



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA  
ORDER PAPER  
Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2023**

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1. Prayers
  2. National Pledge
  3. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
  4. Oaths
  5. Messages from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (if any)
  6. Messages by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (if any)
  7. Messages from Other Parliament(s) (if any)
  8. Other Announcements (if any)
  9. Petitions (if any)
  10. Matters of Urgent Public Importance
  11. Personal Explanation
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**PRESENTATION OF BILLS**

1. Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.627) (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere and Hon. Enitan Badru*) – *First Reading.*
2. Federal University of Agriculture and Entrepreneurship, Saki, Oyo State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.628) (*Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive*) – *First Reading.*
3. Chartered Institute of Loan and Risk Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.629) (*Hon. Ugbonna Ozurigbo*) – *First Reading.*
4. Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.630) (*Hon. Ugbonna Ozurigbo*) – *First Reading.*
5. Federal University of Agriculture, Lavun, Niger State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.631) (*Hon. Joshua Audu Gana*) – *First Reading.*
6. Nigerian National Volunteer Service (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.632) (*Hon. Joshua Audu Gana*) – *First Reading.*
7. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.633) (*Hon. Anamero Dekeri*) – *First Reading.*

8. Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.634) (*Hon. Anamero Dekeri*) – *First Reading*.
9. Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.635) (*Hon. Akintunde Rotimi*) – *First Reading*.
10. Federal Institute of Technology, Ikpoba-Okha, Edo State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.636) (*Hon. Murphy Osaro Omoruyi*) – *First Reading*.
11. Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.637) (*Hon. Mark Useni*) – *First Reading*.
12. Federal University Teaching Hospital, Wukari (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.638) (*Hon. Mark Useni*) – *First Reading*.
13. Ibile Entrepreneur University (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.639) (*Hon. Babajimi Benson & Hon. Kalejaiye Adeboye*) – *First Reading*.
14. Federal University of Oil and Gas Technology, Ubeta, Rivers State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.640) (*Hon. Victor Obuzor*) – *First Reading*.
15. Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.641) (*Hon. Victor Obuzor*) – *First Reading*.
16. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.642) (*Hon. Alex Egbona*) – *First Reading*.
17. National Land Transport Regulatory Authority (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.643) (*Hon. Alex Egbona*) – *First Reading*.
18. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.644) (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Doguwa*) – *First Reading*.
19. Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.645) (*Hon. Alhassan Ado Doguwa*) – *First Reading*.
20. Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.646) (*Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo*) – *First Reading*.
21. Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 647) (*Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo*) – *First Reading*.
22. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 648) (*Hon. Muktar Shagaya*) – *First Reading*.
23. Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.649) (*Hon. Ukodhiko Ajirioghene Jonathan*) – *First Reading*.
24. Federal University of Agriculture, Erawha- Owhe, Delta State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.650) (*Hon. Ukodhiko Ajirioghene Jonathan*) – *First Reading*.
25. Federal College of Entrepreneurship and Skill Acquisition, Kano State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.651) (*Hon. Sagir Ibrahim Soki*) – *First Reading*.
26. Nigerian Almajiri Trust Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.652) (*Hon. Sagir Ibrahim Soki*) – *First Reading*.
27. Nigerian Institute of Agriculturists (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.653) (*Hon. Alli Adeyemi Taofeek*) – *First Reading*.
28. National Institute of Construction Technology and Management, Itele, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.654) (*Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan*) – *First Reading*.

29. National Institute for Oil Palm Research, Ijebu Igbo, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023(HB.655) (*Hon. Joseph Folorunsho Adegbesan*) – *First Reading*
30. Federal Universities of Agriculture Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.656) (*Hon. Kelechi Nwogu*) – *First Reading*.
31. Federal Universities of Technology Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.657) (*Hon. Kelechi Nwogu*) – *First Reading*.

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## PRESENTATION OF REPORT

***Ad-hoc* Committee on the Screening and Confirmation of Nominees Appointments as Chairman and Members of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Board:**

**Hon. Erhiatake Ibori Suenu:**

“That the House do receive the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Screening and Confirmation of Nominees Appointments as Chairman and Members of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Board” (*Referred: 10/10/2023*).

