



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Tuesday 4 July 2023

1. Prayers
 2. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
 3. Oaths
 4. Announcements (if any)
 7. Petitions (if any)
 8. Matter(s) of Urgent Public Importance
 9. Personal Explanation
-

ORDERS OF THE DAY MOTIONS

1. **Need to Recharge and Restore Lake Chad:
Hon Ahmed Mohammed Munir.**

The House

Notes that the Lake Chad, in correlation with the largest endorheic basin in Africa, has been rapidly shrinking over time due to climate change and unsustainable water management practices;

Concerned that the shrinking of the lake has led to severe consequences on economic opportunities causing displacement of millions of people who are now living in poverty and facing the threat of heightened security risks and extremism with both national and international ramifications;

Aware that the World Bank in 2006 highlighted feasibility studies showing that Inter-Basin Water Transfer as the means to recharge and restore the lake has minimal environmental impact as per an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report;

Cognizant that restoring the Lake will not only help revive fishing and other aquatic resources industries but also open up new opportunities for enhanced national security, food security, agriculture, tourism, improve urban water supply, restore moribund irrigation schemes and other economic activities improving the livelihoods of millions in the region and beyond;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to kick-start a high-level diplomatic engagement for regional cooperation amongst the five member countries that constitute the Lake Chad Basin Commission

including Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon and the Central African Republic that will serve as the bedrock for further international cooperation;

- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to allocate significant resources in the 2024 budget estimates of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources for an up-to-date feasibility study to increase the volume of water in the lake by diverting water from the Oubangui River which is a tributary of the Congo River in the DRC, and transporting it to the Chari River in the Republic of Chad which deposits into Lake Chad;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Government to work closely with International Organisations to leverage their technical expertise and mobilise resources from a variety of sources that include international development banks and bilateral aid agencies such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, United Nation Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) as well as explore innovative financing mechanisms such as green bonds and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to ensure successful completion of the project;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Water Resources, Appropriations, Foreign Affairs, Environment, Climate Change, North East Development Commission, Lake Chad, Aids, Loan and Debt Management, Cooperation and Integration in Africa and Legislative Compliance (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

2. Call on the Federal Government to Construct Lafia-Doma-Ruttu-Bassa-Rafin Gabas-Nasarawa-Orozo Road:

Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi
Hon. Abubakar Sarki Dahiru

Hon. Abubakar Hassan Nalaraba
Hon. Ari Abdulmumin Mohammed:

The House:

Notes that the Lafia–Doma–Ruttu–Bassa–Rafin Gabas–Nasarawa–Orozo road which is approximately 146.1km long was first coded and gazette in 1974 as part of the Nigerian road network. Since then, successive administrations have made efforts to construct the road with file No: DDH/R/DC/2010/Vol.I/16 and Route 301(F124), but unfortunately, these efforts have not yielded the desired results;

Also notes that the road section, which is, takes off from Lafia–Makurdi road within Lafia Township, the capital of Nasarawa State, traverses through several towns and communities in Doma, Kokona, and Nasarawa Local Government Areas of the State. It also traverses Orozo and several other settlements in the Karshi Area Council of the FCT providing access to these communities that rely on it for the transportation of goods and services;

Further notes that the importance of the road cannot be overemphasized as it serves as a major link between Nasarawa State and other parts of the country and one key Socio–economic benefits of the road is the shorter, easier and less risk–prone access to the FCT for all commuters coming through Benue State from the South East and or South South Geographical Zones of the Country. The proverbial daily Traffic Grid Lock experienced from Masaka and Mararaba (Nasarawa State) to Nyanya and A–Y–A (FCT) would become history;

Aware that the construction of the proposed new road would provide direct access to and from Abuja Airport through Apo bypassing the present congested route;

Also aware that the new access route will serve as an economic boost for commuters and aid the transportation of agricultural produce from the North Central, Southeast and South-South regions to the FCT and beyond. The construction of this new road network will serve as a catalyst for economic growth, reduce negative environmental impacts, and improve the overall standard of living of the host communities and the state in general;

Acknowledged that the road is not only crucial to the economic development of the State, it also ensures the safety and security of the people who depend on it, due to its proximity to the nation’s Capital;

