

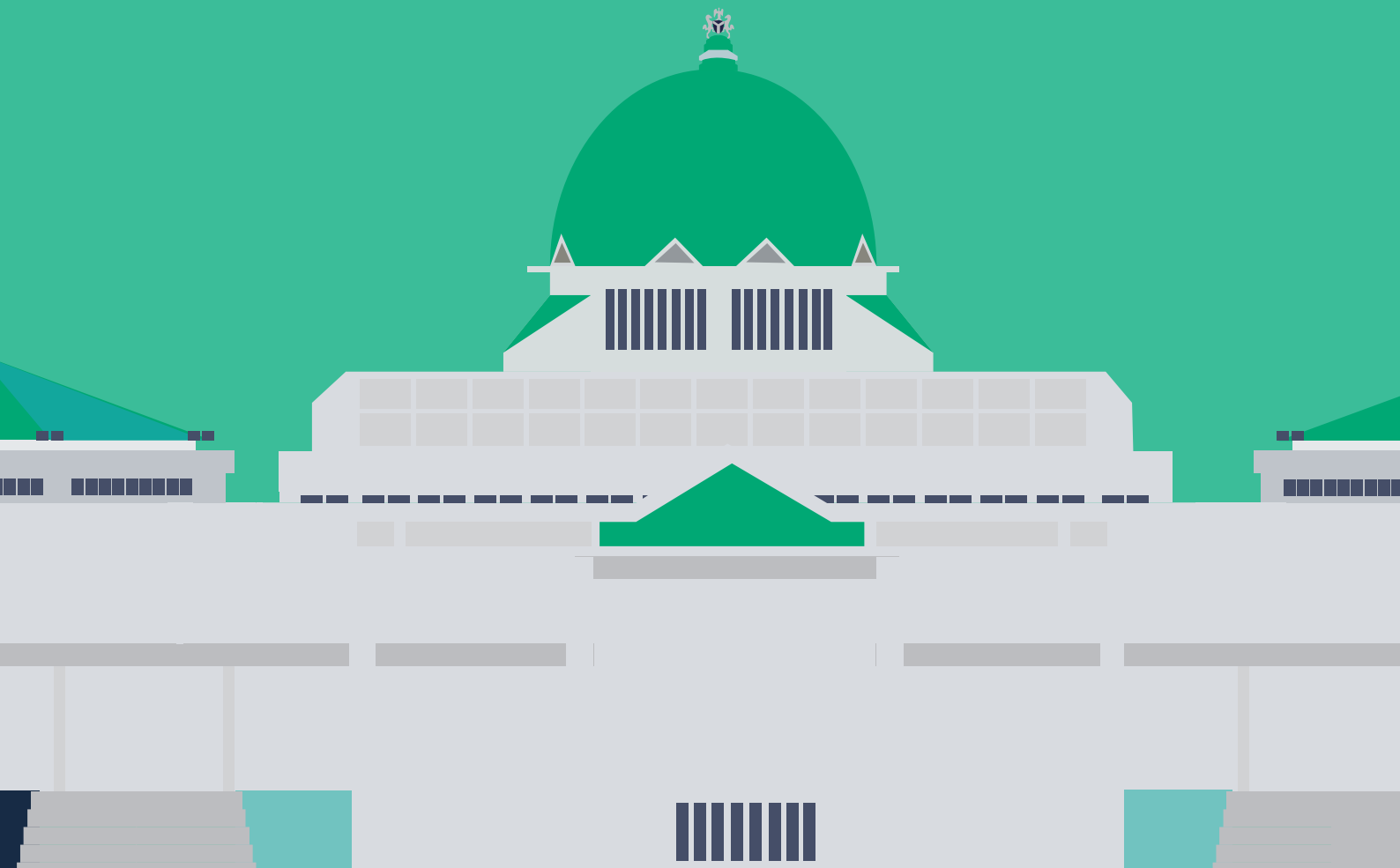


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2023 PLAC LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



**MODEL
LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY**



ABOUT PLAC

Founded in 2009, PLAC is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit capacity building organization that works to strengthen democratic governance and citizens participation in Nigeria. Through broad-based technical assistance and training, PLAC works to promote citizens' engagement with government institutions, advocate for legal and policy reforms and promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision making processes.

At the core of our programming is a deep commitment to increase legislative advocacy, promote transparency and good governance, support electoral reforms, enhance citizen's access to public policies and advance anti-corruption campaigns. In its over 10 years of history, PLAC has worked and evolved into a foremost leading institution with capacity to deliver cutting-edge research, policy analysis and advocacy.



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DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO NIGERIA AND ECOWAS

The EU Delegation to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and ECOWAS is a full diplomatic mission representing the European Union in Nigeria with concurrent accreditation to the regional economic body, ECOWAS, headquartered in Abuja.

The Delegation of the European Union to Nigeria and to ECOWAS (the Delegation) is part of the European Union External Service and is one of the 140 Delegations throughout the world.

The 2023 PLAC Legislative Internship Programme is one of the programmes supported by the Delegation in its Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria.



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INTRODUCTION

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre commenced its 2023 Legislative Internship Programme in October 2023 with 41 (forty-one) young Nigerians drawn from Nigeria's six geo-political zones and the Federal Capital Territory. The interns were deployed to various Committees in the Senate and House of Representatives to learn legislative practices and procedures, and to improve their understanding of the National Assembly.

The Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) session is the major concluding event under PLAC's Legislative Internship Programme and is a simulation of legislative plenary proceedings. It is aimed at demonstrating the skills and learning of the interns during their stay in the National Assembly (NASS). At the one-day mock plenary session, interns will take on the role of the Principal Officers and Honourable members of the House of Representatives to deliberate on topical issues affecting the country.

Expected Outcomes

- * Exploration of the function of political representation in Nigeria's National Assembly;
- * Enhanced understanding of legislative practice and procedure;
- * Appreciation of the process of policy and decision making at the national level;
- * Improved articulation of ideas and opinions;
- * Honing of public speaking, confidence and debating skills.
- * Honing of leadership, collaboration, conflict resolution, and consensus building skills;
- * Informed discussion of prevailing public and socio-political issues;
- * Application of legislative research.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS IN THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)

Ahead of the mock legislative plenary session, interns practiced their roles at various times at the PLAC office and the National Assembly. Interns also conducted elections to select principal officers from among themselves for the MLA session.

The following person emerged as Principal Officers of the MLA:

1. Speaker - **Yasir Kassim**
2. Deputy Speaker - **Aminat Sanni**
3. Majority Leader - **Ann-Marie Amadi-Emina**
4. Deputy Majority Leader - **Shekinah Aziagba**
5. Minority Leader - **Eunice Maravi Bwala**
6. Deputy Minority Leader - **Salihu Bello Yero**
7. Chief Whip - **Mustapha Tukur**
8. Deputy Whip - **Bukola Eunice Idowu**
9. Minority Whip - **Sunday Christopher Olubiyi**
10. Deputy Minority Whip - **Saudah Galadima**
11. Clerk- **Peace Afabor**
12. Sergeant-At-Arms - **Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde**

AGENDA

**PLAC 2023 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME
MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA) & ALUMNI CONVENING
Supported by the European Union (EU)**

Date: Monday, 11th December 2023

Venue: Abuja Continental Hotel, 1 Ladi Kwali Street Wuzze Zone 4, Abuja

Time: 10am – 1:00pm

AGENDA

PART 1: MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:30am – 10:00am	Registration of Participants Guests, Resource Persons and Interns are seated
10:00am – 10:30am	SESSION ONE: WELCOME AND OPENING CEREMONY Introduction of guests, resource persons and participants Welcome Remarks Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, PLAC Goodwill Remarks European Union (EU) Opening Remarks/Keynote Rt. Hon. Benjamin Kalu Deputy Speaker House of Representatives
10:30am – 11:00am	Tea Break

11:00am – 12:00noon	SESSION TWO: MOCK LEGISLATIVE SESSION Plenary Session by Interns of the PLAC 2023 Model Legislative Assembly Led by: Yasir Yahuza Kassim (Kano) Speaker, 2023 Model Legislative Assembly (MLA) Aminat Olajumoke Sanni (Lagos) Deputy Speaker, 2023 Model Legislative Assembly (MLA)
12:00noon – 12:30pm	SESSION THREE: OBSERVATIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM INVITED HONOURABLE MEMBERS AND PANELISTS
12:30pm – 1:00pm	SESSION FOUR: PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND PHOTO SESSION Clement Nwankwo Executive Director, Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC)
1:00pm	Closing Remarks & Lunch

PART 2: ALUMNI MEETING

TIME	ACTIVITY
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Meeting of PLAC Legislative Internship Alumni led by PLAC Legislative Internship 2022 Cohort

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS PRODUCED FOR THE 2023 MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOURTH REPUBLIC
10TH MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FIRST SESSION
NO. 8



**MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**
Monday, 12th December 2022

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1. The House met at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Speaker read the prayers
2. The House recited the National Pledge
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr. Speaker Announced that he has examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Monday, December 12th, 2022

The Votes and Proceedings adopted by unanimous consent

4. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance**
 - i. **Urgent Need to Curb the Spate of Banditry and Kidnapping in Zamfara State**
Hon. Khalifa Nasir (Zamfara State) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
 - a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance;
and,
 - b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of public importance - Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith-- Agreed to.

Urgent Need to Curb the Spate of Banditry and Kidnapping in Zamfara State
The House:

Notes that the primary responsibility of every government is to ensure safety and welfare of its citizens;

Also notes that Zamfara State is suffering from a decade long crisis of banditry and kidnapping by Fulani militia who constantly attack, maim, slaughter, rape, and kidnap innocent young children and women.

**Votes and Proceedings produced by 2023 Interns from 2022 Internship MLA Order Paper*

Further notes that in November 2022, there were separate attacks in Kolo village in Gunau LGA by this militia, which led to the death of several citizens, displacement of high number of people and kidnap of four prominent people:

Worried that in November 2022, brutal attacks occurred in the local govt areas of Gummi, Bukuyyum, Zurmi, Shinkafi and Maradun of Zamfara State where the number of displaced persons multiplied due to insecurity in these areas;

Also worried that Zamfara forest has become a safe haven for terrorist suspected to be Boko Haram members and Fulani militia;

Concerned that those prominent people kidnapped in Kolo village in Gusau LGA were demanded to pay NGN5 million as ransom. As family members make effort to raise the amount, these bandits requested for new naira notes yet to be issued by the Central Bank of Nigeria as a condition for their release,

Also concerned that these killings and kidnappings have become so prevalent that hardly would 2 days pass without terrible news of an attack in Zamfara State and spreading to neighboring States;

Aware that the State Governor does not have statutory power to command and control the relevant security agencies. Such power lies with the President who is the Command-In-Chief of the armed forces pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution:

Further aware that the occurrence of these attacks has crippled the socio-economic activities of the people thereby plunging them in abject poverty, social instability, hardship, disillusionment and despondency,

Cognizant that if the situation is left unchecked, it may escalate beyond control and throw the country in a state of anarchy as citizens may take up arms to defend themselves;

Resolves to:

- i. constitute a powerful delegation of Honourable members to seek audience with the C-In-C to intimate him on the seriousness of the situation in Zamfara and the country at whole;
- ii. invite the Service Chiefs to the floor of the chamber to brief the house on the efforts taken to curb this debilitating situation;
- iii. urge Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management to supply relief materials to the affected communities in Zamfara State;
- iv. mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, Army, Defense, and National Security and Intelligence to investigate the matter and report back within one week for further legislative action.

5. Presentation of Bills

The following bills were read for the *First Time*:

1. Northwest Development Trust Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (HB. 705).
2. Nigerian Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Institute, Uke, Nasarawa State (Establishment) Bill, 2022 (HB. 1883).

6. Presentation of Report(s)

(i) *Committee on Electoral Matters:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Electoral Matters on a Bill for an Act to amend the Electoral Matters Act, 2022 to provide stiffer penalties for Electoral Offences and for Related Matters (HB 1909)” (Hon. Babajide Michael Olusegun)

Agreed to.

