



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 18 January, 2023

1. The House met at 11.30 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**  
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 17 January, 2023.

*The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.*

4. **Presentation of Bills**  
The following Bills were read the *First Time*:
  - (1) Federal Produce Inspection Service Bill, 2023 (HB. 2166).
  - (2) African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Domestication and Enforcement) Bill, 2023 (HB.2167).
  - (3) Gum Arabic Research Institute (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.2168).
  - (4) Standards Organization of Nigeria (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.2169).

5. **Presentation of Reports**
  - (i) **Committee on Public Petitions:**  
**Report on the petition by H. N. Olise & Associates:**  
*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by H. N. Olise & Associates against Nigerian Agip Oil Company Ltd over the non-compliance with the terms of settlement contained in the Court Order of the High Court of Asaba, Delta State in Suit No. FHC/ASB/CS/46/2010" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

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

**Report on the petition by Mrs Zainab Jibril:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Mrs Zainab Jibril against the Branch Manager, First City Monument Bank, National Assembly Branch on Illegal, Fraudulent and Unauthorized withdrawal of Forty-One Thousand Two Hundred Naira from her son, Umar Farouq Oshomah Mustapha's Kid's Account No. 5312840019 on November 4, 2021" (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

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

**Report on the petition by Mrs. Salihu Dahiru:**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Mrs. Salihu Dahiru against the United Bank for Africa Plc (UBA) on Fraudulent and Unauthorized withdrawal of Six Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand Naira from her account on 24 January, 2022" (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Report laid.*

**6. A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Nigerian Maritime Zones; and for Related Matters (HB. 1779) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Nigerian Maritime Zones; and for Related Matters (HB. 1779) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Peter Akpatason — Deputy House Leader*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.*

**7. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Directorate of Employment Act, Cap. N28, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to, among other things, empower the Directorate to ensure strict compliance with the Provisions and Principles of Federal Character in Employment and Vacancies in the country; and for Related Matters (HB. 2123) — Second Reading**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Directorate of Employment Act, Cap. N28, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to, among other things, empower the Directorate to ensure strict compliance with the Provisions and Principles of Federal Character in Employment and Vacancies in the country; and for Related Matters (HB. 2123) be read a Second Time" (*Hon. Ganiyu Abiodun Johnson — Oshodi Isolo II Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Labour, Employment and Productivity.*

8. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Institute for Diving Technology, Anaku, Ayamelum, Anambra State charged with Responsibility to Provide full-time Courses in Deep Sea (Ocean) Diving Studies; and for Related Matters (HB. 2099) — Second Reading**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

9. **Re-committal of Bills**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Recalls* that the following Bills were passed by the National Assembly and transmitted to the President for assent;

- (i) Federal Medical Centre Igboora (Establishment) Bill, 2019 (HB. 347); and
- (ii) Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences, Abeokuta, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1484).

*Observes* that some fundamental issues which require fresh legislative action emerged after critical analysis of the Bills, hence, re-committal of the Bills to address the issues;

*Resolves to:*

Rescind its decision on the Bills as passed and commit same to the Committee of the Whole for reconsideration (*Hon. Jaha Ahmadu Usman — Damboa/Gwoza/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

10. **Discharge of Committees on Referrals on Bills, Pursuant to Order Eighteen, Rule 3 (g) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the following Bills were read a Second time separately and referred to Committees for legislative actions:

| <i>S/No.</i> | <i>Title</i>   | <i>Committee</i>                |
|--------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1.           | Federal University of Environment, Nanka (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2020 (HB.1168)      | Tertiary Education and Services |
| 2.           | Federal Medical Centre, Ufuma, Anambra State (Establishment) Bill, 2021 (HB. 1373)       | Health Institutions             |
| 3.           | National Commission for Museums and Monuments Act (Amendment) Bill, 2022 (HB.2133)       | Culture and Tourism             |
| 4.           | Federal College of Education Jengre, Plateau State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (HB. 2106) | Tertiary Education and Services |

*Aware* that the Committees are yet to present report 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 Committees of the Bills and commit same to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Jaha Ahmadu Usman — Damboa/Gwoza/Chibok Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**11. Need to Complete the IVO Dam Project in Ebonyi and Enugu States:**

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**12. Need to Beef up Security Formations in Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that Section 14 (2) (b) of the Constitutions of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) provides that the security and welfare of the people of Nigeria shall be the primary purpose of government;

*Aware* that the National Assembly is empowered to make laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation or any part thereof as enshrined in section 4 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Worried* about the spate of kidnappings, armed robbery attacks and insecurity generally in the country, especially in Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State, thus leading to the loss of lives, and properties and is causing palpable fear and apprehension among residents;

*Informed* that on Monday, 9 January, 2023, Mrs Precious Aigbonog the President of Customary Court was kidnapped on her way to court around Ugoneki Igueben Local Government Area of Edo State;

*Also informed* that a former member of the Edo State House of Assembly, Mr Festus Edughele, was also kidnapped on January 9, 2023 at Ugoneki town on his way to board a flight to Abuja in Benin City;

*Disturbed* that these sad incidents occurred two days after 20 train passengers were kidnapped at the Igueben Train Station while waiting to board a train to Warri, Delta State;