Concerned that further neglect by the government of such an important and strategic project will not only continue to cause significant hardships to the people of Nasarawa State but negatively affected economic activities as the current access route to the FCT leads to massive loss of man hours due long traffic delays, high transportation costs and loss of valuable goods in transit.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to Construct Lafia-Doma-Ruttu-Bassa-Rafin Gabas-Nasarawa-Orozo road.
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to include the construction of the road in the 2024 budget estimates and prioritize funding for the project since study and engineering design reports on the road are available;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Government to award the road contract to a credible company and ensure its timely completion to alleviate the suffering of the people of Nasarawa State and foster economic development in the region and other parts of the Country;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Works and Appropriations (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

3. Need to Address the Disagreement on Police Recruitment Process between the Police Force Headquarters and the Police Service Commission:

Hon. Mohammed Bello El- Rufai:

The House:

Notes the ongoing power tussle between the Police Force Headquarters and the Police Service Commission on the police recruitment process;

Worried that this power tussle is being played out in the public square with both sides airing out their grievances in the public media;

Aware that both organizations brought out conflicting recruitment portals of which both sides debunked each other's recruitment drive as invalid;

Also aware that the Police Service Commission (PSC) workers in January 2022 shut down the PSC headquarters in Abuja in protest of the lingering disagreement;

Concerned that the actions of the two organizations apart from causing undue embarrassment to the country also have the ability to distract our brave active duty police officers from their primary function of maintaining law and order in addition to lowering their morale;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Leadership of the House to invite the Inspector General of Police and the Chairman Police Service Commission to engage them for information gathering and to halt the bickering;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs (when constituted) to review the Police Act and the Police Service Commission Establishment Act to amend archaic and overlapping mandates;
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

4. Need to Harness the Potentials in the Maritime Sector for Economic Growth and Revive the Abandoned Oseakwa Seaport at Ihiala Local Government Area in Anambra State:

Hon. Paschal Agbodike:

The House:

Notes that Nigeria's GDP growth is mainly dependent on the contributions of the oil and gas sector, hence there is a critical need for diversification of the country's revenue base;

Also notes that the Maritime Industry provides the government with the right platform to diversify the economy, and if properly harnessed, it has great potential to generate huge revenue from both Local and

International transportation of persons and goods by water as approximately 80 per cent of the shipping business done on the coast of West Africa is done in Nigeria;

Further notes that at an event organised by the Joint Body of Nigerian Seafarer's Professional Group to commemorate the 2023 World Seafarers Day, Seafarers stated that the Nigerian maritime industry has the potential to generate \$100bn annually if properly harnessed;

Aware that Oseakwa Sea Port at Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State established before Nigeria's independence and was a major route for transportation in the old Eastern region, but it became moribund after the civil war;

Also aware that compared to the Lagos Seaport which is 60 nautical miles to the Atlantic Ocean, Oseakwa Seaport is only 18 nautical miles to the Atlantic Ocean, which, by implication, is a closer and more viable route for shipping goods from China and other countries;

Further aware that the Oseakwa seaport has the capacity to handle over 35 per cent of marine business in Nigeria;

Concerned about the abysmal neglect of the sector as both its potential to create jobs and contribute to the country's GDP are lost, just as foreign operators smile home with billions of dollars yearly that could have accrued to local operators and government's coffers;

Also concerned that the country's ports are currently classified among the worst ports in the world due to challenges such as delay in import/export processes, traffic congestion, poor access roads, safety and security concerns, infrastructure deficits and logistics shortcomings among others;

Cognizant that the maritime sector embraces all related business activities ranging from off-shore economic activities such as fishing, salvage, towage and underwater resources to on-shore economic activities such as port activities, maritime transport (shipping), ship construction, repairs and maintenance activities as well as the enterprises involved in carrying out these activities;

Also cognizant that a practical and holistic plan is required to address the issues bedeviling the industry;

Further cognizant that the Oseakwa Seaport, when revived, will create over two million jobs, directly and indirectly, in marine business, oil and gas, power, education, housing, agro-food industry, entertainment and tourism among others, thus generating huge revenue and boosting the nation's economy;

Resolves to:

- (i) Urge the Federal Government to take pragmatic steps towards diversifying the economy base by harnessing the great potentials in the Maritime Sector and ensuring that the challenges hampering the growth of the sector are effectively dealt with;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to revive the abandoned Oseakwa Seaport in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State in order to reduce the pressure on existing seaports and checkmate over-dependency on petroleum as well as boost the nation's economy;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Government to include the construction of Oseakwa Seaport and dredging of Orashi River in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State in the 2024 budget estimates;
- (iv) mandate the Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration (when constituted) to ensure compliance.