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### BILLS

1. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Fire Service Act, Cap. F29, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact the Federal Fire and Rescue Service (Establishment) Bill, 2023; and for Related Matters (HB. 211) – *Third Reading*.
  2. A Bill for an Act to Establish a National Centre for the Coordination and Control of the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Nigeria; and for Related Matters. (HB. 207) – *Third Reading*.
  3. A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Capital Territory Education Resources Centre charged with the Responsibility to among other things, Plan and Implement Curriculum measures and Evaluate Students and other applicants for placement into Schools under the Administration of the Federal Capital Territory and for Related Matters (HB. 10) (*Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu and six others*) – *Second Reading*.
  4. A Bill for an Act to provide for Establishment of the Nigerian Authors Trust Fund to provide Financial Aid to Authors and Aspiring Authors in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 14) (*Hon. Pascal Agbodike*) – *Second Reading*.
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### MOTIONS

5. **Construction of Water Treatment Plant in Ankpa Local Government Area of Kogi State:**  
**Hon. Halims Abdullahi Ibrahim:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that ANKPA Local Government Area out of 23 Local Government Areas in Kogi State, is the second most populated with a projected population of around 359,300 people;

*Also notes* that Ankpa and its communities are in urgent need of basic amenities and infrastructure to meet the needs of their population;

*Aware* that the Mabolo River is the sole source of water for Ankpa Township and its surrounding areas, with a 70s military-constructed treatment plant that has been destroyed;

*Concerned* that the collapse of Ankpa water supply led to residents constructing boreholes as an alternative, but was unsuccessful due to the area's geological conditions, thus leaving residents to use the polluted Mabolo River in Ogaji for self-sufficiency, despite the high risk of water-borne diseases;

*Disturbed* that the high demand for water in the area has led to the proliferation of boreholes which dry up after a year;

*Cognizant* of the need for the construction of a water treatment plant from the Mabolo River to address the perennial water scarcity in Ankpa and eradicate waterborne diseases;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to ensure adequate funding for the construction of a comprehensive water treatment plant and reticulation of the water from the water treatment plant to Ankpa and its surrounding communities; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Water Resources and Appropriations to include the Construction of a Water Treatment Plant in Ankpa Local Government Area of Kogi State in the 2024 budget estimates.

**6. Reopening of Maigatari, Kongwalam and Illela Borders:  
Hon. Aliyu Sani Madaki:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the border towns of Maigatari in Jigawa State, Kongwalam in Katsina State and Illela in Sokoto State, as well as Kano State, are known for their large markets where large-scale international trades take place between Nigerians and people from Niger, Mali, Chad, Cameroon and other neighbouring countries;

*Aware* that as part of the sanctions on the Niger military junta by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Nigerian Government closed all its land borders with the Republic of Niger;

*Concerned* that as a result of the border closure, movements across the borders and within the communities as well as socio-economic activities and Cross-border trades, especially Kano which is the centre of commerce in the North have been grounded to a halt, causing indescribable hardships to the people, causing hatred between them and the neighbouring Nigerien citizens;

*Also concerned* that the resultant hardships from the border closure have given rise to smuggling activities, with an increasing number of the youth in the affected communities getting involved, with some lured into terrorism and criminal activities, which could potentially worsen insecurity in Nigeria;

*Cognizant* that if the borders are reopened and the cross-border markets well regulated, it would promote peaceful and cordial relations between Nigeria and her immediate neighbours and thus stem the scourge of smuggling and other trans-border crimes which have negatively affected the nation's economy and image;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Government to reopen the Maigatari, Mai'Aduwa, Kongwalam and Illela Borders, respectively;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Customs and Excise to ensure implementation.

**7. Investigation of Alleged Mismanagement of COVID-19 Intervention Funds from 2020 to 2022:  
Hon. Nyampa Dauda Zakari:**

**The House:**

*Aware* that COVID-19 broke out as a major pandemic in 2019 affecting families, businesses and economies of the nations of the world;

*Also aware* that the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the loss of lives, jobs and economic opportunities for millions of homes in different parts of the world including Nigeria;

*Notes* that the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted economic activities, leading to global measures such as lockdowns, travel restrictions, business closures, and government shutdowns to control the virus's spread;

*Cognizant* that the disruption of economic activities necessitated the introduction of various programs, policies, and interventions to alleviate and boost the economies of families, small businesses, and public corporations;