*Appreciates* the concerted effort by the team of Nigeria Army and Nigeria Police Force which led to the rescue of the President of the Igueben Customary Court and Mr Festus Edughele as well as 18 out of the 20 Train Passengers kidnapped;

*Saddened* by the death of DSP Michael Adams during the rescue operation by the Nigerian Army and the Police officers as a result gun duel with the kidnappers;

*Cognizant* of the urgent need to beef up security formations in the entirety of Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State to forestall kidnappings and eradicate other acts of criminality in Esan land and Edo State;

*Convinced* that the setting up of a Police Mobile Force Base and a Nigeria Army Barracks/Forward Operating Base (FOB) within Edo Central Senatorial District will go a long way in wadding off perpetrators of crimes and criminality from Esan land and Edo State in general;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) observe a minute of silence in honour of the deceased police officer, DSP Michael Adams, who paid the supreme sacrifice while in active service;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to deploy more mobile Police personnel to Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State;
- (iii) also urge the Chief of Army Staff and the Inspector-General of Police to set up a Nigeria Army Barracks or a Forward Operating Base (FOB) and a Police Mobile Force Base respectively within Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Army and Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report within four weeks (*Hon. Sergius. Ose Ogun — Esan North East/Esan South East Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that Section 14(2) (b) of the Constitutions of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) provides that the security and welfare of the people of Nigeria shall be the primary purpose of government;

*Aware* that the National Assembly is empowered to make laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation or any part thereof as enshrined in section 4 (2) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

*Worried* about the spate of kidnappings, armed robbery attacks and insecurity generally in the country, especially in Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State, thus leading to the loss of lives, and properties and is causing palpable fear and apprehension among residents;

*Informed* that on Monday 9 January, 2023, Mrs Precious Aigbonog the President of Customary Court was kidnapped on her way to court around Ugoneki Igueben Local Government Area of Edo State;

*Also informed* that a former member of the Edo State House of Assembly, Mr Festus Edughele, was also kidnapped on January 9, 2023 at Ugoneki town on his way to board a flight to Abuja in Benin City;

*Disturbed* that these sad incidents occurred two days after 20 train passengers were kidnapped at the Igueben Train Station while waiting to board a train to Warri, Delta State;

*Appreciated* the concerted effort by the team of Nigeria Army and Nigeria Police Force which led to the rescue of the President of the Igueben Customary Court and Mr Festus Edughele as well as 18 out of the 20 Train Passengers kidnapped;

*Saddened* by the death of DSP Michael Adams during the rescue operation by the Nigerian Army and the Police officers as a result gun duel with the kidnappers;

*Cognizant* of the urgent need to beef up security formations in the entirety of Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State to forestall kidnappings and eradicate other acts of criminality in Esan land and Edo State;

*Convinced* that the setting up of a Police Mobile Force Base and a Nigeria Army Barracks/Forward Operating Base (FOB) within Edo Central Senatorial District will go a long way in wadding off perpetrators of crimes and criminality from Esan land and Edo State in general;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) observe a minute of silence in honour of the deceased police officer, DSP Michael Adams, who paid the supreme sacrifice while in active service;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to
  - (a) deploy more mobile Police personnel to Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State;
  - (b) set up a Police Mobile Force Base within Edo Central Senatorial District;
- (iii) also urge the Chief of Army Staff to set up a Nigeria Army Barracks or a Forward Operating Base (FOB) within Edo Central Senatorial District of Edo State;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Army and Police Affairs to ensure compliance and report within four weeks (HR. 04/01/2023).

*A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.*

### **13. Need to Construct a Pedestrian Bridge on the Benin-Ore-Lagos Road by Okada Junction**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that the Benin-Ore-Lagos express road is one of the busiest highways in Nigeria with the high volume of vehicles connecting the southwest to the southeast, north and south-south zones of the Country, the road host several communities and towns among the towns is Okada;

*Also notes* that the road connecting Okada town, Iguobazuwa communities and Benin City on the expressway is a popular Okada Junction, a hub for commercial buses and traders running through over 15 minutes of pedestrian and commercial activities;

*Aware* that the lives of Nigerians who go about their daily activities on the Okada junction are endangered by the absence of a pedestrian flyover, thus resulting in the loss of lives;

*Also aware* that residents have continually made a public outcry to the government to construct a pedestrian bridge at Okada junction to avert accidents and loss of lives;

*Worried* that apart from the dangers to which human lives are exposed, another challenge is that the non-availability of pedestrian bridges discourages residents from hustling for their daily economic activities;

*Also worried* that school children, traders and workers have been crushed to death and injured in their attempt to cross the express road;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to immediately embark on the construction of a Pedestrian bridge across the expressway of Okada junction on the Benin-Ore-Lagos Road, Edo State to save the lives of Nigerians who are forced to run across the highway to go about their various daily activities;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Dennis Idahosa — Ovia North East/Ovia South West Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:*

“Urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to look into constructing similar pedestrian bridges along the Benin-Ore-Lagos expressway corridor with similar challenges” (*Hon. Ganiyu Abiodun Johnson — Oshodi Isolo II Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that the Benin-Ore-Lagos express road is one of the busiest highways in Nigeria with the high volume of vehicles connecting the southwest to the southeast, north and south-south zones of the Country, the road host several communities and towns among the towns is Okada;

*Also noted* that the road connecting Okada town, Iguobazuwa communities and Benin City on the expressway is a popular Okada Junction, a hub for commercial buses and traders running through over 15 minutes of pedestrian and commercial activities;

*Aware* that the lives of Nigerians who go about their daily activities on the Okada junction are endangered by the absence of a pedestrian flyover, thus resulting in the loss of lives;

*Also aware* that residents have continually made a public outcry to the government to construct a pedestrian bridge at Okada junction to avert accidents and loss of lives;

*Worried* that apart from the dangers to which human lives are exposed, another challenge is that the non-availability of pedestrian bridges discourages residents from hustling for their daily economic activities;

*Also worried* that school children, traders and workers have been crushed to death and injured in their attempt to cross the express road;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to:
  - (a) immediately embark on the construction of a Pedestrian bridge across the expressway of Okada junction on the Benin-Ore-Lagos Road, Edo State to save the lives of Nigerians who are forced to run across the highway to go about their various daily activities;

- (b) consider constructing similar pedestrian bridges along the Benin-Ore-Lagos expressway corridor with similar challenges;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (HR.05/01/2023).

#### 14. Consideration of Reports

- (i) ***A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of History and Archaeology, Esie, Kwara State; and for Related Matters (HB. 2159) (Committee of the Whole):***

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of History and Archaeology, Esie, Kwara State; and for Related Matters (HB. 2159)" (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).*

*Agreed to.*

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

#### (HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

*(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF  
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY, ESIE,  
KWARA STATE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 2159)

*Consideration deferred for further legislative action*

*Chairman to report progress.*

#### (HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of History and Archaeology, Esie, Kwara State; and for Related Matters (HB. 2159).

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

- (ii) ***A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Projects Development Agency (PRODA) Enugu to conduct Scientific, Engineering and Technological Research aimed at facilitating the Domestication and industrialization of Appropriate Technology for Socio-Economic Advancement of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2036) (Committee of the Whole):***  
*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Projects Development Agency (PRODA) Enugu to conduct Scientific, Engineering and Technological Research aimed at facilitating the Domestication and industrialization of Appropriate Technology for Socio-Economic Advancement of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2036)" (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).*

*Agreed to.*

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



**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)***(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECTS  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PRODA), ENUGU TO CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC,  
ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AIMED AT FACILITATING  
THE DOMESTICATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION OF APPROPRIATE  
TECHNOLOGY FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT OF  
NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 2036)

BE IT ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows:

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROJECTS  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PRODA), ENUGU

**Clause 1: Establishment of the Projects Development Agency**

- (1) There is established the Projects Development Agency (PRODA), Enugu (in this Bill referred to as "the Agency").
- (2) The Agency:
  - (a) is a corporate body with perpetual succession and a common seal;
  - (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name; and
  - (c) may, for the performance of its functions:
    - (i) acquire and hold movable or immovable property; and
    - (ii) enter into a contract or any other transaction performing its functions under the Bill (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 1 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 2: Establishment of the Board of the Agency**

There is establishment for the Agency a Governing Board (in the Act referred to as "the Board") which shall formulate and supervise the functions of the Agency (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 3: Membership of the Board**

- (1) The Board shall consist of:
  - (a) the Chairman appointed by the President who shall be a person of proven knowledge and experience in matters relating to global industrial research and development; and
  - (b) the representative of:
    - (i) Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation;
    - (ii) the representative of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN);
    - (iii) the representative of the Nigerian Association of Small Scale Industrialists (NASSI);

- (iv) the representative of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE);
  - (v) the representative of Nigerian Academy of Science; and
  - (vi) the representative of the Academic Staff Union of Research Institute.
- (2) The Director-General shall:
- (a) serve as a member and secretary of the Board; and
  - (b) be the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency.
- (3) The Chairman and members of the Board, other than the Director-General shall serve on part-time basis.
- (4) The supplementary provision set out in the Third Schedule to the Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and other matters contained in the Schedule (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 4: Tenure of office of members of the Board**

- (1) A member of the Board other than the Director-General shall hold office for three (3) years but renewable for the second tenure and final term based on performance, subject to any other provision of this Act, on such terms and conditions specified in his letter of appointment or as may be determined by the President.
- (2) A member of the Board is not entitled to appoint a proxy at any meeting.
- (3) The office of a member absent from meeting for a continuous period of 12 months shall be declared vacant at the end of that period (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

PART II — POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

**Clause 5: Functions of the Board**

The Board shall:

- (a) be to formulate policies and guidelines for effective and efficient delivery of functions or mandates of the Agency; and
- (b) to advise the Federal Government on matters of capacity building, research and development and technological advancement (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 6: Powers of the Board**

The Board shall have powers to:

- (a) provide the general policy guidelines relating to the functions of the Agency in accordance with government regulations;

