission constituting the offence took place without his knowledge, consent or connivance.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 56 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 56 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 57: Exercise of Power

The powers of the President under this Act shall be exercisable by him or any person designated by him in that behalf.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 57 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 57 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 58: Regulations

- (1) The Task Force may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for or with respect to any matter that by this Act is required or permitted to be prescribed, or that is necessary or convenient to be prescribed, for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, the Task Force may make regulations during a public health emergency with respect to all or any of the following matters —
 - (a) the establishment and maintenance of quarantine and isolation stations for persons and for regulating the management of the quarantine and isolation stations;
 - (b) the decontamination and treatment of conveyances and premises;
 - (c) the prohibition on importation, exportation or transshipment of infected materials, substances and articles;
 - (d) the prescribing of measures to be taken for the prevention of the spread or transmission of infection by means of any conveyance departing from any infected area of Nigeria;
 - (e) the prohibition and regulation of the removal of fodder, litter, dung, human dejecta, wastewater and other things;
 - (f) the prescribing of notification and supply of information by medical practitioners of cases of declared infectious diseases treated by them;
 - (g) the prohibition or regulation of vaccinations and other prophylaxis and the issuance of certificates relating to vaccinations and other prophylaxis;
 - (h) the prescribing of any measure, the prohibition of any act, or the imposition of any duty, necessary to prevent or control the spread or possible outbreak of a declared infectious disease; and
- (3) The Task Force may, in making any regulations under this section, provide that any contravention of or failure to comply with any regulation shall be an offence punishable with a fine of not less than fifty thousand naira or community service.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 58 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 58 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 59: Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

"affected person" means any person who is a case or carrier of an infectious

disease;

"appropriate court" means a court of competent jurisdiction to try offences under this Act;

"authorised officer" means all officers of government and regulatory authorities who have responsibilities which may have an impact on public health measures;

"baggage" means the personal effects of a traveller or of a crew member of a conveyance;

"building" means any premises, house, hut, shed or roofed enclosure, whether intended for the purpose of human and animal habitation or otherwise, and any wall, gate, post, pillar, paling, frame, hoarding, slip, dock, wharf, pier, jetty, landing-stage or bridge;

"carrier", in relation to any infectious disease, means any person or animal that is harbouring or is likely to or is suspected to harbour the agents of that disease;

"child" means a person who is under the age of eighteen years;

"Centre" means the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control and Prevention established under the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act (No. 18 of 2018);

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health of a State;

"contact", in relation to any infectious disease, means any person or animal who has been exposed to the risk of infection from that disease;

"contact tracing measure" means any measure to facilitate the tracing of contacts of an infectious disease;

"Conveyance" includes ships, aeroplanes, vehicles, carts, vessels, and any other means of transports;

"crew" includes any person who is on board a conveyance not for the sole purpose of travelling from one place to another but who is employed in the conveyance's service or in connection with its cargo;

"dangerous infectious disease" means any of the diseases set out in the Second Schedule to this Act;

"dejecta" includes urine, faeces, sputum, pus, mucus, skin sloughing, lochia any other liquid or solid waste matter that is emanated, shed or discharged from the body by nasal, aural, urethral, vaginal or any other means;

"Director of Port Health" means the director in charge of health at the ports;

"Epidemiological Investigation" means the inquiry into the study of distribution and determinants of health, disease, or injury in human population and application of this study to the control of health problems;

"exposed person" means any person has been, or may have been, exposed to

an infectious disease;

"Health Officer" means a Health Officer deployed, seconded or appointed under section 11 of this Act;

"infected" means infected with the micro-organism or agent of an infectious disease;

"infectious disease" means any of the diseases specified in the First Schedule; and includes any other disease that —

- (a) is caused or is suspected to be caused by a micro-organism or any agent of disease;
- (b) is capable or is suspected to be capable of transmission by any means to human beings; and
- (c) the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control has reason to believe, if left un-investigated or unchecked, it is likely to result in an epidemic of the disease;

"Integrated Diseases Surveillance and Response System" means the framework for surveillance and laboratory data collection and usage.