*Mindful* that the Federal Government of Nigeria initiated several measures including budgetary provisions as well as funding from International donor agencies to combat the COVID-19 pandemic on the citizens;

*Also aware* that a sum of ₦83.9 Billion was appropriated for the COVID-19 response in the 2020 Appropriation Act as well as another sum of over ₦100 Billion Naira as intervention funds through supplementary budget and international donor agencies;

*Disturbed* that the Auditor-General's report and other sources reveal that significant funds for COVID-19 palliatives and international donations were diverted and unaccounted for by various Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government;

*Concerned* that the lack of proper accountability of funds allocated for COVID-19 intervention by the Federal Government and global donor agencies could potentially lead to negative economic ratings and loss of opportunities for Nigeria;

*Resolves to:*

mandate the Public Accounts Committee to investigate the expenditure of funds appropriated or disbursed as COVID-19 intervention to Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government from 2020 to 2022 and report back within 4 weeks for further legislative action

**8. Abandonment of the Kaduna Eastern Bypass Project:  
Hon. Hussaini Mohammed Jallo:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the proposed Kaduna Eastern Bypass Project is expected to be a massive 48 kilometres stretch of road that connects the Kaduna Metropolis with the Federal Capital Territory and about 11 other States in the country;

*Also notes* that the contract for the construction of the road was initially awarded in 2002 to an indigenous firm at the cost of 16 Billion Naira, but was later abandoned until 2017 when the Federal Government upscale the cost to N38.19 Billion and set the deadline for completion at 2021;

*Aware* that in 2019, the Federal Executive Council considered and approved an augmentation to increase the contract with the sum of N36.459 billion, thus bringing the total cost of the project to N74.649 billion;

*Also aware* that after the train attack of March 2022, the contractor suspended work on the first section of the road citing security threats;

*Concerned* that despite the huge funds dedicated to the construction of the road and obvious improvement of the security in the area the project remains abandoned to date;

*Cognizant* that road infrastructure is critical to the development and prosperity of the people and the country as a whole;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to ensure completion of the Kaduna Eastern Bypass Project;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Works to investigate the release and utilisation of the funds approved for construction of the Kaduna Eastern Bypass from 2017 to date to ensure that all factors frustrating the completion of the project are resolved and the project is completed within the shortest time, and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

**9. Call on the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) to cover Vulnerable Nigerians:  
Hon. Bashiru Ayinla Dawodu:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that social economic development is not achievable without access to quality and affordable healthcare;

*Also notes* that the World Health Assembly in 2005 adopted Universal Health coverage as part of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) Agenda 2030;

*Aware* that after 23 years, only 5 Million Nigerians have enrolled in the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) while over 70% per cent pay out of pocket for health care;

*Worried* that over 83 Million vulnerable populations comprising pregnant women, children under five years, persons with special needs, and the elderly are most affected, thus Nigeria is unable to meet the targets of universal coverage, thus increasing the rate of out-of-pocket health expenditure;

*Cognizant* that the health care crisis cannot be resolved without Universal Health care coverage which cannot be achieved without meeting the target of the National Health Insurance;

*Regrets* that the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) Act of 2022 mandates Health Insurance for all citizens and legal residents which has failed;

*Concerned* that in 2022 NNPC spent N.4 Trillion (\$9.7B) on fuel subsidy and N3.6 Trillion in 6 months of 2023;

*Also concerned* that it costs about 5 Billion to cover 5 Million persons annually at the rate of NI 5,000 per person;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to allocate part of the Fuel subsidy removal savings to the vulnerable Health fund;
- (ii) also urge the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) to ensure implementation and monitoring; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committees on Health Institutions and Finance to ensure compliance.