- (b) review and streamline the plan of the Agency in all the areas of its functions or mandates in accordance with government regulation;
- (c) supervise, monitor and ensure the implementation of policies and programmes of the Agency (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 7: Resignation from Office**

A member of the Board may, at any time by a notice in writing addressed to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, resign from office (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 7 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 8: Filling of Vacancies**

Where the office of a member becomes vacant as a result of death or resignation, the President shall, on the recommendation of Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, appoint another person to replace the member (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 8 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 9: Remuneration of Members of the Board**

- (1) The allowances payable to members of the Board shall be in accordance with such rates as may be approved by the Federal Government.
- (2) The Director-General shall be paid such emolument as may be specified in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 9 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 10: Cessation of Office of Members of the Board.**

A member of the Board ceases to hold office as a member of the Board if:

- (a) he resigns his appointment as a member of the Board;
- (b) he becomes of unsound mind;
- (c) he becomes incapable of performing functions of his office either arising from an infirmity of mind or body;
- (d) the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Agency or in the interest of the public for the person to continue in that office;
- (e) he is convicted of a felony by a court of law or Code of Conduct Tribunal;
- (f) in the case of a person who becomes a member by virtue of the office he occupied, he ceases to be a member on the expiration of his term in the office; or
- (g) he died (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 11: Mandates of the Agency**

The mandate of the Agency are to:

- (a) conduct research in engineering machinery and equipment, industrial materials and processes to pilot plant stages, including engineering design, development and fabrication, and in particular to conduct research into materials science and technology including metallurgy, foundry work, plastics and synthetic fibres;
- (b) processing of ceramic materials and other solid based minerals for industrial use, including development of ceramics, glass and mineral technologies;
- (c) processing of agro produce into various bye-products through development of appropriate technology and machinery requirements;
- (d) carry out mechanical engineering including engineering design, fabrication, machining and other processes;
- (e) carry out coal conversion and utilization;
- (f) carry out chemical plant development;
- (g) carry out electrical and electronic elements particularly electrical generators, motors, transformers, switchgear, batteries and other equipment;
- (h) undertake economic evaluation of research results to establish their viability in micro, small, medium and large enterprises development;
- (i) carry out training in specialized technical areas and award proficiency certificates;
- (j) establish a specially advanced technology center with a post-graduate degree awarding curriculum in science and technology in collaboration with an accredited University;
- (k) carry out technical, analytical and consultancy services for existing and planned industries; and
- (l) handle any other related matter as may be determined by the Minister or President (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 12: Functions of the Agency**

(1) The Agency shall:

- (a) review and supervise research and development projects in engineering aimed at facilitating the Nation's drive towards technological development, design and fabrication of processing machinery and equipment needed by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to process local raw materials in producing consumer goods which will lead to self-reliance;
- (b) liaise with relevant establishment within and outside Nigeria in pursuance of the functions of the Agency;

- (c) establish and operate world class science, engineering laboratories, workshops and library as centers of excellence for precision research;
  - (d) establish demonstration factories and Spin-off companies to ensure rapid commercialization of its Research and Development (Rand D) output and providing necessary avenues for training and retraining of skilled labour and manpower (including students of tertiary institutions on industrial attachment);
  - (e) establish skill acquisition platforms through the outreach centers;
  - (f) encourage and promote the commercialization of R and D innovation results;
  - (g) establish and operate liaison office and outreach centers for effective delivery and deployment of its services in Nigeria;
  - (h) provide technical, analytical consultancy services to local manufacturing sector for revenue generation and for quality control;
  - (i) liaise with industries and tertiary institution to develop products, curricula or modules for appropriate technology transfer programs for effective commercialization; and
  - (j) achieve a high research and development output and revenue, and make the desired impact on national socio-economic development.
- (2) The Agency shall:
- (a) be a corporate member of national and international engineering or scientific bodies and affiliations;
  - (b) publicize the results of its research activities;
  - (c) develop facilities and capabilities for the following activities:
    - (i) research and development;
    - (ii) collaboration with educational institutions and other relevant government agencies, organizations, councils and commercial industries in research, development and capacity building;
  - (d) provide such other services as the Agency may deem necessary for the purposes mentioned in paragraph <sup>©</sup>;
  - (e) invest surplus funds of the Agency in profit-yielding ventures in accordance with extant regulations; and
  - (f) carry out such other activities as are necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 13: Structure of the Agency**

(1) The Agency:

(a) shall operate:

- (i) a head office in Enugu, Enugu State;
- (ii) Liaison Office at the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja;
- (iii) outreach centers in the six geopolitical zones of the Federation; and

(b) is structured into the following eight Departments and Service Units:

Departments:

- (i) Engineering Research, Development and Production ERDP Department;
- (ii) Electrical Power and Electronic Development (EPED) Department;
- (iii) Applied Sciences and Energy Technology Development (ASET) Department;
- (iv) Ceramic Production (CPD) Department;
- (v) Industrial Promotion, Information and Documentation (IPID) Department;
- (vi) Human Resources (HR) Department;
- (vii) Finance and Account Department;
- (viii) Metallurgy and Materials Development (MMD) Department;
- (ix) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Department;
- (x) Procurement Department;
- (xi) Internal Audit Department;
- (xii) Applied Science and Energy Technology Development (ASET) Department.