"International Health Regulations" means the international legal instrument adopted by the 58th World Health Assembly in 2005 that covers measures for preventing the transnational spread of infectious diseases;

"international standards and procedures" means the standards set in the World Health Organisation's International Health Regulations 2005 and other relevant international and regional agreements;

"isolation", means the separation of ill or contaminated persons or affected baggage, containers, conveyances, goods or postal parcels from others in such a manner as to prevent the spread of infection or contamination;

"isolation centre" means any facility for securing and managing ill persons who may have or be suspected of having an infectious disease;

"law enforcement authorities" includes the Nigeria Armed Forces, the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, and other law enforcement agencies in Nigeria;

"master", in relation to a vessel, means the person for the time being in charge or command of the vessel;

"medical examination" means the preliminary assessment of a person by an authorized health professional or by a person under the direct supervision of the competent authority, to determine the person's health status and potential public health risk to others, and may include the scrutiny of health documents, a physical examination when justified by the circumstances of the individual case, ascertainment of the relevant medical history and the travel history of the person being examined, laboratory tests, radiographic or diagnostic tests required to make a determination of whether or not such a person suffers from a disease, condition, or event;

"medical practitioner" means a medical practitioner registered or exempted

from registration under the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with the responsibility for health;

"National Technical Guidelines for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response" means the national technical guidelines for public health surveillance and response for priority diseases, conditions and events at community, health facility, district and national levels;

"nurse" means a registered nurse or enrolled nurse within the meaning of the Nursing and Midwifery (Registration, etc.) Act;

"occupier", in relation to any premises or conveyance, means the person in occupation of the premises or conveyance or having the charge or control of the premises or conveyance, either on his own account or as an agent of another person;

"Overcrowding" is a condition where more persons are located or living within a given space than is considered tolerable from a safety and health perspective as determined by relevant town planning authority.

"owner", in relation to any premises or conveyance, means the person for the time being receiving the rent of the premises or conveyance whether on his own account or as agent, trustee or receiver or who would receive the same if the premises or the conveyance were let or chartered;

"port" means any place in Nigeria and any navigable river or channel leading into such place declared to be a port under the Nigeria Ports Authority Act and includes an airport;

"Port Health Officer" means any Health Officer in charge of a port and includes his deputies and assistants;

"pratique", in relation to a vessel, means the written permission granted by a Port Health Officer to the conveyance to disembark and commence operation;

"premises" means buildings, lands, easements and hereditaments of any tenure whether open or enclosed, whether public or private and whether maintained or not under statutory authority, and includes any place or structure or any part thereof used or intended to be used for human habitation or for employment or any other purpose;

"public health emergency" means any event that has been declared an emergency under Section 2 of this Act;

"Public Health Emergency Area" means the whole of or such area outside Nigeria declared to be a Public Health Emergency Area under Section 4 of this Act;

"Public Health Emergency Zone" means the whole of or such area in Nigeria declared to be a Public Health Emergency Zone under Section 2(4) of this Act;

"public health event" means an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition, caused by bioterrorism, epidemic or pandemic disease, or (a) novel and highly fatal infectious agent or biological toxin that poses a

substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidents or permanent or long-term disability;

"public health measures" means procedures applied to prevent the spread of disease or contamination; a health measure does not include law enforcement or security measures;

"public health observation" means subjecting a person or persons to medical examinations or observations carried out over a period of time (whether or not continuously) and includes carrying out any measures to facilitate those medical examinations or observations;

"public place" means any place or premises to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission, and includes any place or premises used by the public or a section of the public for educational or recreational purposes or for assemblage;

"quarantine" means the compulsory detention in isolation for the purpose and under the provisions of this Act of any conveyance, persons, goods, things, animals or plants;

"quarantine station" means any island, building or place where quarantine is carried out;

"relevant agency" includes the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control, animal quarantine and veterinary services and such other agencies charged with matters relevant to public and environmental health;

"relevant health official" includes State health officials;

"relevant operator" includes persons in charge of health facilities, laboratories, state and local government health institutions and port health authorities;

"surveillance" means subjecting a person or persons to medical examinations or observations carried out over a period of time (whether or not continuously) and includes carrying out any measures to facilitate those medical examinations or observations;

"vessel" means any ship, boat, aircraft, or a vessel of any description used in navigation by sea or air.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 59 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 59 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 60: Short Title

This Bill may be cited as the Public Health Emergency Bill, 2022.

Committee's Recommendation:

That the provision in Clause 60 be retained (*Senator Chukwuka G. Utazi — Enugu North*).

Question that Clause 60 do stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Infectious Diseases

1. Diseases with high global or regional prevalence.
2. Diseases that are severe and life threatening even though risk of exposure may be low.
3. Diseases involving public health risk due to transmission of infection to others —
 - (a) Amoebiasis;
 - (b) Angiostrongyliasis;
 - (c) Brucellosis;
 - (d) Chikungunya;
 - (e) Coccidiomycosis;
 - (f) Dengue;
 - (g) dracunculiasis;
 - (h) Echinococcosis;
 - (i) Giardiasis;
 - (j) Haemorrhagic fever;
 - (k) Hantavirus diseases;
 - (l) Hepatitis C;
 - (m) Hepatitis E;
 - (n) HIV/AIDS;
 - (o) Histoplasmosis;
 - (p) Legionellosis;
 - (q) Leishmaniasis (cutaneous, mucosal and visceral forms);
 - (r) Leprosy;
 - (s) Leptospirosis (including Weil diseases);
 - (t) Listeriosis;
 - (u) Lyme Borrellosis (Lyme disease);
 - (v) Lymphatic filariasis;
 - (w) Monkey pox;
 - (x) Onchocerciasis;