**10. Alleged Intimidation, Assault and Trespass by the Nigerian Army, Epe Barracks Regarding Land Tussle with Iraye-Oke Community in Epe Federal Constituency of Lagos State:  
Hon. Tasir Olawale Raji:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that a petition against the Nigerian Army, Epe Barracks by the Iraye-Oke community over acts of intimidation, assault and trespass of 329.588 hectares of land was presented before the House on October 4, 2023, for investigation and resolution;

*Concerned* that since the petition, soldiers from Epe barracks have embarked on forceful acquisition of the people's houses, lands and fishing ponds by extending the fence of the Army barracks to cover these properties, and stationing armed soldiers at the perimeters, thus denying the owners access of their properties;

*Also concerned* that the people now live in constant fear of attack from the Nigerian Army as many of them have fled their homes and farmlands which is their major source of livelihood;

*Worried* that if the Nigerian Army is not prevented from carrying out further acts of intimidation, harassment and acquisition of Iraye-Oke communal land pending the resolution of the petition before the House, the people may suffer irreparable damages;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Urge the Chief of Army Staff to order the men of the Nigerian Army, especially those at Epe Barracks to refrain from further acts of harassment, intimidation and acquisition of Iraye-Oke communal land pending the resolution of the land dispute by the House of Representatives;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Army to ensure compliance.

**11. Implementation of Integrated and Sustainable Urban Development and Physical Planning Across the States of the Federation:**

**Hon. Philip Agbese:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that Urban Development and Physical Planning are modern strategies aimed at creating sustainable, resilient settlements that correspond with the local situation;

*Also notes* that half of Nigeria's population lives in overpopulated urban centres due to heavy rural-urban migration, leading to slums that don't meet modern urban settlement standards;

*Further notes* that most Nigerian cities lack standard master plans for development, and when they do, they are done in isolation without considering their effects on the neighbouring states;

*Observes* that the planned cities have deviated from the original master plans where residential areas are being converted to industrial and commercial areas without proper environmental impact assessment to ascertain the hazards and ways to mitigate them;

*Worried* that most Nigerian cities have transformed into slums, thus serving as breeding grounds and safe havens for criminals;

*Cognizant* that climate change, particularly global warming and its attendant effects, has devastated states across the nation and will be more severe if an integrated approach to urban and physical planning is not implemented;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to collaborate with states' Urban Development Departments to develop a comprehensive integrated urban development plan; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Urban Development and Physical Planning to ensure Compliance and report back within four (4) weeks.

**12. Growing Insecurity in Aleiro, Gwandu and Jega Federal Constituency of Kebbi State:**

**Hon Mansur Musa:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the security of lives and properties is the primary responsibility of the Government;



*Concerned* about the growing insecurity in Aleiro, Gwandu and Jega Federal Constituency of Kebbi State, which includes kidnapping, cattle rustling and organized crime, among others;

*Also concerned* that the situation has created tension, fear and prejudice in the minds of the people as an uncountable number of them have fled their homes for fear of being attacked, leaving their means of livelihood;

*Worried* that the incessant attacks on the people, especially on the roads, have adversely affected socio-economic activities in the area making the movement of goods and services to the market difficult;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Nigerian Army and the Nigeria Police Force to collaborate with other security agencies to fight crime and provide adequate security in Aleiro, Gwandu and Jega Federal Constituency of Kebbi State;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs and National Security and Intelligence to ensure compliance.

**13. Non-Remittance of Three Per cent (3%) Annual Operational Expenditure (OPEX) to Oil and Gas Producing Host Communities (IOCs):**

**Hon. Victor Obuzor:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that Section 240 of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) stipulates that Oil and Gas Companies should remit 3% of their annual operational expenditure to Oil and Gas producing host Communities via the Host Community Development Trust Fund;

*Also notes* that the main objective is to foster sustainable prosperity within Host Communities, provide direct social and economic benefits and enhance harmonious co-existence;

*Concerned* that two years after the coming into effect of the Petroleum Industry Act, Oil Producing Companies have deliberately refused to make the necessary remittance as mandated by the PIA, thus sparking agitation within the Host Communities as they are feeling shortchanged;

*Aware* that the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC), which is mandated to facilitate speedy implementation of the 3% OPEX has awarded a penalty of \$1,825 Million to the defaulting oil companies, which is to be paid at the rate of N52,500 per day as stipulated by the Petroleum Industry Act;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) to revoke the licenses of defaulting IOCs for violation of extant Laws and protocols of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Green House Gas (GHG);
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Host Communities Petroleum Resources (Downstream) and Petroleum Resources (Midstream) to investigate the non-remittance of 3% of their annual operational expenditure to the Host Community Development Trust Fund by International Oil Companies (IOCs) and report back within six (6) weeks for further legislative action.