Service units:

- (i) Legal Unit;
- (ii) Works Unit;
- (iii) Servicom Unit;
- (iv) Anti-Corruption Transparency Unit (ACTU);

- (v) Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Unit (IPTTU);
  - (vi) Private Public Partnership Unit;
  - (vii) Security Unit;
  - (viii) Maintenance Unit;
  - (ix) Any other unit that may as have approved by the Federal Government and/or PRODA Management.
- (2) Head of a Research Directorate shall be designated as Head of Department who shall be of the Rank of Director and shall hold office for two years in the first instance, renewable for another two years and no more.
- (3) In the absence of the Director, the most senior research officer not below the rank of Chief Research Officer, shall be appointed in acting capacity.
- (4) A Department shall consist of maximum of five Divisions and each Division shall be headed by an officer of the rank of Deputy Director.
- (5) Each Division shall consist of relevant numbers of sections with each section headed by an officer of the rank of Chief Research Officer, Chief Engineer or Chief Scientific Officer as the case may be.
- (6) Each section shall also consist of relevant number of Units for effective and efficient functioning (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 14: Establishment of Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee**

- (1) The Agency may establish Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Advisory Committee") in the areas of research to assist the Agency in various aspects of its responsibilities.
- (2) The members of the Advisory Committee shall be persons with requisite expertise and experience in the relevant areas of research and mandate of the Agency.
- (3) Subject to section 13 (c) of the Bill, Research Directors are automatic members of the Committee.
- (4) The Advisory Committee shall have membership to a maximum of seven.
- (5) The Director-General shall appoint other members of the committee (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 14 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 15: Establishment of Demonstration Factories, Spin-off Companies and Industrial Parks**

- (1) The Agency may with the approval of the Minister and Board, establish Demonstration Factories, Spin-off companies and Industrial Parks which shall be located in six geo-political zones in Nigeria as may be selected by the Agency, based on raw materials availability and other factors of

production of comparative advantage in such zones.

- (2) Demonstration factories are pilot plant arising from research and characterized by innovation to attract entrepreneurial interest for industrial growth.
- (3) Spin-off companies which are incidental outcomes of research will expand the scope of local raw material utilization leading to industrial growth and a conglomeration of all of the above would give rise to Industrial park.
- (4) The demonstration factories, spin-off companies and industrial parks shall be fully equipped to carry out its production and business activities.
- (5) A suitable association and collaboration of the Demonstration factories, spin off companies and industrial parks with universities, other institutions of higher learning and commercial industries should be encouraged (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 15 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 16: Establishment of liaison office in the FCT**

The Agency with the approval of the Honourable Minister Science, Technology and Innovation and the Board may establish a liaison office at the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to facilitate contacts with other government agencies (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 16 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 17: Establishment of outreach centers in the six geopolitical zones of the Federation and FCT**

The Agency may, with the approval of the Minister and Board, establish outreach centers in the six geopolitical zones of the Federation for effective and efficient delivery of its mandate (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 17 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 18: Establishment of PRODA Consult**

The Agency may, with the approval of relevant authorities, establish and operate PRODA Consult which shall be a semi-autonomous body to commercialize inventions and innovations (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 18 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**PART IV — APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
AND STAFF OF THE AGENCY**

**Clause 19: Appointment of Director-General/Chief Executive Officer**

- (1) The President shall appoint the Director-General recommendation of the Board subject to the approval of the supervising Minister.
- (2) The Director-General shall:
  - (a) be responsible for the execution of the policy and the administration of the affairs of the Agency;
  - (b) be the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency; and



- (c) have a cognate experience and skills of at least 15 years post qualification as a professional; and
  - (d) satisfy other criteria as contained in the Condition of Service for research agencies.
- (3) The Director-General shall hold office for a single non-renewable tenure of five (5) years and thereafter he shall become a Research Director.
- (4) In the absence of the Director-General, the most senior Research Director shall be appointed in acting capacity.
- (5) The Director-General as well as Secretary to the Board shall:
- (a) prepare the minutes of meetings of the Board and its Committees;
  - (b) keep and secure the corporate record of the Board;
  - (c) issue notices of meetings of the Board as may be directed by the Board Chairman;
  - (d) be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the Board in accordance with extant government regulations;
  - (e) prepare draft expenditure, estimates and development plans for the Board and Agency;
  - (f) have custody of the seal of the Agency; and
  - (g) perform such other functions as may be determined by the Board (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 19 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 20: Appointment of principal officers of the Agency**

- (1) The Agency shall have the following principal officers:
- (a) head of Departments and Directors; and
  - (b) Deputy Directors.
- (2) The Director or Head of Department shall assist the Director-General in the management of the Agency.
- (3) A Director or Head of Department:
- (a) head the Directorate of the Agency which he coordinates;
  - (b) shall implement the policies of the Agency as they apply to the directorate which he coordinates;
  - (c) shall prepare draft expenditure estimate and development plans of his directorates;
  - (d) may serve on Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee of the Agency; and

- (e) shall perform such other functions as may be determined by the Director-General (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 20 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 21: Appointment of other Members of Staff of the Agency**