Report laid

7. **A Bill for An Act to Establish the National Institute of Petroleum Research and Exploration Kolmani, Gombe State to Enhance the Research and Exploration of Petroleum Resources in Commercial Quantity in the Northeastern Region of Nigeria and for other Related Matters, 2022. (HB. 812) — *Third Reading***
8. **A Bill for An Act to Alter Part 1 of the Second Schedule to the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) to Devolve Some Items in the Exclusive Legislative List to States; and for other related matters, 2022. (HB. 772) — *Second Reading***

Motion made and Question proposed “That the Bill for An Act to Alter Part 1 of the Second Schedule to the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) to Devolve Some Items in the Exclusive Legislative List to States; and for other related matters, 2022. (HB. 772) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Kosisochukwu Ifunanya Umeh)

Debate

Question that the Bill be now read a second Time – Agreed to.

Bill read the Second Time

Bill referred to the Adhoc Committee on Review of the 1999 Constitution

9. Need to Ensure Implementation of the Great Green Wall Project:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that in recent years, Africa has seen the quality of arable land decline significantly due to climate change and poor land management, which poses serious threats to agricultural productivity, food security, quality of life and bio-diversity,

Notes also, that in response to the southward desertification of the continent, the African Union endorsed in 2007 the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) which seeks to form about 8000 kilometers cross-continental barrier of trees stretching from Senegal to Djibouti to serve as a buffer against the expanding Sahara Desert;

Further notes that eleven Heads of States and Governments initially endorsed the GGWSSI forming the Pan-African Agency for the Great Green Wall (PAGGW). These countries are: Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Chad and Nigeria;

Aware that as part of its commitments to contribute to the African Union's GGWSSI, Nigeria, established the National Agency for the Great Green Wall (NAGGW) through the National Agency for the Great Green Wall (Establishment) Act, 2015, to halt and reverse land degradation, prevent depletion of biological diversity, ensure that by 2025, ecosystems are resilient to climate change and continue to provide essential services that would contribute to human welfare and poverty eradication;

Aware also that the implementation of the project in Nigeria takes place in eleven frontline states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Yobe and Zamfara, covering over 43 Local Government Areas, constituting about 35 per cent of Nigeria's total land area and affecting the lives of over 50 million people;

Cognizant that the NAGGW developed a Five-Year Strategic Plan to engender coordinated efforts at advancing the objectives of the GGWSSI through strategic partnership between government, communities and development agencies;

Acknowledges that the efforts of NAGGW and her partners has seen that about 7.6 million plants and seedlings have been produced with 2801 hectares of lands reforested, about 373 hectares of multipurpose gardens and about 709 kilometers of wind breaks have been planted, with about 1396 jobs created for the inhabitants of these frontier states;

Concerned that notwithstanding the progress made, significant impact has not been made since the creation of this Agency particularly in the North-Eastern frontier of this project, comprising Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe States;

Concerned also that some communities in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe states report that the project has become one of skin and bones with many trees and plants left to die due to lack of adequate care and supervision, land taken over by farmers in local community, critical facilities like generators and solar panels stolen, boreholes left without water, properties destroyed due to lack of wind breaks, monthly stipends of N20,000 meant to be paid to forest watchers being stopped;

Further concerned that the poor implementation of this project further contributes to the loss of lives and livelihoods of farmers and herders of these North-Eastern States including the continuous breakdown of law and order as a result of the menacing farmer-herder clashes that costs the country due to the southward movement of herders due to the degradation of the ecosystem in Nigeria's GGW Corridor;

Worried that natural resources related conflicts and climate-related migration is a very important issue as approximately 2,168 kilometers of rangeland, with livelihoods of over 40 of 200 million plus people, are under severe threat, and the Ministry of Defence together with its agencies and departments are at the forefront of managing the ensuing security challenges that these conflicts and migrations cause in these areas and in other parts of the country;

Worried also that if pro-active measures are not taken by the NAGGW to curb the rapid degradation of these lands, particularly in the North-Eastern states, pressures on land resources will continuously increase thereby creating more conflict in these regions and beyond, and;

Cognizant of the fact that the proper implementation of the GGWP is vital to the health and sustenance of the woodlands and wetlands spread southward of the Sahara and the Sahel, and these sites are equally important to the health and prosperity of biodiversity and endangered species within the country, which in turn are equally important to the health and prosperity of the Nigerian people;

Resolves to:

- i. urge the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Defense to partner with the National Agency for the Great Green Wall (NAGGW), to ensure the proper implementation of the project in the eleven frontline states, and
- ii. mandate the Committees on Environment and Climate Change to investigate the poor implementation of the Great Green Wall Project, and report back to the House in four weeks for further legislative action.

Agreed to.

(HR.102/11/2022)

10. Urgent Need to End the Sit-At-Home in the South East and Resume Movement and Business Activities on Mondays and Other Days:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that following the detention and trial of the leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), Mazi Nnamdi Kanu, the group imposed on the Southeastern geopolitical zone, a compulsory "sit-at-home" and the subsequent shutdown of business activities on Mondays. This exercise, which began on August 9, 2021, has continued to this day. While some claimed solidarity with the acclaimed Biafran leader, the state of affairs has impeded the movement and business activities of many residents in the South East.

Also Notes that being one of Nigeria's high-growth economic hubs, the sit-at-home exercise has impeded businesses in the South East, incurred many losses, and taken a toll on the region's economic output. The movement imposes the cessation of all business operations, prohibiting movement into and out of the south-eastern zones on the designated days, obstructing movement on the Niger Bridge (which connects the southeast to the rest of Nigeria), and a mandatory shutdown of all forms of public activities, including banks and other government agencies.

Aware of the fact that, despite several attempts to halt this movement, the sit-at-home exercise has been compulsorily observed on Mondays and subsequent trial days of the alleged Biafran Leader.

Worried that many Nigerians rely on daily work to feed their families, the continuation of this exercise will cripple business activities in the zone, resulting in more loss of lives, and destruction of property, as well, as deter the movement of peaceful travelers passing through the zone.

Also worried, that this has exacerbated criminal activities in a bid to enforce the movement. The ripple effect has escalated into security threats manifesting as unrest, and destruction of business complexes, marketplaces, police stations, and public buildings such as banks, schools and hospitals, by criminal elements.

Cognizant of the fact that Section 41 of Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) upholds Nigerians' right to freedom of movement. The sit-at-home is an infringement on the fundamental human rights of Nigerians, precluding them from going about their business.

Resolves to:

- i.) call on the Federal Government to direct its security agencies to take immediate steps to ensure that there's security and free movement of people, goods, and businesses into and out of the South East on all days.

ii) urge the Inspector General of Police to ensure that the State Commissioners of Police in the South Eastern States to ensure the arrest and prosecution of hoodlums responsible for disrupting economic activities and carrying out criminal activities under the guise of enforcing the unlawful sit-at-home.

Agreed to.

(HR.224/09/2022)

11. Need to Implement a National Policy on Mental Health for victims of kidnapping in Northern Nigeria:

Motion made and Question proposed

The House:

Notes that poor mental health is a silent killer that is of great concern in Northern Nigeria;

Also notes that victims of kidnapping have been left by themselves to reintegrate into society, with no proper psychological treatment and no recommendations to prevent re-victimization;

Aware that there is an increase in psychological stress and trauma on victims, which can lead to increased security risk in the form of revenge, due to untreated mental health cases;
Also aware that Counseling and the offer of psychological assistance and information for victims, and their families are increasingly regarded as essential parts of the response to kidnapping incidents and may prevent lifelong psychological difficulties for victims and their families;

Worried that no quick response scheme has been set up at the national level to curb the effects of victim's reactions after they are released from captivity, and the financial implications of kidnapping to families which can lead to poverty,

Disturbed that kidnap survivors can experience health related issues such as stress, denial, impaired memory, shock, numbness, anxiety, guilt, depression, anger, and a sense of helplessness;

Cognizant that although the country has made significant advances on challenging public health problems, health-related policy development and legislation in trying to achieve health for all Nigerians, there remain challenges with regards to mental health services including that of policy development and legislation, financing, research, training and integration of mental health into primary health care;

Convinced that integrating mental health into primary health care and making it easy and promptly available to victims of kidnapping will greatly improve the lives of victims and their families;

Resolves to:

- i. Urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to develop a comprehensive database of kidnap victims and their families to enable them to access mental health care services;
- ii. Introduce a mental health care policy targeted specifically at victims of kidnapping and their families;
- iii. Urge the Ministry of Health to ensure subsidized mental health treatment at designated government health facilities for kidnap victims, and to prioritized delivery of mental health care at the primary health care facilities in line with the National Policy for Mental Health Services Delivery in Nigeria.

Agreed to.

(HR.100/12/2022)

12. Urgent Need for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to Affix Photos of Candidates Beside Logos and Acronyms of Political Parties on Ballot Papers to Reduce the High Number of Rejected Ballots:

Motion made and Question proposed

The House:

Notes the 2019 general elections had 1,289,607 rejected votes out of 28,614,190 total votes cast or 4.5 percent of the total votes cast,

Also Notes that the rejected votes in the 2019 general elections (1,289,607) were more than the total valid ballots cast in each of the 36 states of the Federation and the FCT, except Kaduna, Kano and Katsina States;

Aware that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), individuals and Non-Governmental Organizations in Nigeria have continued to do their best to deliver voter education. However, many electorates still find it difficult to identify and vote for their preferred candidate(s) as currently designed in the ballot papers due to high illiteracy in Nigeria;

Further Notes that according to the National Commission for Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education, Nigeria currently has an extant statistic of 31% non-literacy population level;

Worried that the consistent increase in the number of rejected votes in elections by eligible voters will undermine our democracy as this affects the political and civic rights of Nigerian voters and leads to disenfranchisement of a sizable voter population which may in turn cause disaffection and question INEC's credibility in the management of elections;

Cognizant of the provisions of Section 2(a) & (b) of the Electoral Act, 2022 that empowers the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to conduct voter and civic education and to promote knowledge of sound democratic processes;

Resolves to:

- i. urge the Independent National Electoral Commission to affix photos of candidates beside their party logos and acronyms on the ballots for the 2023 General Elections and beyond;
- ii. mandate the Committee on Electoral Matters to liaise with the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to ensure implementation of the Resolution.

Agreed to.

(HR.111/08/2022)

13. Need to Provide Relief and Rehabilitation Measures in Flood-Affected Host Communities in the Niger Delta Region:

Motion made and Question proposed

The House:

Notes that, the Nigar Delta region which has perennially suffered from environmental neglect, high unemployment and social deprivation and was further thrown into a humanitarian crisis by the impact of the intermittent flooding which struck new devastation between the months of October and November;

Further notes that this year, two of the most impacted states have been Bayelsa and Rivers, with many communities displaced by the natural occurrence while their sources of livelihood were wiped out;



Worried that affected local governments in Bayelsa including Ekeremor, Ogbia, Kolokuma, Sagbama, Yenogoa, Nembe and parts of Brass, have been almost completely submerged as the State is literally below sea level, with about 300 host communities rendered homeless; and in Rivers, over 200 communities in four local councils including Ogba/Egbeme/Ndoni (ONELGA), Ahoada West, Ahoada East and Abual Odual - were affected, rendering thousands homeless and without food;

Aware that the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), in Chapter 3, establishes a legal framework which imposes host community development obligations on oil & gas companies in the Niger Delta region;

Also, aware that both the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (the Commission) and the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (the Authority) are imbued with powers under the PIA to make Regulations with respect to host communities' development by companies in the petroleum sector known as "settlers" under Chapter 3 of the PIA;

Cognizant of the magnitude of the disaster in these States and the PLA's expansive obligations on settlers in host communities especially as regards the requirement to identify the needs of the host communities, and devise a strategy for addressing the needs and effects identified;

Further cognizant of the powers of the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management in disaster management and flood relief to aid communities affected by these intermittent floodings that have been a consistent threat to livelihood of the communities and the powers of the Commission and Authority to make regulations regarding oil and gas companies' corporate social responsibilities under the Act;

Resolves to:

- i. Urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management and the Niger Delta Development Commission to provide immediate relief materials to the host communities affected by the flood, particularly food items, medicine and building materials among other food and non-food items.
- ii. Mandate the House Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation to ensure that the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (the Commission) and the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (the Authority) develop the host communities' development Regulations that require oil and gas companies to include flooding and other disaster-control and/or prevention strategies in their annual development plan in their respective host communities to provide for rehabilitation measures during the flooding season.