**14. Controlling the Flood Ravaging Ado-Odo/Ota Federal Constituency of Ogun State:**

**Hon. Akinosi Olatunji:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that devastating floods in Ado-Odo/Ota Federal Constituency, Ogun State, have submerged homes and displaced families, particularly along the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway;



*Also notes* that the Lagos-Abeokuta Federal Highway serves as a vital link for business activities connecting Ogun State to Western states.

*Further notes* that the flood, which displaced inhabitants and disrupted business activities along the highway, is beyond the State government's control and requires urgent Federal intervention.

*Worried* that critical infrastructure such as roads and electricity, schools, and hospitals will be destroyed and residents may lose their homes and other sources of livelihood if the flood is not contained;

*Also worried* that if the flood menace is not urgently controlled, sections of the road will be destroyed, thus, leading to total cut-off of vehicular movement in neighbouring South-West States;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, Ecological Fund Office and the Federal Ministry of Works to tackle the menace of flooding and erosion in Ado-Odo/Ota Federal Constituency of Ogun State;
- (ii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide relief materials to affected victims;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to commence repairs and re-construction of affected roads;
- (iv) Set up a National Emergency Management Agency Station in Ado-Odo/Ota Federal Constituency of Ogun State to assist residents in the event of an emergency that could lead to loss of lives and properties; and
- (v) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance.

**15. Need to Re-activate Sapele, Warri, Koko and Burutua Sea Port in Delta State:  
Hon. Etanbene Benedict:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the maritime industry contributes significant revenue to Nigeria's economy and supports both local and international trade, which is crucial for global economic stability;

*Also notes* the Lagos seaports' overdependence has caused hardship for shippers, importers, and maritime businesses. Cargo clearance, which takes 21 days to 3 months at both Apapa and Tin Can seaports, has resulted in a significant revenue loss annually, thus Reviving Sapele, Warri, Koko, and Burutu seaports is urgently needed;

*Aware* that enhancing Nigeria's economy and diversification, reviving the Sapele, Warri, Koko, and Burutu seaports in Delta State is crucial to eliminating logistics issues and inconveniences faced by Lagos seaports;

*Also aware* that the re-activation of the Sapele, Warri, Koko, and Burutu seaports will create employment for our teeming unemployed youth in Nigeria, increase the revenue generation drive of the country and improve the social and economic well-being of the communities within the seaports;

*Cognizant* that the revival of Sapele, Warri, Koko, and Burutu seaports will significantly boost Nigeria's economy, facilitating product exports, attracting foreign direct investments, and integrating into global value chains;

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the Nigeria Ports Authority to commence its activities in the above-mentioned Ports; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Ports and Harbour to ensure compliance.

**16. Declaration of State of Emergency on East-West Road and Return the Road Construction to the Ministry Of Niger Delta Development:  
Hon. Ugonna Ozurigbo:**

**The House:**

*Notes* that the 338km East-West road Dualization project linking Warri to Oron through Kaiama, Ahoada, Port Harcourt, Ogoni and Eket was awarded in 2006 by the administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo for the development and opening up of the entire Niger Delta region to the industrial South West region;

*Also notes* that from 2006 to 2009 the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing achieved only 8% work on Road before former President Umaru Musa Yaradua transferred it to the Ministry of Niger Delta as a flagship project;

*Further notes* that from 2009 to 2021, the Ministry of Niger Delta Development was able to drive the project to 80% completion, sourcing additional funding from the Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) and a loan from the African Development Bank (AFDB) which resulted in the completion of:

- (a) Section I (Warri – Kaiama) – 87km
- (b) Section I-II (Port Harcourt – Ahoada) 47km
- (c) Section III (Onne Junction – Eket) 84km.