- (1) The Board may appoint such other persons as members of staff of the Agency upon recommendation by the Director-General as may be deemed necessary, subject to the extant rules and conditions of service for research agencies.
- (2) The members of staff of the Agency shall be public officers as defined in the Constitution (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 21 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 22: Remuneration of employees of the Agency**

The salaries and benefits of all the members of staff of the Agency shall be in accordance with the approved Salary Structures for Research Agencies in Nigeria (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 22 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 23: Staff Regulations, etc.**

The staff regulation will be in accordance with approved conditions or scheme of service for research agencies (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 23 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 24: Service in the Agency or Application of the Pension Reforms Act.**

- (1) Service in the employment of the Agency shall be an approved service under the Pensions Reform Act and, officers and employees of the Agency shall in respect of their services be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed under the Pension Reform Act.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), nothing in the Act prevents the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension and gratuity in respect of that office.
- (3) For the purposes of the application of the Pensions Reform Act, any power exercisable by the Minister or authority other than the Federal Government (not being the power to make regulations under section 22, is vested in and shall be exercisable by the Agency and not by any other person or authority.
- (4) Subject to subsection (2), the Pensions Reform Act shall in its application by virtue of subsection (3) to any office, have effect as of the office where in the public service of the Federation within the meaning of the Constitution (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 24 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

PART V — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

**Clause 25: Funds of the Agency**

- (1) The Agency shall establish and maintain a fund (in this Bill referred to as "the Fund") which shall be applied towards the promotion of the objectives specified in this Bill.

- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund:
  - (a) fees charged for services rendered by the Agency;
  - (b) contributions from the organized private sector;
  - (c) all sums accruing to the Agency by ways of gifts, testamentary disposition and endowments or contributions from philanthropic persons; and
  - (d) such money as may be appropriated to it by the National Assembly, foreign aid and assistance from bilateral and multilateral Agencies; and
  - (e) commercialization of research and development products by the Agency.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (2), every application for registration of the Agency's Journal shall attract a fee which shall be credited and maintained in separate account by the Agency and part of this fund shall be used for the publication of the Agency's Journal.
- (4) The funds referred to in subsection (2) shall be as determined by the Management of the Agency (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 25 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 26: Expenditure of the Agency (Fund Administration)**

The Agency shall from time to time apply the proceeds of the funds under section 24 of the Bill to:

- (a) the cost of establishing and maintaining the head office as well as the outstations of the Agency;
- (b) pay the remuneration of members of the Board in accordance with extant rules;
- (c) sponsor local and international conferences, seminars, workshops for members of staff of the Agency;
- (d) provision of scholarship award for specialized training of personnel;
- (e) publicize and promote the activities of the Agency;
- (f) support national and international scientific bodies and pay annual and other contributions to International scientific organization in which Nigeria subscribes;
- (g) undertake any other activity in connection with all or any of the functions of the Agency;
- (h) act for and in connection with all or any of its functions under the Bill; and
- (i) organize local and international conferences, seminars and workshops (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 26 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 27: Expenditure of the Agency (Fund Administration)**

- (1) All incomes derived by the Agency from the sources specified in section 25 (2) of the Act shall be exempted from income tax.
- (2) All other contributions to the Fund of the Agency shall be tax deductible (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 27 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 28: Exemption from Income Tax**

- (1) Subject to the approval of the Minister and Board, the Agency may invest in the profitable productions of capital goods by joint venture, partnership, share-holding or as sole proprietor as the case may be.
- (2) The net income so generated shall be paid into the Fund of the Agency (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 28 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 29: Disposal of Surplus Funds**

The Agency may, subject to the supervisory Ministry or in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Finance, invest any surplus fund in profit-yielding ventures (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 29 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 30: Annual Estimates.**

The Agency shall submit to the Board, not later than 31st October in each year, its programme of work and estimates of its income and expenditure for the following year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 30 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 31: Accounts and Audit.**

- (1) The Agency shall keep proper accounts and records and shall prepare in respect of each year a statement of accounts in such forms as may be directed by the Auditor-General for the Federation.
- (2) The accounts of the Agency shall be audited, not later than six months after the end of the year to which it relates by auditors appointed by the Agency from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 31 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 32: Annual Report**

- (1) The Agency shall, as soon as possible after the expiration of each financial year but within six months after the end of the year prepare and submit to the supervisory Ministry through the Board, an annual report covering the activities and the operations of the Agency.
- (2) The annual report submitted under subsection (1) shall include the report of the Auditor.