Agreed to.

(HR.224/12/2022)

14. Need to Investigate the Utilization of the Ecological Fund

Motion made Question proposed

The House:

Notes that the Ecological Fund was established through various administrative and guidance procedures since 1981 as a special intervention of 2% from the Federation account and 1% of the derivation allocation set aside to address the ecological problems across the Federation, to solve serious ecological problems such as soil erosion, flooding, drought, desertification, oil spillage, general environmental pollution, storms, tornados, bush fires, crop pests, landslides, earthquakes, as well as prevent suffering and possible dirt from these natural disasters;

Also notes that flooding, drought out of season and wild weather patterns are now global experiences due to climate change. No one now denies its detrimental effect in all concerns of the planet. The disaster has affected 27 of the Nigeria's 36 States widely attributed to river overflowing, dam opening, current poor urban planning practices, poor drainage systems, etc. Flooding regularly wreaks havoc in Nigeria annually like every other natural disaster. This year 2022, Nigeria has recorded over 600 deaths to flood. In 2017, flood affected 250, 000 people in the Eastern Central region. In 2016, 92,000 were displaced and 38 died. In 2015, more than 100,000 were displaced with 53 deaths. In 2012, devastating flood forced 2,000,000 Nigerians out of their homes and 363 died;

Further notes that flooding has so far ravaged many communities, rendering thousands of people homeless, destroying properties worth millions of Naira, and constitutes a threat to food stability in the country as thousands of acres of farmland have been completely washed away;

Aware that the ecological fund had always been shared by the three tiers of government in line with the dictates of the Allocation of Revenue (Federation Account) Order 2002;

Also aware that there has been several cases of heavy and devastating flooding across the country since the start of this year's rainy season;

Further aware that the beneficiaries of the Fund are National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Ecological Fund Office (EFO), the North East Development Commission (NEDC), the National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA) and the National Agency for Great Green Wall (GOW);

Worried that the flooding could lead to other attendant security, health and economic repercussions for the affected states and the country in general;

Worried also that despite the fact that nearly I trillion Naira has been budgeted for ecological and disaster management between 2018 and 2022, there has not been substantial improvement in the prevention and management of floodings across the country;

Concerned that floodings across different States in Nigeria has become a yearly disaster and many victims of these floodings across the country have been left helpless and unsupported by relevant agencies of government thereby leaving them to wallow in poverty and dejection;

Further concerned that there has been no accountability by the management of the Funds on the utilization and proper implementation by National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to the tune of over N33 Billion;

Cognizant that this neglect has continued to exacerbate the sufferings of these affected persons in several locations in the country especially in known flood-prone areas leading to disease and deaths;

Resolves to:

- i. Direct the House of Representatives Committee on Ecological Funds to conduct an Investigative Hearing and report back to the House in four weeks.
- ii. Summon the Director General of National Emergency Management Agency to offer explanations over the alleged misapplication of Ecological Funds running into billions of naira.

Agreed to.

(HR.91/09/2022)

15. Consideration of Report

(i) Committee on Agricultural Colleges & Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges & Institutions on A Bill for an Act to provide for the Establishment for the South South Agricultural Research and Innovation Institute to promote the development of commercial crop variants and genetically modified aquatic life resistant to oil pollution, and for related matters (HB. 522) and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Ekom Miazor Fidelis)

Agreed to.

Question that the House do Resolve into the Committee of the whole to consider the Report – Agreed to.

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Madam Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE SOUTH SOUTH AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INSTITUTE TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL CROP VARIANTS AND GENETICALLY MODIFIED AQUATIC LIFE RESISTANT TO OIL POLLUTION, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 522)

Clause 1: Establishment of the Agricultural, Research and Innovation Institute

(1) This Bill may be cited as the South-South Agricultural Research and Innovation Institute Establishment Bill, 2022.

2) The Institute shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a Research and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

Question that clause 1 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 2: Governing Board of the Institute

(1) The government of the Institute and the direction of its affairs shall vest in the Board of Governors of the Institute (in this Act referred to as "The Board")

2) The Board shall consist of -

a) a Chairman and two other members to be appointed by the President and subject to confirmation by the Senate;

b) the Director of the Institute;

c) the Federal Director of Agriculture and Rural Development; A representative of the Federal Ministry in charge of Agriculture and Rural Development not below the rank of Director;

3) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, a person appointed as a member of the Board (not being an ex-officio member) shall hold office for four years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further period of four years.

4) The President may terminate the appointment of a member of the Board (not being an ex-officio member), if satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Institute that the person concerned should continue in office.



3) Any member of the Board (not being an ex-officio member) may by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Minister resign his office,

6) The supplementary provisions contained in the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters therein mentioned.

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 3: Functions of the Institute

(1) The functions of the Institute shall be to-

a) carry out research on ways to make the lands and the water in the South-South viable for farming and fishing

b) develop and discover crops and species of fish that can survive in the South-South region, taking into account prevailing situations and commercial viability of such crops and fish.

c) provide detailed identification of management training needs in agricultural organisations and of technical employees in the rural sector of the economy and develop training programmes to meet these needs,

d) carry out training of students in areas identified in paragraph a) and b) of this subsection:

e) promote or undertake any other activity that in the opinion of the Board is calculated to help achieve the purposes of the Institute.

2) The Institute shall ensure that the training approach to be followed at the Institute shall be highly job-specific and practical and shall utilise modern methods of management skills development usually utilised by similar establishments in order to attain the highest standards.

Question that Clause 3 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 4: The Director of the Institute and other Staff

(1) There shall be an officer of the Institute to be known as the Director who shall be appointed by the President.

2) The Director shall be the chief executive of the Institute and shall be responsible to the Board for the day-to-day management of the affairs of the Institute.

3) The Director shall hold office for a fixed term of four years, subject to renewal by the President for only one more term of the same duration.

4) There may be appointed, from time to time, by the Board such other staff as may be required for the purpose of the efficient performance of the functions conferred on the Institute under or pursuant to this Act.

Question that Clause 4 do stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 5: Service in the Institute to be Pensionable

Service in the Institute shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pension Act and, accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the Institute shall in respect of their services in the Institute be entitled to pensions, pensionable gratuities and other retirement benefits as are enjoyed by person holding equivalent grades in the civil service of the Federation.

Question that Clause 5 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 6: Financial Provisions

(1) The Institute shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be applied towards the promotion of the objectives specified in this Act.

2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to subsection (1) of this section-

a) such sums as may be provided by the Government of the Federation,

b) fees charged for services rendered by the Institute, and

c) all sums accruing to the Institute by way of gifts, testamentary disposition and endowments or contributions from philanthropic persons or organisations or otherwise howsoever.

Question that Clause 6 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 7: Power to Accept Gifts

(1) The Institute may accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gifts.

(2) The Institute shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift to the acceptance thereof are inconsistent with the functions of the Institute.

Question that Clause 7 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 8: Borrowing Power

1) The Institute may, with the consent of the Minister or in accordance with Borrowing power the general guidelines approved by the President, borrow by way of loan or overdraft from any source any moneys required by the Institute for meeting its obligations and discharging its functions under

this Act so however that where the sum or the aggregate of the sums involved at any one time does not exceed N10,000,000.00 such consent or authority shall not be required.

- 2) The Institute may, subject to the provisions of this Act and the conditions of any trust created in respect of any property, invest all or any of its funds with the like consent or general authority,
- 3) The Board may invest any surplus funds of the Institute in such securities as may be approved by the President.

Question that Clause 8 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 9: Annual Estimates, Accounts and Audit

- 1) The Board shall cause to be prepared not later than 30 June in each year an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Institute during the next succeeding year and when prepared they shall be submitted to the Minister.
- 2) The Board shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Institute and proper records in relation thereto and when certified by the Board such accounts shall be audited as provided in subsection (3) of this section.
- 3) The accounts of the Institute shall be audited as soon as may be after the end of each year.

Question that Clause 9 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 10: Annual Report

The Board shall, not later than 30 September in each year, submit to the Annual report Minister a report on the activities of the Institute and its administration during the immediately preceding year and shall include in such report the audited accounts. Of the Institute

Question that Clause 10 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 11: Procedure in Respect of Suits Against the Institute, etc.

No suit shall be commenced against the Institute before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to commence the suit shall have been served upon the Institute by the intending plaintiff or his agent; and the notice shall clearly and explicitly state-

- a) the cause of action;
- b) the particulars of the claim;
- c) the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and
- d) the relief which he claims.

Question that Clause 11 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 12: Service of Documents

The notice referred to in section 11 of this Act and any summons, notice or other document required or authorised to be served upon the Institute under the provisions of this Act or any other enactment or law may be served by delivering the same to the chairman or the Director of the Institute, or by sending it by registered post addressed to the Director at the principal office of the Institute.

Question that Clause 12 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 13: Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"Board" means the Board of Governors of the Institute constituted as provided in section 2 (1) of this Act;

"Chairman" means the chairman of the Board;

"Director" means the Director of the Institute;

"Institute" means the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute established by section 1 of this Act;

"Member" means any member of the Board and includes the chairman

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for Agriculture.

Question that Clause 13 stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Clause 14: Short Title

This Act may be cited as the South-South Agricultural Research and Innovation Institute Act.

Explanatory Memorandum

The Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of the South-South Agricultural Research and Innovation Institute for the development of commercial crop variants and genetically modified aquatic life that are resistant to oil pollution, to enable the farming and fishing communities in the South-South affected by the oil pollution continue their primary occupation of fishing and farming

Question that Explanatory Memorandum stands part of the Bill – Agreed to

Chairman to report Bill.



(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Madam 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 the Establishment for the South South Agricultural Research and Innovation Institute to promote the development of commercial crop variants and genetically modified aquatic life resistant to oil pollution, and for related matters (HB. 522) and adopted the Report.