5. Need to Introduce Leadership Training in the Curriculum of Primary and Tertiary Schools in Nigeria:

Hon. Ojuawo Rufus Adeniyi:

The House

Notes the absence of leadership training in the educational curriculum of schools at all levels in Nigeria as is presently implemented;

Also notes the importance of leadership training as a foundational ingredient and the bedrock of nationalism and patriotism, if commenced at the critical formative age of a citizen;

Cognizant of the role of leadership training in the promotion of selflessness, nationalism and patriotism, and especially in keeping with global best practices.

Concerned that the continued absence of leadership training in Nigerian schools is depriving the Nigerian child the opportunity to internalize the core values of leadership at the earliest possible stage, and make it a part of their values for the benefit and betterment of the country at large;

Disturbed that if immediate steps are not taken to incorporate leadership training into the curriculum at all levels of schools in Nigeria, another generation of Nigerians will be deprived of the opportunity to imbibe the core values of leadership in their formative years.

Also disturbed that the upcoming generation of Nigerian children will in the absence of leadership training be ill-equipped to compete in the global environment of ideas from a truly Nigerian perspective and from the standpoint of national interests and prerequisites of defending Nigerian national interests;

Worried that the lack of leadership training may in the future pose an existential threat to the management of our national resources, and the defending of Nigerian national interests;

Aware that the introduction of leadership training in Nigerian schools will better prepare the Nigerian child for overcoming the challenges of national cohesion, reduce regionalism and parochialism in the conduct of national affairs and promote unity and national ethos;

Resolves to:

- (i) engage relevant stakeholders to formulate the appropriate policy required to incorporate leadership training into the curriculum of Nigerian schools at all levels.
- (ii) set the timeline for adoption and implementation of the policy to enable every child in Nigeria to be trained in leadership to encourage selflessness, nationalism and patriotism;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Basic Education and Services, and Tertiary Education and Services (when constituted) to ensure implementation.

6. Need to Investigate the Alleged Abuse of 2.3 Trillion Naira generated from Tertiary Education Tax by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund from 2011 to 2013:

Hon. Olusola Fatoba

Hon. David Fohu

Hon. Zakari Nyanpa:

The House:

Notes that the Tertiary Education Tax was introduced as a special corporate tax to provide specialized funding for tertiary education in Nigeria, including capital projects, research and development, amongst others;

Recalls that the tax was introduced based on the repealed Education Tax Act, which established the Education Trust Fund to impose Education Tax on Nigerian companies at the rate of 2.5% of the assessable profit for annual assessment;

Also recalls that in 2011, the Education Tax Act was repealed and Enacted Tertiary Education Trust Fund Establishment, Act in 2021, the Finance Act 2021, increased the applicable Tertiary Education Tax rate from 2% to 2.5%.

Aware that since the establishment of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund in 2011, the Fund has earned trillions of Naira as revenue generated, however, the Fund is reputed for numerous financial abuses in its operations, award of contracts and execution of projects;

Cognizant that the Standard Operating Procedure within the Fund is porous and does not create a platform for proper supervision of projects domiciled with Tertiary Institutions, with disbursements of funds happening without tracking and payments being made despite the failure of Contractors to achieve milestones required for such payments;

Further note that these abuses, actions, inactions and infractions have resulted in the misappropriation of funds and unjust enrichment of funds worth about 2.3 Trillion Naira;

Worried that if urgent steps are not taken to investigate the allegations, the decay of the Tertiary Education System will continue to increase, thus, resulting in strike actions, substandard institutions, lack of faith in the system, migration of talented youths and total collapse of the Education System arising from gross abuse of a laudable special intervention Programmes and aspiration of the President to provide opportunities to young people through quality tertiary education.

Resolves to:

Set up an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the allegations and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

S/N	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee on the Review of Standing Orders	Tuesday, 4 July 2023	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 305 (New Building) Assembly Complex
2.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> Committee on Lingering Issue of Gas Flaring in Nigeria (<i>Inaugural Meeting</i>)	Tuesday, 4 July 2023	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 141 (New Building) Assembly Complex