- (3) The Agency shall, not later than 30th September in each year, submit to the Board the Annual Report of each of its outstations for the preceding year.
- (4) The Board shall also submit to the supervisory ministry other reports in writing requested by the supervisory Ministry year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 33: Financial Year**

The financial year of the Agency shall be the same as that of the Government year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

PART VI — LEGAL ACTIONS AGAINST THE AGENCY

**Clause 34: Limitation of Suit against the Agency**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provision of the Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit against any officer or employee of the Agency.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment or law, no suit shall lie or be in any court against any member of the Agency, the Director-General or Chief Executive Officer, or any other officer or employee of the Agency for any act done under or in execution of the Bill or any enactment or law, duty or authority unless:
  - (a) it is commenced within three months after the act, neglect or default complained of and there must be a three months pre-trial notice to that effect;
  - (b) in the case of continuation of damage or injury, within six months next after the cessation thereof year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 34 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 35: Service of court processes**

- (1) Any notice given by the Agency under or for the purpose of this Bill shall be sufficiently given if it is in writing, under the seal of the Agency or is signed by the Director-General, or by one or more of the principal officers of the agency, or by any person purporting to act by direction of the Agency, and is served in accordance with section 34 of the Bill on the person or persons primarily concerned or on any person or organization deemed by the Agency to represent the person or persons primarily concerned with it.
- (2) All documents purporting to be signed by or on behalf of the Agency or to be sealed with the seal of the Agency shall, in all courts and in all proceeding under the Act, be deemed to have been so signed or sealed with due authority, unless the contrary is established year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 35 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 36: Service of Notice(s).**

- (1) Any notice or other document required or authorized to be served on or given to any person for the purpose of this Bill may be served or given by delivering it to that person or by leaving it at his usual or last known place of residence or business or at the address specified by him in any notice, application, or other document made, given or tendered to the Agency under the Bill, or by posting it by registered mail to him at that place of residence or business or at that address.
- (2) If any notice or other document is sent to any person by registered mail, then, unless the contrary is shown, it is deemed to have been delivered to him when it would have been delivered in the ordinary course of posting a mail unless the contrary is established and in proving the delivery, it shall be sufficient to prove that there is return post office slip showing actual delivery.
- (3) Where for any purpose under this Bill, a notice or document is required to be served on a firm or company, the notice or document may be served on the secretary, executive officer, manager, or other officer holding a similar position in the association or body and shall, unless otherwise directed by the Agency, be deemed to be service on all person who are members of the Association or body or who are represented in the association or body by those members.
- (4) Any service of notice or process on the Agency shall be by proven registered post or by personal service on any principal officer of the Agency year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 36 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 37: Power to Accept Gifts**

- (1) The Agency may accept gifts of land, money or other property, whether within or outside Nigeria upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organization making the gift, provided that the terms and conditions are not contrary to the objectives and functions of the Agency.
- (2) The Agency shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organization making the gift are inconsistent with the objectives and functions of the Agency year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 37 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 38: Utilisation of Gifts.**

- (1) A gift intended by a person for the Agency, or project of the Agency shall be made directly to the Agency which shall utilize the gift for its objectives under the Bill.
- (2) In deciding to what use to put a gift, the Agency shall consider the expressed wishes of the donor of the gift as are not inconsistent with the objectives of the Agency and in the case of an inconsistency arising between the expressed wishes of the donor of a gift and the objectives of the Agency, the gift may be utilized by the Agency in furtherance of any of the objectives of the Agency year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 38 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 39: Power to Give Directives**

The Board may give to the Agency directives of a general character relating to the policies and functions of the Agency, and the Agency shall comply with such directives in accordance with government extant rules year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 39 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 40: Investment**

The Agency may, subject to the provisions of this Act, with approval from the Supervisory Ministry and in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Finance and conditions of any trust created in respect of any properties invest all or any of its funds in any security prescribed by the Investment and Securities Act or in such other securities as may from time to time, be approved by the Agency year (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 40 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 41: Exemption from Tax Accruing from Investment**

- (1) The Agency shall be exempted from the payment of income tax in any income accruing from investment made by the Agency.
- (2) The provision of any enactment relating to the taxation of companies or trust funds shall not apply to the Agency (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 41 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 42: Joint Venture Targets for Technology Acquisition**

The Agency shall impose conditions and set targets for the formation of joint ventures or partnership between multinational services, research agencies, institution or service companies in all sectors of the economy and certified indigenous services companies for the purpose of technological training and acquisition (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 42 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 43: Targets for in-country Research and Development Projects**

The Agency shall make regulation with target to ensure full utilization and steady growth of in-country capacity of indigenous research and development in science, engineering technology and agro-allied materials and other facilities in national economy (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 43 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 44: Research and Development**

The Agency shall make regulations with requirements and targets for the growth of research and development in the areas as prescribed by the mandate but not limited thereof as may be reviewed by the Agency, in particular Nigerian industry (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 44 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 45: Interpretation**

In this Bill:

"Agency" means Projects Development Agency (PRODA) (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Agency" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Board" means the governing body of the Agency (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Board" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Board of the Agency (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Chairman" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Fund" means the fund of the Agency as established under the section 25 of the Bill (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Fund" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"member" means a member of the Board and this includes the Chairman (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "member" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Minister" means Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Minister" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"President" means President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "President" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"principal officer" means the Directors and other officers as specified in Section 20 of this Bill (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "principal officer" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Public Service" has the meaning assigned to it in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).

*Question that the meaning of the word "Public Service" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

"Secretary" means the Director-General or Chief Executive Officer of the Agency who is the Secretary to the Board (Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader).