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

16. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Monday, 11th December 2023 – at 10:00 am (Hon. Khalifar Nasir – House Majority Leader)

The House adjourned accordingly at 1:00 pm

Yasir Kassim
Speaker

ORDER PAPER PRODUCED FOR THE 2023 MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOURTH REPUBLIC
10TH MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (2023–2027)
FIRST SESSION
No. 28



MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Monday, 11th December 2023

1. Prayers
 2. National Pledge
 3. Approval of the Votes and Proceedings
 4. Oaths
 5. Messages from the Federal Republic of Nigeria (if any)
 6. Messages from 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
-

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. Anti-Lynching (Jungle Justice) Bill, 2023 (HB. 72) (*Hon. Massoud Oredola*) - *First Reading*
 2. National Institute for Nigerian Languages Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 101) (*Hon. Godwin Ogbiji*) - *First Reading*
 3. Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities Prohibition (Amendment) Act, Bill 2023 (HB. 223) (*Hon. Victor Chimezie*) - *First Reading*
 4. The Government Digitisation and Modernisation Bill, 2023 (HB. 30) (*Hon. Yasir Kassim*) - *First Reading*
-

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

Committee on Education (Basic and Secondary):

Hon. Amir Mohammad:

“That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Education (Basic and Secondary) on a Bill for an Act to Institutionalize School Feeding Programs for Indigent Students in all Public Primary and Secondary Schools in the Federal Republic of Nigeria” (HB. 1709)
(Referred: 27/10/2023)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BILLS

1. A Bill for An Act to Amend the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, 2004 to Extend Coverage to Senior Secondary School Education, Increase the Federal Government Block Grant Amount, Reduce Contribution by States, Increase Fines, and for Other Related Matters (HB. 62) (*Hon. Yahya Yusuf*) - *Third Reading*
 2. A Bill for An Act to Amend the Electoral Act No. 13, 2022, to Mandate Compulsory Transmission of Polling Unit Results, Provide Stiffer Sanctions for Dereliction of Duty, Strengthen the Powers of Independent National Electoral Commission to Regulate and Discipline Its Staff, and for Related Matters, 2023. (HB. 754) (*Hon. Umar Salman Adeyemi*) - *Second Reading*
-

MOTIONS

1. Need to Curb the Activities of Miscreants on Public Transportation System Known as “One Chance” in the Federal Capital Territory

Sponsor: Hon. Abdulwahab Muhammed Yusuf (Kogi State)

Co-sponsors: Hon. Oredola Massoud (Kwara State), Hon. Fatima Mohammed (Kogi State), Hon. Nazeerah Yussuf Jummai (FCT), Hon. Mohammed Kabiru Suleiman (Niger State), Hon. Fauziya Abu Meepatan (Plateau State), Hon. Katherine Kpanja (Nasarawa State), Hon. Kelvin Agagbe (Benue State), Hon. Amimu Okwutepe (Kogi State)

The House:

Notes the upsurge of violent security incidents known as ‘one-chance’; a criminal activity or scam that involves unsuspecting victims falling into the hands of criminal gangs operating in public transportation;

Also notes that this well-known menace is usually orchestrated by criminals who pose as legitimate drivers or conductors in the vehicle with the intent to rob unsuspecting individuals of their valuables such as money, phones, and other possessions. In some cases, individuals who fall victim are either assaulted, molested, and sometimes killed;

Recalls that it was widely reported in the media, that on 26 September 2023, a young woman, Greatness Olorunfemi, who was a victim of this criminal activity, was cut down in her prime, after she was stabbed and pushed out of a moving vehicle;

Worried that this phenomenon poses a serious threat to the safety and security of those who commute on buses, taxis, and other forms of transportation;

Also worried that the consequences of falling victim to a ‘one-chance’ operation can be severe. Victims who survive these operations not only suffer financial losses, threatening injuries, but also endure trauma and emotional distress;

Cognizant that the prevalence of ‘one-chance’ incidents underscores the need for concerted efforts from relevant authorities to combat this criminal activity by enhancing security measures to ensure that the ‘one-chance’ operations become a relic of the past rather than a present-day threat;

Further notes that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, empowers the National Assembly to make laws for peace, order, and good government of the Federation and ensure that such laws are implemented;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Police Force and Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to strengthen security measures including increased surveillance within the FCT;
- (ii) urge law enforcement agencies to strengthen collaborations, share intelligence, coordinate security efforts within and around the FCT, and conduct regular joint operations to identify and apprehend individuals involved in ‘one-chance’ activities;
- (iii) urge the Federal Capital Territory Authority (FCTA) in collaboration with National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) to implement and enforce proper registration and documentation of public transport operators and their vehicles;
- (iv) urge the FCT Administration to ensure that victims get free medical treatment for injuries sustained in the process;
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, FRSC, and FCT to ensure compliance.

2. Need to Enforce Traffic Regulations and Address the Misuse of Sirens in Nigeria

Sponsor: Hon. Zigwai Tagwai (Kaduna State)

Co-Sponsors: Hon. Ukasha Saudata Galadima (Sokoto State), Hon. Aisha Zakari (Kano State), Hon. Amir Muhammad (Jigawa State), Hon. Amina Mu’azu Mohammed (Kebbi State)

State), Hon. Muhammad Murnai Kabir (Katsina State), Hon. Yasir Yahuza Kassim (Kano State), Hon. Mustapha Tukur (Kaduna State)

The House:

Notes the National Road Traffic Regulations 2012 guide the behaviour or action of road users, in order to prevent accidents and enhance the free flow of traffic. It prohibits the general public other than the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Vice President, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Chief Justice of Nigeria, Deputy President of the Senate, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Governors and Deputy Governors of states from using siren, flasher light and beacon light with a view to preventing abuse that can cause serious consequences for innocent citizens;

Also notes the incessant abuse of the Road Traffic Regulations by motorists who run the red light, drive against traffic, as well as misuse sirens in convoys, non-adherence to the zebra crossing rules & pedestrian walk-ways;

Saddened that on the 22nd of May 2023, it was reported in the news that Mrs. Diana Dangana, a young mother and two of her children lost their lives while using the zebra crossing at the traffic light in AYA district in Asokoro of the FCT, a popular busy intersection, to a reckless driver who ran the red light;

Concerned about another incident that occurred on 16th August 2023, where one Mr. Linus Dare, a civil servant in Kaduna state, who was traveling along Kaduna-Abuja road, which is currently under construction and has only one functioning lane, was harassed by a convoy blaring sirens to intimidate road users to make way on the already congested road, thereby leading to serious damage to his car and that of three others;

Worried that car sirens in Nigeria has become a tool for harassing, intimidating and sometimes, inflicting injuries on road users and that the abuse of road traffic regulations has over time led to unnecessary road accidents, traffic congestion and abuse of rights of pedestrians.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Road Safety Commission to fully penalize anyone who violates the laws governing the use of sirens, and road traffic regulations, to ensure better compliance; and,
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Federal Road Safety Commission to ensure full compliance of by the Commission.

3. Need for the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to Include Humanities, Management and Social Science Courses in its Scholarship Scheme

Sponsor: Hon. Godwin Etiongbie Ogbiji (Cross River State)

Co-Sponsors: Hon. Anne-Marie Amadi-Emina (Delta State), Hon. Peace Oghenefejiro Afabor (Delta State), Hon. Alexandra Nene Atabong (Bayelsa State), Hon. Josephine Emeghoghena (Edo State), Hon. Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor (Edo State), Hon. Joseph Eshiet Udoh (Akwa Ibom State), Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle (Rivers State)

The House:

Notes that the Niger Delta encompasses all the six oil producing states in the south-south region of Nigeria as well as Ondo, Abia and Imo States, which are all socially, culturally and linguistically diverse;

Also notes that these States are expected to benefit from the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), whose funds as stipulated in Section 14 of the Niger Delta Development Commission Act, Cap, N86, Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2004, consists of monies meant for the States in the Niger Delta region;

Aware that Section 7 (1) (b) of the Niger Delta Development Commission Act empowers the NDDC to plan and implement programmes in various fields of life, including education for the sustainable development of the region; and that the Commission has been performing in this regard, albeit failing to integrate the Humanities, Management and Social Sciences in its Scholarship scheme for foreign Masters programmes;

Further aware that although the NDDC has been working regularly to address the developmental challenges in the Niger Delta region, the region is still in dire need of socio-economic and cultural development and the exclusion of Humanities, Management and Social Science-based courses in the NDDC postgraduate scholarship defeats its educational development objective;

Regrets that because of the restriction to Humanities, Management and Social Science-based courses, indigenes of the region with passionate intentions to address the developmental challenges in their fields of endeavour such as media and cultural studies, languages, business management and administration, international relations, economics, religion, among others are deprived of the opportunity to benefit from the scholarship scheme and consequently from proceeds of the natural resources in their locality;

Concerned that only Law and Hospitality Management are the non-science related courses currently considered on the scholarship scheme, leading to the perceived marginalisation of students in the Humanities, Management and Social Sciences, which constitute a large

number of students from the Niger Delta region graduated annually from university undergraduate studies, based on national estimates;

Also concerned that for the promotion of an ideal society, professionals from the Humanities, Management and Social Sciences are required to foster rapid socioeconomic development and the exclusion of students from these fields on the NDDC postgraduate scholarship scheme passes for an unfortunate instance of society shooting itself in the foot.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Directorates of Education, Health and Social Services of the Niger Delta Development Commission to review its master's foreign scholarship scheme to include Humanities, Management and Social Science-based courses;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to work closely with the NDDC to improve the inclusivity of academic fields of study in its scholarship scheme;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Niger-Delta Development Commission to ensure compliance.

4. Urgent Need to Ensure Federal Character in Political Appointments and Recruitment Across Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)

Sponsor: Hon. Shekinah-Glory Aziagba (Anambra State)

Co-sponsors: Hon. Victor Okechukwu Chimezie (Abia State), Hon. Onyekwuo Amara Jane (Imo State), Hon. Chidinma Aniekwe (Enugu State), Hon. Uchenna Aja (Ebonyi State)

The House:

Notes that according to Section 14 (3) of 1999 Constitution as amended, “the Composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such a manner as to reflect the Federal Character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also to command national loyalty, thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few State or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that government or in any of its agencies”;

Worried that the Federal Character Principle has not been properly implemented in appointments, within government ministries, departments and agencies as a result of nepotism, job racketeering corruption and the concentration of power and opportunities within the hands of a few elites. For instance, in 2022, it was reported that there was violation of the Federal Character principle in the recruitment and promotion exercise of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC);

Further worried that the South-East has been inordinately affected in this regard and in political appointment, particularly noting that in 2022, the Governor of Sokoto State, Aminu Tambuwal mentioned in a media interview, that in a country like Nigeria, no citizen from the South East was represented in key leadership positions;

Observed the imbalance in geographical representation in the current administration's ministerial appointments where the South East region has only five federal ministers when compared to other geopolitical zones who have a minimum of six ministers per zone;

Concerned that this does not promote national unity and loyalty as enshrined in section 14(3) of 1999 Constitution (as amended) and it will inevitably amount to an empty rhetoric if it is not implemented as prescribed.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Character Commission to strengthen its mechanisms and collaborate with Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to rectify instances of non-compliance promptly;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Federal Character and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Committee on Establishment Act to ensure compliance;
- (iii) urge the President to prioritize the nomination and appointment of individuals from underrepresented regions and ethnic groups in line with the Federal Character principle.

5. Urgent Need to Investigate the Incessant Arrest and Detention of Youths and Students by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Other Law Enforcement Agencies

Sponsors: Hon. Sanni Aminat Olajumoke (Lagos State), Hon. Salman Umar Adeyemi (Osun State), Hon. Samuel Ajayi (Ondo State), Hon. Idowu Bukola (Ekiti State), Hon. Olubiyi Sunday (Ogun State), Hon. Tomilola Omorilewa (Oyo State)

The House:

Notes that for a very long time, young Nigerians particularly those in the South-West region of Nigeria have become targets of wrongful arrest, remand, and seizure of properties by officers of law enforcement agencies and anti-corruption agencies and this was responsible for the popular EndSARS protest that occurred in the year 2020.

Further notes that the “Right to Dignity of Human Persons” and the “Right to Personal Liberty” are fundamental human rights guaranteed in Chapter 4 of the 1999 Constitution, which states that “no person shall be subjected to torture or inhuman or



degrading treatment...” and “every person shall be entitled to personal liberty and no person shall be deprived of such liberty...” respectively.

Disturbed that on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, an incident occurred at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife wherein some officials of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) stormed the citadel of learning in broad daylight, raided the campus and arrested over 70 students of the institution with neither an arrest warrant nor tenable reasons and were detained illegally at the EFCC custody and thus denied their fundamental right to freedom and personal liberty.

Aware that although more than half of the victims of this unjust arrest and detention were released that same week, sadly, only 11 were arraigned before a court of competent jurisdiction the following week. More than 50 innocent students had to experience an unjust violation of a number of their fundamental human rights.

Also aware that this barbaric occurrence is not the first of its kind in the Southwest as there have been numerous stories of such involving Nigerian youths where they had been harassed, brutalized, abused, and illegally arrested regularly by law enforcement agencies.

Concerned that the EFCC and Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), as well as the police and other law enforcement agencies, may be of the erroneous assumption that they have the power to make all these arrests and initiate these detentions and that is why they have continued to do so unabated.

