FOURTH REPUBLIC 9TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (2019–2023) FOURTH SESSION No. 151



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO the ORDER PAPER Tuesday 6 June 2023

ORDERS OF THE DAY MOTION

1. Discharge of Committees on Referrals on Bills, Pursuant to Order Eighteen, Rule 3(g) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives: Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata:

The House:

Notes that the undermentioned Bills were respectively read a Second time and referred to Committees for legislative actions:

S/N Title

Committee

- **1.** Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery Tertiary Education and Services Nteje, Anambra State (HB.1730)
- 2. Federal Institute for Diving Technology Bill, Tertiary Education and Services Anaku Ayamelu Anambra State 2020 (HB.2099)

Aware that the Committees are yet to present reports on the Bills, contrary to the provisions of Order Eighteen, Rule 3 (g) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, to wit:

"Any matter referred to any Committee shall be treated within 30 days, otherwise the Committee shall stand discharged after 60 days and the matter committed to the Committee of the Whole for consideration."

Resolves to:

Discharge the above-mentioned Committees from the Bills referred to them and commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

2. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery Nteje, Anambra State and for Related Matters (HB.1730) (*Hon. Vincent Ofumelu*) – *Committee of the Whole:* 6/6/2023. **3.** A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Institute for Diving Technology, Anaku Ayamelu Anambra State charged with Responsibility to Provide full-time Courses in Deep Sea (Ocean) diving Studies and for Related Matters (HB.2099) (*Hon. Vincent Ofumelu*) – *Committee of the Whole:* 6/6/2023.

4. Committees on Inter-Parliamentary Relations and Foreign Affairs: Hon. Zakariyau M. Galadima:

"That the House do consider the Report of the Committees on Inter-Parliamentary Relations and Foreign Affairs to appraise the benefit and Contributions of ECOWAS towards the Socio – ECOWAS towards the Socio-Economic Development of Nigerian in the last ten (10) years with a view to determining the justification of the Country's Financial Contributions to the Sub-regional Organisation and approve recommendations therein".

FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

- (i) The Committee affirmed its lack of power to oversight the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) which is an International Organisation established to enhance regional integration of all West Africa Countries. ECOWAS is a supranational entity, governed by relevant enabling treaties, Protocols and Acts. The Organisation is made up of Institutions and Agencies dealing with various sectorial and thematic issues, with Offices located in all the Countries of the region. Therefore, the House should have channelled its motion to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and not to the ECOWAS;
- (*ii*) There is continued stagnation of most ECOWAS staff for many years ranging from 10 to 20 years which is being caused by the outsourcing of jobs to fill vacancies in higher positions at the detriment of the insiders;
- (*iii*) There is Non-promoting of Nationalism (Lack of Patriotism) by Nigeria working as staff of the ECOWAS;
- *(iv)* It was reported that some Nigerian Parliamentarians to ECOWAS were found to be perpetual absentees from the ECOWAS Parliament and even when nominated for oversight to other Member States;
- (v) The ECOWAS does not finance any infrastructural facilities in any Member States but rather proposed such projects and invites development partners to execute these infrastructural projects through Counterpart Funding.

Recommendations

- (*i*) that the Ambassador and other Nigerians working as staff of the ECOWAS have been enjoined to be more patriotic towards serving the interest of Nigeria and Nigerians;
- *(ii)* that the ECOWAS Community should endeavour to look inwards in terms of filling Higher Positions to solve the problem of staff stagnation;
- (iii) that ECOWAS Policy should include Nigeria in terms of infrastructural facility development;
- *(iv)* that there is need for the National Assembly to always nominate the Members of ECOWAS Parliament who are committed to ECOWAS engagements to protect the interest and image of Nigeria in the ECOWAS Community.