*Aware* that the Ministry of Niger Delta Development obtained approvals for the redesign and award of contract for the 15km Eleme Junction to Onne Junction and the 9.75km Eket Bypass respectively;

*Also aware* that the Reconstruction/Upgrading of the 15km between Eleme Junction-Onne Port Junction was redesigned in 2014 from 4-lane to 6-lane dual carriageway with flyovers at Onne Port, Refinery and Elelenwon junctions and the construction of dual carriageway 9.75km Eket Bypass were all conceived by the Ministry of Niger Delta Development to decongest the Eket urban area in 2019;

*Further aware* that the administration of President Muhammadu Buhari did not place priority on the East-West road project, as allocation by the Budget Office of the federation was barely enough to cover the salaries and overhead expenditure of the Ministry; and as a result of poor releases between 2015 and 2021, completion was further delayed and resulted in the contracts unit rates becoming obsolete due to inflation;

*Again aware* that the envelop budgeting system currently being practiced, from which salaries and overhead expenditures of the MDAs are executed cannot deliver the East-West road to completion, particularly because the Ministry of Niger Delta Development had to source extra-budgetary interventions from SURE-P and African Development Bank between 2012 and 2015 to enable it complete Sections I and III of the road;

*Convinced* that the non-completion of the East-West Road is not linked to issues of technicality or lack of competence, but funding; and as such, for the Road to be completed there is a need for a Presidential declaration of state of emergency on it, as demonstrated in the construction of 2<sup>nd</sup> Niger Bridge and other laudable projects, whereby the President has to secure special funding for the road project;

*Cognizant* that the transfer of the East-West road project from the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to the Ministry of Niger Delta Development in 2009 had the Federal Executive Council (FEC) approval and Federal Ministry of Justice input; whereas the handover from the Ministry of Niger Delta Development to Federal Ministry of Works and Housing in 2022 has no FEC approval;

*Also convinced* that the Ministry of Works which is grappling with over 4000 kilometres of road construction nationwide would be hard-pressed with funding for the numerous projects under its purview and as such, may not be able to meet the funding demand of the East-West Road project.

*Informed* that on the request of the Ministry of Niger Delta Development, the Federal Ministry of Finance through the Debt Management Office (DMO) made provision for the sum of N10.4 billion under the 2021 SUKUK Bond issuance and that the N10.4 billion was accessed by the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, yet no work has been done on the project to date, apparently because of lack of commitment as against the total commitment from the Ministry of Niger Delta Development.

*Concerned* that the Federal Government was ill-informed to conceive taking away the East-West road project from the Ministry of Niger Delta Development which was not only able to achieve 80% completion with limited funding but also had the technical expertise and competence as well as the blueprint of the East-West Road.

*Also informed* that the Ministry of Niger Delta Development before the handover to the Federal Ministry of Works in 2022 had planned to intensify the search for funding sources to complete the remaining sections II –II (Ahoada to Kaiama), IIIA (Eleme Junction to Onne Port Junction), IV (Eket to Oron) and Eket Bypass, by the first quarter of 2023.

*Worried* that if the construction of the East–West road for the people of the Niger Delta region is not completed, the socio-economic benefits for the people of the Niger Delta will be continually eroded.

*Resolves to:*

- (i) urge the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to:
  - (a) declare a state of emergency on the East-West Road;
  - (b) convene a National Stakeholders Summit involving all the Governors of the Niger Delta Region, the NNPC and all International Oil Companies, etc. to among other things, commit to creating a regional endowment fund for the speedy completion of the East-West Road and avoid unending variations; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry to ensure compliance.

## CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

17. A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Agribusiness Management of Nigeria to promote the practice and professionalism of Agribusiness in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.138) (*Leader*) – *Committee of the Whole*: 27/7/2023.
18. A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Digital Forensics of Nigeria to Regulate the Practice, including Qualification, Training, and Skill-Set of Digital Forensics among its Members, and to Determine the Standards of Knowledge and Skills to be Attained by Persons Seeking to become Registered Members of the Profession and for Related Matters (HB.140) (*Leader*) – *Committee of the Whole*: 27/7/2023.
19. ***Ad-hoc* Committee on the Screening and Confirmation of Nominees Appointments as Chairman and Members of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Board:**  
**Hon. Erhiatake Ibori Suenu:**  
 “That the House do consider the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Screening and Confirmation of Nominees Appointments as Chairman and Members of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Board and approve the recommendation therein” (*Laid*: 17/10/2023).

Confirm the appointment of the nominees as Chairman and Members of the Niger Delta Development Commission Board.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

S/N	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Public Petitions ( <i>Investigative Hearing</i> )	Tuesday, 17 October, 2023	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 244 (New Building) Assembly Complex
2.	Federal Character ( <i>with Federal Character Commission</i> )	Tuesday, 17 October, 2023	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 247 (New Building) Assembly Complex