Worried that this singular occurrence, if not checkmated, will continue to adversely affect more innocent young citizens of this country as they would keep getting stopped on the road, harassed, arrested, and in the most extreme situations, stripped of physical and economic valuables with heavy reliance on wrong suspicions by the law enforcement agents in most cases.

Further worried that it would make young individuals have a wrong notion and belief system about law enforcement officers and agencies and this may lead to a repeat of the 2020 #EndSARS Protest which might be more brutal and also lead to social unrest which would affect the peace, unity, progress and prosperity of this great country.

Convinced that the frequent unlawful arrest and detention of young people needs to be investigated and addressed decisively to create a culture of accountability and respect for human rights among law enforcement agents;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government of Nigeria to take urgent measures to ensure that law enforcement officers undergo compulsory training on human rights

compliance during arrests and detention and that those found culpable of violating the right of citizens are made to face appropriate disciplinary or criminal sanctions as prescribed by the law.

- (ii) urge the National Human Rights Commission to investigate other pending matters of youths who have been unjustly arrested and detained on suspicion of engaging in internet fraud, cybercrimes, and related activities.
- (iii) mandate the committees on Human Rights and Anti-corruption to investigate and conduct a comprehensive follow-up on the OAU Ile-Ife students' case and report back within six weeks.

6. Need For Immediate Intervention to Tackle Malnutrition in Children Under 5 Years Of Age In Gombe State

Sponsors: Hon. Salihu Bello Yero, Hon. Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde, Hon. Yahya Yusuf Muhammad, Hon. Eunice Maravi Bwala, Hon. Usman Yahya Ahmad

The House:

Notes that according to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), malnutrition is a direct underlying cause of 45% of all deaths of children under the age 5 of in Nigeria;

Also notes that while malnutrition is a major issue affecting the society at large particularly in Northern Nigeria, Gombe state government has a poor nutrition record among other states in the country;

Recognise that children under the age of 5 years are the most affected group in Gombe State with about 44.6% of these children suffering stunted growth and 1.3% suffering severe acute malnutrition over the years;

Aware that malnutrition is a condition where an individual's diet lacks balance in necessary nutrients leading to severe consequences on physical and mental health growth and overall well-being of an individual, and that some of the major causes of malnutrition are limited financial resources, limited access to nutritious foods and poor child feeding practices;

Further aware that the cases of malnutrition in Gombe state are grossly underreported and improperly documented, which raises the need for a comprehensive database to capture the areas most affected;

Cognizant that the Gombe State government has produced complementary food for the treatment of about 22,000 malnourished children across the 11 Local Governments of the State in batches to fight against malnutrition in the State;

Further cognizant that the Northeast Development Commission (NEDC) has also created measures to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition in the region through its efforts and in partnerships with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to distribute food items in order to provide relief services;

Aware of existing partnerships of the Gombe State Government with relevant organizations such as the World Bank and UNICEF to provide food and relief materials;

Worried that with the rising costs of food items and food insecurity, the cases of malnutrition may be further on the rise especially in rural and poorer communities;

Further worried that families living in rural communities lack sufficient awareness on causes of malnutrition and alternate dietary choices to combat malnutrition.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs to foster partnerships with the Gombe State government and other State governments, the Primary Health Care Development Agency, North East Development Commission and other relevant government agencies to provide proper treatment for malnourished children in Gombe State and other States in the country facing acute child malnutrition;
- (ii) urge the Committees on Communications and Information and Orientation to deploy more efforts toward sensitization and awareness campaigns on malnutrition across the country;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Health, Humanitarian Affairs to ensure compliance, report progress and keep an up-to-date database on cases of malnutrition.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

Committee on Women Affairs:

Hon. Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor:

“That the House consider the Report on the Committee of Women Affairs on A Bill for an Act to Amend the Labour Act, Cap L1, Laws of the Federation 2004 to Extend the Nursing Period, Increase Maternity Leave Wages, Include Paternity Leave and Mandate Institutions to Designate Daycare Spaces and for Related Matters (HB.44) and approve the recommendations therein.” (*Laid: 08/12/2023*).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	Rules and Business	Monday, 11 th December 2023	3:00pm	<i>Committee Room 102 (New Building) Assembly Complex</i>
2.	Public Petitions <i>(Investigative Hearing)</i>	Monday 11 th December 2023	3:00pm	<i>Committee Room 112 (New Building) Assembly Complex)</i>
3.	Niger Delta Development Commission	Monday, 11 th December 2023	3:30pm	<i>Committee Room 223 (New Building) Assembly Complex</i>
4.	Electoral Matters <i>(with Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission)</i>	Monday, 11 th December 2023	3:30pm	<i>Committee Room 407 (New Building) Assembly Complex</i>



MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE PRODUCED FOR THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Urgent Need to Investigate the Unfortunate Accidental Bombing of Tudun Biri in Igabi Local Government of Kaduna State on Sunday, 3rd December 2023.

Sponsor: Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle (Rivers State)

The House:

Notes with dismay the accidental bombing of Tudun Biri village of Kaduna State on Sunday, 3rd December by the Nigerian Airforce;

Also notes that the incident led to the death of over 85 civilians and injured many others;

Worried that the unfortunate incident could further weaken the trust of people in the capacity of security agencies to protect the lives and property of the people;

Concerned that a breakdown of trust between the people and the security agencies could hinder the much needed cooperation and partnership in intelligence gathering to fight crime and insecurity in the country.

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the departed souls;
- (ii) urge the Chief of Army Staff to set up a panel to thoroughly investigate the cause of the unfortunate incident to forestall future occurrence;
- (iii) send a delegation to console the Government and the people of Kaduna State on the loss of lives;
- (iv) urge the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to urgently provide relief materials to the victims of the unfortunate incident.

LIST OF MOTIONS PRODUCED FOR THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The contents of the motions are reproduced in the Order Paper for the MLA Session

1. NEED TO CURB THE ACTIVITIES OF MISCREANTS ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM KNOWN AS 'ONE-CHANCE' IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY.

Sponsor: Hon. Abdulwahab Muhammed Yusuf (Kogi State)

Co-sponsors: Hon. Oredola Massoud (Kwara State), Hon. Fatima Mohammed (Kogi State), Hon. Nazeerah Yussuf Jummai (FCT), Hon. Mohammed Kabiru Suleiman (Niger State), Hon. Fauziya Abu Meepatan (Plateau State), Hon. Katherine Kpanja (Nasarawa State), Hon. Kelvin Agagbe (Benue State), Hon. Aminu Okwutepa (Kogi State)

2. NEED FOR IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION TO TACKLE MALNUTRITION IN CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE IN GOMBE STATE

Sponsor: Hon. Salihu Bello Yero (Gombe)

Co-sponsors: Hon. Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde (Adamawa) Hon. Yahaya Yusuf Muhammad (Yobe), Hon. Eunice Maravi Bwala (Borno), Hon. Usman Yahaya Ahmad (Taraba)

3. NEED TO ENFORCE TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AND ADDRESS THE MISUSE OF SIRENS IN NIGERIA.

Sponsor: Hon. Zigwai Tagwai (Kaduna)

Co-Sponsors: Hon. Ukasha Saudata Galadima (Sokoto), Hon. Aisha Zakari (Kano), Hon. Amir Muhammad (Jigawa), Hon. Amina Mu'azu Mohammed (Kebbi), Hon. Muhammad Murnai Kabir (Katsina), Hon. Yasir Yahuza Kassim (Kano), and Hon. Mustapha Tukur (Kaduna)

4. URGENT NEED TO ENSURE FEDERAL CHARACTER IN POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS AND RECRUITMENT ACROSS GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES (MDAS)

Sponsor: Hon. Shekinah-Glory Aziagba (Anambra)

Co-sponsors: Hon. Victor Okechukwu Chimezie (Abia), Hon. Onyekwuo Amara Jane (Imo) Hon. Chidinma Aniekwe (Enugu), Hon. Uchenna Aja (Abia)

5. NEED FOR THE NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NDDC) TO INCLUDE HUMANITIES, MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES IN ITS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Sponsor: Hon. Godwin Etiongbie Ogbiji (Cross River)

Co-Sponsors: Hon. Anne-Marie Amadi-Emina (Delta), Hon. Peace Oghenefejiro Afabor (Delta), Hon. Alexandra Nene Atabong (Bayelsa), Hon. Josephine Emeghoghena (Edo), Hon. Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor (Edo), Hon. Joseph Eshiet Udoh (Akwa Ibom), Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle (Rivers)

6. URGENT NEED TO INVESTIGATE THE INCESSANT ARREST AND DETENTION OF YOUTHS AND STUDENTS BY THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION (EFCC) AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Sponsors: Hon. Sanni Aminat Olajumoke (Lagos State), Hon. Salman Umar Adeyemi (Osun State), Hon. Samuel Ajayi (Ondo State), Hon. Idowu Bukola (Ekiti State), Hon. Olubiyi Sunday (Ogun State), Hon. Tomilola Omorilewa (Oyo State)

7. URGENT NEED TO INVESTIGATE THE UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENTAL BOMBING OF TUDUN BIRI IN IGABI LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF KADUNA STATE ON SUNDAY, 3RD DECEMBER 2023

Sponsor: Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle (Rivers State)

BILLS PRODUCED FOR THE MODEL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

North Central

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND CRIMINALISE SPECTATING AND PARTICIPATING IN LYNCHING TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENSURE FAIR AND JUST LEGAL PROCESSES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

North East

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPULSORY FREE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION ACT, 2004 TO EXTEND COVERAGE TO SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, INCREASE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT, REDUCE CONTRIBUTION BY STATES, INCREASE FINES, AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

North West

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE DIGITISATION OF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND THE CIVIL SERVICE FOR THE MODERNISATION, EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY, DATA SECURITY AND ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

South East

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PROHIBITION) ACT TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, PROMOTE POLITICAL INCLUSIVITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS 2023

South South

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NIGERIAN LANGUAGES ACT CAP. N50 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO REVISE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE INSTITUTE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DOCUMENTATION AND DIGITISATION OF NIGERIAN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND TO CREATE ZONAL CENTRES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

South West

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL ACT NO. 13, 2022, TO MANDATE COMPULSORY TRANSMISSION OF POLLING UNIT RESULTS, PROVIDE STIFFER SANCTIONS FOR DERELICTION OF DUTY, STRENGTHEN POWERS OF INEC TO REGULATE AND DISCIPLINE ITS STAFF, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2023.

Women Caucus of the LIP 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE LABOUR ACT, CAP L1, LFN 2004 TO EXTEND THE NURSING PERIOD, INCREASE MATERNITY LEAVE WAGES, PROVIDE FOR PATERNITY WAGES AND MANDATE INSTITUTIONS TO DESIGNATE DAYCARE SPACES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Accompanying Report Produced by the LIP 2023 Women Caucus

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN AFFAIRS ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE LABOUR ACT, CAP L1, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION 2004 TO EXTEND THE NURSING PERIOD, INCREASE MATERNITY LEAVE WAGES, INCLUDE PATERNITY LEAVE, AND MANDATE INSTITUTIONS TO DESIGNATE DAYCARE SPACES, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

BILLS DRAFTED BY INTERNS

NORTH
CENTRAL

A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND CRIMINALISE SPECTATING AND PARTICIPATING IN
LYNCHING TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENSURE FAIR AND JUST LEGAL
PROCESSES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsors:

Hon. Oredola Massoud (Kwara State) , Hon. Fatima Mohammed (Kogi State), Hon. Nazeerah Yussuf Jummai (FCT), Hon. Abdulwahab Muhammed Yusuf (Kogi State), Hon. Mohammed Kabiru Suleiman (Niger State), Hon. Fauziya Abu Meepatan (Plateau State), Hon. Katherine Kpanja (Nasarawa State), Hon. Kelvin Agagbe (Benue State), Hon. Aminu Okwutepa (Kogi State)

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly as follows:

1. Prohibition of Lynching of Criminal Suspects

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to participate in the act of lynching, whether as a spectator or perpetrator.
- (2) Any person who is suspected of committing any crime shall not be subjected to any form of assault, torture, or inhumane and degrading treatment.
- (3) In the case of arrest by private persons, any private person or persons who arrests any suspect shall not assault, maim, torture or murder the suspect in the course of apprehension or thereafter.