- (y) Plague;
- (z) Rubella;
- (aa) SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome);
- (bb) Schistosimiasis (Alharziasis);
- (cc) Tuberculosis;
- (dd) Trypanomiasis;
- (ee) Thphos fever (Epidemic louse-borne typhus);
- (ff) Yaws;
- (gg) Zoonotic influenza.

Question that the provision in the First Schedule stand part of the bill — Agreed to.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Dangerous Infectious Diseases

- 1 Cholera
- 2 Hepatitis A
- 3 Hepatitis E
- 4 Japanese Encephalitis
- 5 Meningococcal disease
- 6 Rabies
- 7 Tick-borne encephalitis
- 8 Typhoid fever
- 9 Yellow fever

Question that the provision in the Second Schedule stand part of the bill — Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(SENATE IN PLENARY)

The President of the Senate reported that the Senate in the Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Primary Health Care and Communicable Diseases on A Bill for an Act to Provide for an effective national framework for the control of outbreaks of infectious diseases and other events endangering public health and requiring public health emergency measures and for other related matters, 2022 and approved as follows:

- Clauses 1-60 — As Recommended
- Schedules 1-2 — As Recommended

Question: That the Senate do approve the Report of the Committee of the Whole — *Resolved in the Affirmative.*

Motion made: That the Bill be now Read the Third Time (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly Read the Third Time and Passed.

13. Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions:

Report on three (3) Petitions:

Motion made: That the Senate do receive and consider the Reports of the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions in respect of:

- a. A.S.U. Garba of Wahab Toye & Co. on Behalf of Crime Free and Peace Initiative against Okpara Michael Nnachi, Dauda Ibrahim EI-Ladan and Adebajo Ademola Anthony for an Alleged Falsification of Records, Abuse of Powers and Forgery (*Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure — Ondo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution:

Question: That the petition be struck off the list of petitions before the Senate because the subject of the petition is currently before a competent court of jurisdiction — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the petition be struck off the list of petitions before the Senate because the subject of the petition was currently before a competent court of jurisdiction (*S/Res/062/03/22*).

- b. Chief Enyinna Onuegbu KSC, on Behalf of Seventy-Three (73) Communities of Obiafu, Soku to Bonny, in Rivers State against the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Limited (NLNG) for Refusing to Pay Compensation for Acquiring Their Land and Loss of Use of the Affected Land to Pipelines Right of Way (ROW) Through the Communities (*Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure — Ondo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Limited (NLNG) to pay the sum of ₦18,448,842,500.00 as adequate compensation due to the 73 Communities of United Pipeline Host Families & Communities Association of Rivers State for loss of use of their land to pipelines Right of Way (ROW).

Proposed Resolution(ii):

Question: That the Senate do urge NLNG to, as a matter of urgency, enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Host Communities on future obligations by NLNG in the form of Corporate Social Responsibility.

Amendment proposed:

Leave out proposed Resolutions (i) and (ii) and insert the following instead thereof: "That the Senate do invite the Nigerian Liquified Natural Gas (NLNG) to appear before the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions within 1 week from 26th January, 2022 unfailingly with evidence of payment of compensation to the above mentioned communities". (*Senator Aliyu S. Abdullahi - Niger North*).

Question that the amendment be made put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That the Senate do invite the Nigerian Liquified Natural Gas (NLNG) to appear before the Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions within 1 week from 26th January, 2022 unfailingly with evidence of payment of compensation to the above mentioned communities (*S/Res/063/03/22*).

- c. Sunday M. Akinwale, against the Honourable Minister of Education and the Director General, National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) over an alleged non-release of his NYSC exemption letter (*Senator Patrick A. Akinyelure — Ondo Central*).

Question put and agreed to.

Report Laid and presented.

Debate:

Proposed Resolution(i):

Question: That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Education to forthwith issue the petitioner an Exemption Certificate since the reason for denying him the Exemption Certificate was unlawful and illegal — *Agreed to.*

Resolved:

That the Senate do urge the Federal Ministry of Education to forthwith issue the petitioner an Exemption Certificate since the reason for denying him the Exemption Certificate was unlawful and illegal. (*S/Res/064/03/22*).

14. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do adjourn till Tuesday, 1st February, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (*Deputy Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly at 1:52 p.m.

Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan, Ph.D, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.