*Question that the meaning of the word "Secretary" be as defined in the interpretation in this Bill — Agreed to.*

*Question that Clause 45 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Clause 46: Citation**

This Bill may be cited as the Projects Development Agency (PRODA) Enugu (Establishment) Act, 2022 (*Hon. Athassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that Clause 46 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

## SCHEDULE

### SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

#### *Proceedings of the Board*

1. (1) Subject to the Bill and Section 44 of the Interpretation Bill, the Board may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or those of any of its committees.
- (2) The quorum of the Board shall be the Chairman or person presiding the meeting and four other members of the Board and the quorum of any committee of the Board shall be as determined by the Board.
- (3) The Board shall meet in full sessions not more than four times in each year precluding emergency meetings thereto.
- (4) The Chairman shall summon all meetings by a notice given to him by not less than three other members and he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within 28 days from the date on which the notice is given.
- (5) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall preside but if he is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of them to preside at the meeting.
- (6) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Board may co-opt such person for such period as it deems fit, but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this subparagraph is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards a quorum.

#### *Committee*

2. (1) The Board may set up one or more committees to perform, on behalf of the Board, such functions as the Board may determine.
- (2) A committee set up under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Board and the person shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (3) A decision of a committee is of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.
- (4) The validity of any proceeding of the Board or of a committee is not affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Board or of a committee.
- (5) Any member of the Board or any person, holding office on a committee of the Board, who has personal interest in any contract or arrangement shall disclose his

interest to the Board and shall not influence on any matter relating to the contract or arrangement.

*Miscellaneous*

3. (1) The fixing of the seal of the Board shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director-General or any person generally or specifically authorized by the Board to act for that purpose.
- (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed 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 Board by the Director-General or any person generally or specifically authorized by the Board to act for that purpose.
- (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Board shall be received in evidence and is, unless the contrary is proved, shall be presumed to be so executed.
- (4) The validity of any proceeding of the Board or a committee shall not be affected by:
  - (a) a vacancy in the membership of the Board or committee;
  - (b) a defect in the appointment of a member of the Board or committee; or
  - (c) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings of the Board or committee (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Question that the Schedule stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.*

**Explanatory Memorandum:**

This Bill seeks among other things to put in place a legal framework for the continuous growth and existence of Projects Development Agency (PRODA), Enugu (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

**Long Title:**

A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Projects Development Agency (PRODA), Enugu to conduct Scientific, Engineering and Technological Research aimed at facilitating the Domestication and industrialization of Appropriate Technology for Socio-Economic Advancement of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2036) (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Garba — House Leader*).

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report Bill.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Projects Development Agency (PRODA) Enugu to conduct Scientific, Engineering and Technological Research aimed at facilitating the Domestication and industrialization of Appropriate Technology for Socio-Economic Advancement of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 2036) and approved Clauses 1 - 46, the Schedule, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

**(iii) Committee on Public Petitions:****Report on the petition by Abbas M. Sani:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Abbas M. Sani against the Management of the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA): and an Appeal for Justice" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

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

**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)**

*(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)*

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out all the Recommendations and insert as follows:*

*"Urge the Director-General, National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) to reinstate the petitioner, Abbas M. Sani, pay all his arrears of salaries and properly place him" (Hon. Bulus Solomon Maren — Bukkos/Mangu Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report proceedings.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Abbas M. Sani against the Management of the National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA): and an Appeal for Justice and approved Recommendations of the Report as amended.

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

**(iv) Committee on Public Petitions:****Report on the petition by Concerned Pensioners, Delta Steel Company Ltd:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Concerned Pensioners, Delta Steel Company Ltd against Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate (PTAD) an increase in Pension rates of 150% with effect from 1st January 1999 and 30% effective from January 2000" (Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

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

**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)**

*(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)*

**Recommendation (i):**

Urge the Chairman of the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission to adopt the salary

structure used for computation of pension of Steel Rolling Mills in the re-computation of pension arrears of the Concerned 1, 370 pensioners of Delta Steel Company Ltd. (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (ii):**

Also urge the Executive Secretary, PTAD to implement the recommended salary structure for the payment of pension arrears of the 1,370 concerned pensioners (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (iii):**

Again urge the Executive Secretary, PTAD to restore the 150% and 30% increase in pension rates unlawfully removed from the pension entitlements of the 1,370 concerned pensioners without further delay (*Hon. Jerry Alagbaoso — Orlu/Orsu/Oru East Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report proceedings.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Concerned Pensioners, Delta Steel Company Ltd against Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate (PTAD) an increase in Pension rates of 150% with effect from 1st January 1999 and 30% effective from January 2000 and approved Recommendations (i) - (iii) of the Report.

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

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

**Report on the petition by Aggrieved Drivers of Addax Petroleum:**

*Motion made and Question proposed,* "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the petition by Aggrieved Drivers of Addax Petroleum against the Management of Addax Petroleum Development Nigeria Limited for slavery, inhuman treatment and unlawful termination of employment.

*Order read; deferred by leave of the House.*

**15. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 19 January, 2023 at 11.00 a.m (Hon. Peter Akpatason — Deputy House Leader).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 1.10 p.m.*

**Femi Hakeem Gbajabiamila**  
*Speaker*