2. Protection of Human Rights

The prohibition of lynching under this Bill is intended to protect the human rights of all individuals and ensure that every person is entitled to a fair and just legal process as enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

3. Duty of a Police Officer

- (1) It shall be duty of every police officer to-
 - (a) take all reasonable steps to prevent any incident of lynching, including its incitement and commission;
 - (b) obtain information regarding the possible occurrence of an act of lynching;
 - (c) act in furtherance of the duty to prevent any act of lynching in accordance with the powers vested in them;
 - (d) arrest spectators involved in or connected with the act of lynching; and,
 - (e) arrest persons involved in the commission of lynching.

(2) Any police officer exercising powers under this Bill shall act without any delay and in a fair manner.

(3) Where a police officer fails to prevent lynching, the police officer shall be guilty of dereliction of duty and punished in accordance with the Police Act.

4. Reporting and Prevention

(1) It shall be the duty of every citizen to report cases of lynching to the nearest police station or to any law enforcement body in Nigeria.

(2) Any person who witnesses or has knowledge of a potential lynching shall be obligated to report it to the appropriate authorities.

5. Offence of Spectating

(1) No person shall act as a spectator in the lynching of a person accused of the omission or commission of a crime.

(2) Any person who actively spectates in the act of lynching is guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with an option of fine not exceeding N500,000.

6. Offence of Participating in Lynching

(1) Any person who commits or aids in the commission of the act of lynching with or without knowledge of the offence the victim of the lynching is accused of is guilty of an offence.

(2) Any person who commits or aids in the commission of the act of lynching-

(a) where the victim suffers grievous bodily harm, deformity, loss or damage of vital body parts or any other form of injury shall, upon conviction, be liable to imprisonment for a term of three years without an option of fine;

(b) where the act leads to the death of the victim, shall upon conviction, be punished with imprisonment for life.

7. Interpretation

For the purpose of this Bill, the following definitions apply:

“lynching” means any act or series of acts of violence perpetrated by a person, groups of persons, or a mob on another person or persons suspected of committing an offence;

“spectator” means anyone who actively acts as a witness in the act of lynching and who is present within 30 meters of the physical location of the lynching;

“spectating” means the act of observing or witnessing a lynching without taking action to prevent or report it.

“victim” means any person who suffers direct physical, psychological, emotional, or financial harm from lynching, usually as a result of being the primary focus or target of such acts.

10. This Bill may be cited as the Anti-Lynching (Jungle Justice) Bill, 2023

Explanatory Memorandum

This Bill seeks to prohibit and criminalise the spectating and participating in lynching in order to curb the menace of jungle justice, protect the rights of suspects and ensure that fair and just legal processes are carried out.



NORTH
EAST

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPULSORY FREE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION ACT, 2004 TO EXTEND COVERAGE TO SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, INCREASE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BLOCK GRANT AMOUNT, REDUCE CONTRIBUTION BY STATES, INCREASE FINES, AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS (HB. 62)

Sponsored by:

Hon. Yahaya Yusuf Muhammad

Hon. Eunice Maravi Bwala

Hon. Usman Yahaya Ahmad

Hon. Salihu Bello Yero

Hon. Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde

[Commencement}

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly:

Amendment of the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act

1. The Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap A133 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (herein referred to as the Principal Act) is amended as set out in this Bill.

Amendment of Section 2(1)

2. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing subsection (1) with a new subsection (1)-

“(1) Every government of Nigeria shall provide free compulsory and universal basic education for every child of primary, junior secondary and senior secondary school age”

Amendment of Section 2(2)

3. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended in by substituting the existing subsection 2(2) with a new subsection 2 (2) -

“2(2) Every parent shall ensure that his child or ward attends and completes his-

- (a) Primary school education;
- (b) Junior secondary school education; and
- (c) Senior secondary school education, by endeavoring to send the child to complete primary, junior secondary and senior secondary education”

Amendment of Section 2(4)

4. Section 2 (4) of the Principal Act is amended by-
 - (a) substituting the existing section 2 (4)(b) with a new provision –

“2 (4) A parent who contravenes section 2 (2) of this Act commits an offence and is liable—

(b) on second conviction to a fine of N20,000.00 or a community service for a term of one month or both; and,
 - (b) substituting the existing section 2(4)(c) with a new provision –

“2 (4) A parent who contravenes section 2 (2) of this Act commits an offence and is liable—

(c) on subsequent conviction, to a fine of N40,000.00 or a community service for a term of two months or both.”

Amendment of Section 3

5. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing subsection 3 with a new section 3-

“3 (1) The services provided in public primary, junior secondary and senior secondary schools shall be free of charge.

(2) Any person who receives or obtains any fee contrary to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section commits an offense and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding N50,000.00 or a community service for a term of three months or both”

Amendment of Section 11

6. Section 11 of the Principal Act is amended by-
 - (a) substituting the existing section 11(1)(a) with a new section 11 (1)(a) -

“(1) The implementation of the Universal Basic Education shall be financed from—

(a) Federal Government block grant of not less than **3%** of its consolidated revenue fund”; and,
 - (b) substituting the existing subsection 11(2) with a new subsection 11 (2) -

“(2) For any state to qualify for the Federal Government block grant pursuant to subsection 1(1) of this section, such state shall contribute not less than **35%** of the total costs of projects as its commitment in the execution of the project”



Amendment of Section 15

7. Section 15 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting existing definitions of 'basic education', 'child or ward' and 'secondary school' with new definitions -

“*Basic education* means early childhood care and education and **twelve** years of formal schooling;

"*child or ward* means a person of primary, junior secondary and senior secondary school age who is between the age of **6 years and 18 years** whether disabled or not under the care of a parent”

“*Secondary school* means Junior and senior secondary schools which provide a six-year post-primary course of full-time instruction suitable for pupils between the age of not less than ten years to not more than eighteen years”

Short Title

8. This Bill may be cited as the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023

Explanatory Memorandum

This Bill seeks to amend the Compulsory Free Universal Basic Education Act to increase years of compulsory schooling to 12 years and for pupils of up to 18 years of age; to increase fines for parents who contravene the Bill and provide a community service option upon breach of the provisions of this Bill; to increase the Federal Government block grant from 2% to 3% of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation; to reduce the commitment by States to access the grant from 50% to 35%; and to provide for comprehensive definitions of basic education, child or ward, and secondary school.



NORTH
WEST

- (3) Providing online platforms for citizens to access government services, applications, and information.
- (4) Enhancing communication within government institutions through secure digital channels.
- (5) Ensuring the workforce is equipped with the necessary skills for effective digitisation.

PART III—IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

4. The government shall establish a comprehensive framework for the phased implementation of digitisation across all government institutions and the civil service. The framework shall include —
 - (a) clear timelines for the gradual adoption of digital processes in different sectors of government.
 - (b) technological standards for interoperability and compatibility among government systems.
 - (c) public awareness campaigns to inform citizens about the benefits and usage of digital government services.
 - (d) adequate training to effectively transition for government personnel to and operate in a digital environment.
 - (e) pilot digitisation programs to assess feasibility, identify challenges, and refine strategies before full scale implementation.
 - (f) promotion of inter-agency collaboration in providing government services, to improve service to citizens by integrating related functions to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

PART IV—DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY

5. The use and processing of data for the purpose of giving effect to this Bill shall be in a responsible manner and in compliance with extant data protection laws and regulations in Nigeria.
6. The government shall put in place measures to ensure the security and privacy of digital information held by government institutions. These may include—
 - (1) Utilising encryption technologies to safeguard sensitive data during storage and transmission.
 - (2) Implementing access controls to restrict unauthorised access to government databases and systems.
 - (3) Conducting regular security audits to identify and address vulnerabilities in digital systems.
 - (4) Adhering to existing and future data protection laws to ensure the lawful and ethical handling of citizens' data and information.
 - (5) Developing and implementing an incident response plan to address and mitigate the impact of any data breaches or security incidents.

PART V—FUNDING

7. There is established, a Fund from which shall be defrayed all expenditure in the implementation of this Bill, which shall consist of—
 - (a) Fees, charges, and any other income accruing from the implementation of this Bill



- (b) Grants of money, donations, or other property, upon such terms and conditions as may be specified by the person or organisation making the grants, provided that such terms and conditions are consistent with the objectives and scope of this Bill;
- (c) Funds allocated by the National Assembly for the implementation of this Bill,
- (d) Such other monies as may vest in or accrue to the Fund, whether in the course of its operations or otherwise.

PART VI—TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

8. The Ministry shall develop and implement training programs to enhance the digital literacy and skills of government employees and, this shall include—

- (1) Providing ongoing training opportunities to ensure that government personnel stay abreast of technological advancements.
- (2) Facilitating capacity building initiatives to empower government institutions in effectively utilising digital tools and platforms.
- (3) Training programs must cover emerging technologies to prepare government employees for future advancement in digitisation, such as Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence.

PART VII—REGULATIONS, REPORTING AND MONITORING

9. (1) The Ministry responsible for Communication and Digital Economy may make regulations for the effective implementation of this Bill, which shall include the—

provision of comprehensive guidelines on the technical, procedural, and legal aspects of digitisation.

(2) The Ministry responsible for Communication and Digital Economy shall establish mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of digitisation initiatives across government institutions.

PART VIII—INTERPRETATION

10. In this Bill—

"Digitisation" means the conversion of analog information, processes, and systems into digital formats, enabling electronic storage, processing, and transmission.

"Digital technology" means electronic technology that generates, stores and processes data in such a manner that content may be created, viewed, distributed, modified, and preserved on digital electronic devices.

"Fund" means the money accrued for the purpose of implementation of this Bill.

"Ministry" means the Ministry responsible for Communication and Digital Economy.

PART IX—SHORT TITLE

11. This Bill may be cited as the Government Digitisation and Modernisation Bill, 2023

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The "Government Digitisation and Modernisation Act, 2023" seeks to mandate all government institutions to digitise their databases, with the aim of streamlining operations and enhancing efficiency. Emphasising data security, it establishes guidelines for protecting sensitive information and citizens' privacy. It further aims to promote transparency, increase public trust, and empower citizens with easier access to government services and information. Overall, it signifies a significant step toward a modern, efficient, and citizen-centric government in Nigeria.



SOUTH
EAST

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PROHIBITION) ACT TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, PROMOTE POLITICAL INCLUSIVITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS 2023

Sponsored by:

Hon. Victor Okechukwu Chimezie - Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency
Hon. Onyekwuo Amara Jane - Oguta/Ohaji/Egbema/Oru-West federal constituency
Hon. Chidinma Aniekwe - Udi/Ezeagu Federal Constituency
Hon. Shekinah-Glory Aziagba - Idemili North & South Federal Constituency
Hon. Uchenna Aja - Ohaozara/Onicha/Ivo Federal constituency

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly-

1. The Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act 2018 in this bill referred to as the "Principal Act" is amended as set out in this Bill.

2. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by -

(a) substituting the existing provision with a new subsection (2)-

“(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1), commits an offence and is liable on conviction to, if the person is

(a) a body corporate, a fine of 2,000,000 Naira; and

(b) an individual, a fine of 500,000 Naira or six months imprisonment or both

(b) inserting a new subsection (4) after subsection (3) -

“(4) Any individual or corporate body convicted as mentioned in subsection (2) shall issue a public apology in two national newspapers to a person with disability who it was found to have discriminated against on the ground of his or her disability.”

3. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by renumbering the existing provision as subsection (1) and inserting a new subsection (2) –

“(1) The Federal Ministry of Information shall make provisions for the promotion of awareness regarding the-

(a) rights, respect and dignity of persons with disabilities; and

(b) capabilities, achievements and contributions of persons with disabilities to the society.

(2) Promotion of awareness as mentioned in subsection (1) shall be done on a quarterly basis by the Federal Ministry of Information in both the digital and traditional media.

4. Section 30 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting subsection (2), a new subsection (3) “(3). The government shall take measures to ensure the adequate representation of persons with disabilities in political appointments and elective offices.

5. This bill may be cited as the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

Explanatory Memorandum

This bill seeks to amend the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities Prohibition Act, 2018 to increase certain penalties for contravention of the law and enhance the political rights of people with disabilities to ensure inclusive governance in Nigeria.

SOUTH
SOUTH

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NIGERIAN LANGUAGES ACT CAP. N50 LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO REVISE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE INSTITUTE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DOCUMENTATION AND DIGITISATION OF NIGERIAN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND TO CREATE ZONAL CENTRES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by: Hon. Godwin Etiongbie Ogbiji

Co-sponsors: Hon. Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor

Hon. Anne-Marie Amadi-Emina

Hon. Josephine Emeghohena

Hon. Peace Oghenefejiro Afabor

Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle

Hon. Joseph Eshiet Udoh

Hon. Alexandra Nene Atabong

ENACTED by the Model Legislative Assembly-

1. The National Institute for Nigerian Languages Act Cap. N50 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this bill.
2. Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after subsection (2), new subsections (3) -
 - “(3) The Institute shall operate under the ambit of the National Universities Commission which shall serve as its headquarters.
3. The Principal Act is amended by inserting after Section 1, a new section 1A –

“Establishment of Language Centres

1A . (1) There shall be established a Language Centre of the Institute in each of the six geopolitical zones of the Federation.

(2) The Centre shall each be headed by a Deputy Director, and shall consist of the following other principal officers:

 - (i) a Registrar
 - (ii) a Bursar

(iii) and other offices as may be deemed necessary and appointed by the Governing Council”

4. Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after subsection (2) (b), a new subsection 2 (c) -

“(2) The objects of the Institute shall be to -

(c) collaborate with Nigerian higher institutions and other public, private or international bodies to promote the use of Nigerian languages.”

5. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by substituting for paragraph (c), a new paragraph (c) –

“(1) (c) six persons, one from each geo-political zone of the federation, with experience in Nigerian language studies, at least two of whom shall be a woman and a youth respectively”

6. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after the existing paragraph (j) new paragraphs “(k), (l), (m) (n)”–

“7. The functions of the institute shall be to –

(k) document and digitalise all the languages spoken primarily in the geopolitical zones where each Centre of the Institute is located;

(l) ensure that the Institute and its Centres established in the six geo-political zones develop unique alphabets in collaboration with the native speakers of each of the languages and dialects spoken in each zone;

(m) encourage collaboration with the Linguistics Departments in each of the higher institutions in each geopolitical zone where the Centre of the Institute is located in the country;

(n) organise public lectures, workshops and symposia to encourage interest in and educate the public on Nigerian indigenous languages.”

7. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after the existing paragraph (o) new paragraph “(p)”–

“9. For carrying out its objectives and functions under this Act, the Institute shall have power –



(p) to develop measures for granting scholarships annually to deserving students strictly for the encouragement of the study of endangered or understudied indigenous languages.”

8. The Principal Act is amended by inserting after section 11, a new section 11A -

“Visitation by Minister in charge of Education

(11A) Visitation to each of the centres of the Institutes shall be conducted as follows-

(a) The Minister in charge of Education shall be the Visitor of each of the Centres of the Institute.

(b) The Visitor shall, at least, once every five years, conduct a visitation of each of the Centres of the Institute or appoint a visitation team consisting of not less than five experts to conduct the visitation-

(i) for the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative performance of each of the Institutes; or

(i) for such other purpose or in respect of any other affair of each of the Centres as the Visitor may deem fit.”

9. Section 13 of the Principal Act is amended –

(a) in subsection (1), by inserting after the phrase “There shall be appointed for the Institute by the President, an Executive Director with appropriate general qualifications”, the words “in the fields of Linguistics and Languages.”

(b) in subsection (3) by substituting the existing subsection with a new subsection (3) -
“(3) The Executive Director shall hold office for a period of five years and shall not be eligible for re-appointment.

10. Section 39 of the Principal Act is amended to insert the definition of the word “visitation”-

“39. Interpretation

“visitation” means a formal visit by the Minister or a visitation team to any Centre of the Institute.”

11. This Bill may be cited as the National Institute for Nigerian Languages (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the National Institute for Nigerian Languages Act cap. N50 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to revise the functions of the Institute to include the documentation, digitisation and development of alphabets for Nigerian indigenous languages and to create centres of the Institute in each of the six geo-political zones, instead of one location, to meet the peculiar linguistic needs of each of the zones in order to foster the preservation and development of Nigerian Indigenous languages.

SOUTH
WEST

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELECTORAL ACT NO. 13, 2022, TO MANDATE COMPULSORY TRANSMISSION OF POLLING UNIT RESULTS, PROVIDE STIFFER SANCTIONS FOR DERELICTION OF DUTY, STRENGTHEN POWERS OF INEC TO REGULATE AND DISCIPLINE ITS STAFF, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2023.

Sponsor: *Hon. Sanni Aminat Olajumoke (Lagos State),*

Co-Sponsors: *Hon. Salman Umar Adeyemi (Osun State),*

Hon. Samuel Ajayi (Ondo State),

Hon. Idowu Bukola (Ekiti State),

Hon. Olubiyi Sunday (Ogun State),

Hon. Tomilola Omorilewa (Oyo State).

[] Commencement

Enacted by the Model Legislative Assembly:

1. The Electoral Act No. 13, 2022 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Bill. *Amendment of the Electoral Act No. 13, 2022.*
2. Section 8 (3) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing section 8 (3) with a new section 8 (3) — *Amendment of Section 8 of the Principal Act*
“8(3) The Commission shall have the power to appoint, dismiss, and exercise disciplinary control over its staff as may be prescribed by this Act or any other enactment by the National Assembly and this shall include the power to—
 - (a) Summon for questioning, any member of staff within its employment on his or her actions, omissions, and decisions during the process of an election.
 - (b) stipulate punitive measures that will be conclusive on members of staff that compromise the Commission's integrity in the performance of their duty during, after, and in the process of an election”
3. Section 25 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3), new subsections (4) and (5) — *Amendment of Section 25 of the Principal Act*
“25. (4) The announcement and declaration of the election results as provided in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, shall be subject to the compulsory transmission of polling-unit results, both in figures and result sheets, to an Accredited Digital Server to be managed by the Commission as defined in section 152 of this Bill”.



(5) Where the Commission is satisfied that the result of the election in a polling unit where transmission of polling-unit results to the Accredited Digital Server has not been completed will not substantially affect the final result of the whole election, an announcement and declaration of result may be made.

(6) The Commission shall provide a detailed procedure in its Regulation for the purpose of carrying out subsections (4) and (5) of this section which must be complied with and shall be binding on its staff and all election officers appointed for the purpose of an election under the Bill.

(7) Any person who violates the provisions of sub-sections (4) (5) and (6) of this section shall be deemed to be guilty of dereliction of duty under section 120 of this Act and shall be liable to prosecution.

4. Section 60 sub-section (5) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the word "Transmit" after the word "transfer" and also the word "electronically" at the end of the sub-section as follows:

*Amendment of Section 60
of the Principal Act*

"(5) The presiding officer shall transfer and transmit electronically, the results including the total number of accredited voters and the results of the votes cast."

5. Section 66 of the Principal Act is amended by renumbering the first provision as Section 66(1) and inserting a new subsection (2) and (3)—

*Amendment of Section 66
of the Principal Act*

"66.—(1) In an election to the office of the President or Governor whether or not contested and in any contested election to any other elective office, the result shall be ascertained by counting the votes cast for each candidate and subjected to the provisions of sections 133, 134 and 179 of the Constitution, the candidate that receives the highest number of votes shall be declared elected by the appropriate returning officer.

(2) The official declaration and announcement of the result under subsection (1) of this section shall be made following verification and confirmation of transfer and transmittal of all election data, on the provided Voters Verification Devices or any other technological device used for accreditation of voters in each polling unit.

Provided that where the Commission is satisfied that the result of the election in a polling unit where transmission of voter accreditation data has not been completed will not substantially affect the final result of the whole election, an announcement and declaration of result may be made.

(3) The Commission shall provide a detailed procedure in its Regulation for the purpose of carrying out subsection (2) of this section which must be complied with and shall be binding on its staff and all election officers appointed for the purpose of an election under the Bill.

(4) Any person who violates the provisions of sub-sections (2) and (3) of this section shall be deemed to be guilty of dereliction of duty under section 120 of this Act and shall be liable to prosecution.

6. Section 120 subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) of the Principal Act is amended by increasing the stipulated fine for the offence of dereliction of duty— *Amendment of Section 120 of the Principal Act*

“120.—(1) Any officer appointed for the purposes of this Act, who without lawful excuse commits any act or omits to act in breach of his or her official duty commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of N5,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of 12 months or both.

(2) Any polling official who fails to report promptly at his or her polling unit on an election day without lawful excuse commits an offence of dereliction of duty and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of N1,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of 12 months or both.

(3) Any polling agent, political party, or party agent who conspires to make a false declaration of the result of an election commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of N1,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of 12 months or both.

7. Section 152 of the Principal Act is amended to include the interpretation of Accredited Digital Server and Voters Verification Devices — *Amendment of Section 152 of the Principal Act*

“Section 152. In this Act—

“**Accredited Digital Server**” means an internet-enabled database that has undergone an official approval process and has been duly accredited for the storage of election results by the Commission;

“**Transmit or Transmission**” means to convey electoral documents, information or data by electronic means as prescribed by the Commission from one stage to another, or one system to another, as the case may be.”

“**Voters Verification device**” means a technological device used to confirm a voter’s registration and also mark the attendance of voters on election day;”

8. The Bill may be cited as the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023

Citation

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Electoral Act no. 13, 2022 to mandate compulsory transmission of polling unit results, provide stiffer sanctions for dereliction of duty by election officers, strengthen powers of the INEC to regulate and discipline its members of staff, and for related matters.



WOMEN'S BILL
BY FEMALE
INTERNS IN THE
2023 COHORT

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LABOUR ACT, CAP L1, LFN 2004 TO EXTEND THE NURSING PERIOD, INCREASE MATERNITY LEAVE WAGES, PROVIDE FOR PATERNITY WAGES AND MANDATE INSTITUTIONS TO DESIGNATE DAYCARE SPACES AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsors: Hon. Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor (Edo State), Hon. Sanni Aminat Olajumoke (Lagos State), Hon. Fatima Mohammed (Kogi State), Hon. Alexandra Nene Atabong (Bayelsa State), Hon. Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde (Adamawa State), Hon. Fauziya Abu meepatan (Plateau State), Hon. Josephine Emeghoghena (Edo State), Hon. Eunice Maravi Bwala (Borno State), Hon. Zigwai Tagwai (Kaduna State), Hon. Katherine Kpanja (Nasarawa State), Hon. Shekinah Aziagba (Anambra State), Hon. Racheal Dan Epelle (Rivers State), Hon. Peace Oghenefejiro Afabor (Delta State), Hon. Anne-Marie Amadi-Emina (Delta State), Hon. Nazeerah Yussuf Jummai (FCT), Hon. Onyekwuo Amara Jane (Imo State), Hon. Chidimma Aniekwe (Enugu State), Hon. Bukola Idowu (Ekiti State), Hon. Amina Mu'azu Mohammed (Kebbi State), Hon. Sauda Galadima (Sokoto State)

[] Commencement

Enacted by the Model Legislative Assembly:

1. The Labour Act, CAP L1, Laws of the Federation, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as “the Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Bill. *Amendment of the Labour Act, CAP L1, Laws of the Federation, 2004*
2. Section 54 (1)(c) & (d) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing subsections with new subsections *Amendment of Section 54 of the Principal Act*
“Maternity Protection”
“54 (1) In any public or private industrial or commercial undertaking or in any branch thereof, or in any agricultural undertaking or any branch thereof, a woman-

(c) if she is absent from her work in pursuance of paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection and has been continuously employed by her then-employer for six months or more immediately before her absence, shall be paid 100 percent of the wages she would have earned if she had not been absent; and

(d) Shall in any case, if she is nursing her infant, be allowed an hour twice a day during her working hours for that purpose”.

3. The Principal Act is amended by inserting a new section 54A and a new marginal note immediately after Section 54

Insertion of a New Section 54A

“Child Care in the Workplace”

54A. (1) Subject to the provision of this bill, every woman working in any public or private industrial or commercial undertaking or any branch thereof, or any agricultural undertaking or any branch thereof shall-

(a) be entitled to an onsite daycare facility in her office or within walking distance of her office to attend to her infant.

(b) be permitted to utilize her nursing time as provided under Section 54(1)(d) in this facility

(2) The onsite daycare facility referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall be made available to all staff, with infants under the age of 6 years who are employed in public or private or industrial or commercial undertakings in Nigeria and any of their branches thereof, and in agricultural undertakings, or any of their branches thereof in Nigeria

(3) Public or Private Industrial or Commercial undertaking or in any branch thereof, or any agricultural undertaking or any branch thereof found without onsite daycare facilities or provisions shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding N1,000,000.

(4) Institutions who are convicted and found in furtherance of subsection (3) of this section shall in addition, set up on-site daycare facilities within 6 months after their sentence.

4. The Principal Act is amended by inserting a new section 54B and a new marginal note after Section 54A

Insertion of a New Section 54B

“Paternity Protection”

“54B (1) In any public or private industrial or commercial undertaking or any branch thereof, or any agricultural undertaking or any branch thereof, a man (s)-



- (a) Shall be entitled to, upon proof of expecting an infant or adopting an infant below four months, paternity leave for a period not less than 8 weeks.
 - (b) if he is absent from his work in pursuance of paragraph (a) of this subsection and has been continuously employed by his then-employer for six months or more immediately before his absence, he shall be paid 100 percent of the wages he would have earned if he had not been absent.
- (2) A man who requests for said leave as provided under subsection 1(a) and (b) of this section shall provide his place of work with the expected date of delivery report of his wife or approval of said adoption.
- (3) Where a man is-
- (a) is absent from his work in pursuance of subsection (1) (a) or (b) of this section; and remains absent from his work for a longer period as a result of an uncertainty or family-related emergency certified by a registered medical practitioner that arose out of his wife’s pregnancy or confinement, until his absence has exceeded such a period (if any) as may be prescribed, no employer shall give him a notice of dismissal during his absence or notice of dismissal expiring during his absence.
 - (4) Any man who has experienced a violation of any rights provided in this section may, subject to the provisions of Section 81 make an official labour complaint”.

5. Section 55(1) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing section with a new subsection

Amendment of Section 55 of the Principal Act

“Night Work”

“Section 55 (1)- Subject to this section, no woman or man shall be employed on night work in a public or private industrial undertaking or in any branch thereof, or in any agricultural undertaking or any branch thereof without provision of adequate transportation and security of the women or man concerned”

6. Section 58 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting the existing section with a new section

Amendment of Section 58 of the Principal Act

“Offences”

“58 (1)- Any person who, being the proprietor, owner or manager of any industrial, commercial or agricultural undertaking, contravenes any provision of section 54 of this bill shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding N500,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both.

(2) Any person who employs a woman in contravention of section 55 (I) or 56 (1) of this bill shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding N300,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both.

(3) Any woman who has experienced a violation of any rights provided in Sections 54, 54A, 54B, 55, and 56 may, subject to the provisions of Section 81 make an official labour complaint.

7. Section 91 (1) of the Principal Act is amended to insert the definition of ‘Infant’ *Amendment of Section 91 of the Principal Act*

91. In this Act, Unless the context otherwise requires-

“Infant” means a newborn and a child below the age of six years

8. This Bill is cited as the Labour Act (Amendment) Bill *Citation*

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This bill seeks to amend the labour Act, cap 11, LFN 2004 to extend the nursing period, increase maternity leave wages, provide for paternity leave and wages, provide stiffer penalties for default, mandate institutions to designate daycare spaces for children of staff aged 0 to 6 years old. and for related matters



REPORT
ON
WOMEN'S
BILL

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN AFFAIRS ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE LABOUR ACT, CAP L1, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION 2004 TO EXTEND THE NURSING PERIOD, INCREASE MATERNITY LEAVE WAGES, INCLUDE PATERNITY LEAVE, AND MANDATE INSTITUTIONS TO DESIGNATE DAYCARE SPACES, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

BACKGROUND

The Labour Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 was sponsored by Twenty-One (21) Members of the House of Representatives (list attached herewith). The Bill was read for the *First Time* on the 6th of July, 2023.

The House, at its sitting on the 10th of August, 2023 considered and read for the second time a bill for an act to amend the labour act to extend the nursing period during working hours, increase maternity leave wages, provide for paternity protection, provide stiffer penalties for violations, and mandate institutions to allocate daycare spaces and referred the same to the Committee on Women Affairs to report back with its recommendations.

METHODOLOGY

After the referral of the Bill, the Committee on Women Affairs, in the course of its deliberations on the provisions of the Bill, agreed to consult widely with stakeholders on the merits of the proposed legislation. In furtherance of this agreement, the Committee requested for memoranda from relevant stakeholders and members of the public through newspapers, advertorials, and written communication, and invited the same to a Public Hearing on the Bill which took place on the 1st of November, 2023. The Committee received memoranda from the following organisations and individual(s), namely:

1. The Hon. Minister, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs;
2. Nigeria Labour Congress;
3. National Emergency Maternal and Child Health Intervention Centre;
4. National Centre for Women Development;
5. Tertiary Institutions and Universities;



6. Nigeria Medical Association;
7. Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre;
8. MSI Nigeria Reproductive Choices;
9. Barr. Nkiru Uzodi;
10. Members of the General Public.

Submissions received from, presentations made by the above-listed stakeholders at the Public Hearing and inputs by the Committee members formed the basis for the recommendations contained in this report.

OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

The Committee made the following observations and findings in the course of its assignment:

1. The Bill which seeks to amend the existing Labour Act has 8 clauses that seek to provide a legislative framework for the creation of equitable and family-friendly workplaces for working parents;
2. The Bill seeks to strengthen the extant Labour Act with family-centric employment provisions that reflect Nigeria's commitment to fostering a culture that values and supports family life, which is integral to building a healthier and more productive workforce.
3. The stakeholders unanimously supported the passage of the Bill with an appeal for further modifications in line with opinions contributed in the course of the Public Hearing, such as to:
 - 3.1. To extend the nursing period during work hours from half an hour, twice a day to an hour, twice a day.
 - 3.2. To increase maternity leave wages from 50% to 100%.
 - 3.3. To remove the restriction of women working at night at private and public institutions and replace it with adequate transportation and protection for men and women alike on night duties.
 - 3.4. To increase the fine for not adhering to maternity protection policy as proposed in sections 54, 55, and 56 of the Labour Act.

3.5. To include a new section on paternity protection immediately after maternity protection providing for specified time off to care for a new child and equal wages as with the maternity protection policy.

3.6. To mandate private and public institutions alike to provide infrastructural support within the workplace for the care of children of staff aged 0 - 6 years old.

RECOMMENDATION

From the presentations made during the Public Hearing and the foregoing observations/findings, the House Committee on Women Affairs to which the Bill was referred, having favourably considered same, recommends as follows:

“That the House do consider and pass the Bill for an Act to Amend the Labour Act to Extend the Nursing Period During Working Hours, Increase Maternity Leave Wages, provide for Paternity Protection, Provide Stiffer Penalties for Violations, and Mandate Institutions To Allocate Daycare Spaces; and for Related Matters.”

PHOTOGRAPHS OF PLAC 2023 LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

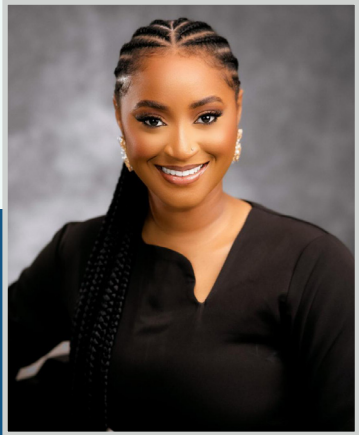
PRINCIPAL OFFICERS



Yasir Kassim
Speaker



Aminat Sanni
Deputy Speaker



Anne-Marie Amadi-Emina
Majority Leader



Shekinah Aziagba
Deputy Majority Leader



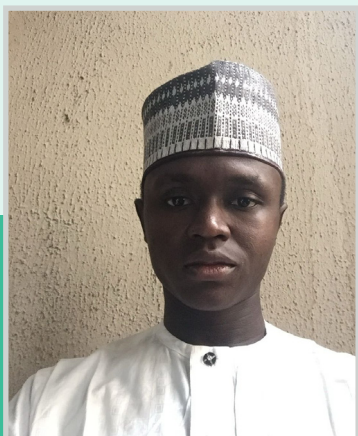
Eunice Maravi Bwala
Minority Leader



Salihu Bello Yero
Deputy Minority Leader

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PRINCIPAL OFFICERS



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**Sunday Christopher
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Minority Whip



**Saudatu Ukasha
Galadima**
Deputy Minority Whip



**Peace Oghenefejiro
Afabor**
Clerk

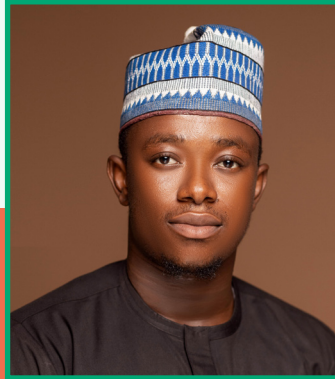


**Sumaiya Dauda
Lamorde**
Sergeant-At-Arms

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Abdulwahab
Muhammed Yusuf



Agagbe Kelvin



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Amir Muhammad



Aniekwe Chidimma
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Muhammad Kabir



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Nazeerah Yussuf Jummai



Okwutepe Aminu Oseni



Oredola Massoud



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**Amina Mu'azu
Mohammed**



**Josephine
Emeghoghena**



Racheal Dan Epelle



**Theola Ehinomhen
Amiokhaibhor**



Tomilola Omorilewa



**Uchenna Aja
Akpuru-Aja**



Umar Salman

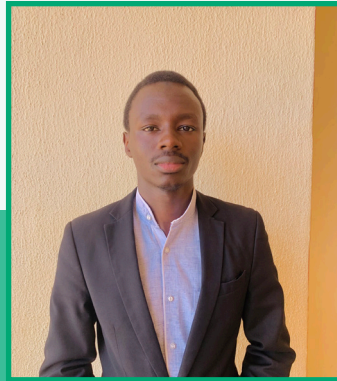


**Usman Yahaya
Ahmad**



Victor Chimezie

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Yahaya Yusuf
Muhammad



Zigwai Tagwai



DEPLOYMENT LIST OF PLAC 2023 LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

SENATE

S/N	Name	COMMITTEE
1	Sumaiya Dauda Lamorde	Communications
2	Aziagba Shekinah Oluchukwu	Federal Character and Governmental Affairs
3	Agagbe Kelvin Terlumun	Agriculture Production Services and Rural Development
4	Ogbiji Godwin Etiongbie	Tertiary Institutions and TETFund
5	Uchenna Aja Akpuru-Aja	INEC
6	Idowu Bukola Eunice	Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters
7	Salihu Yero Bello	Anti-corruption and Financial Crimes
8	Muhammad Amir	Education (Basic and Secondary)
9	Kassim Yasir Yahuza	Foreign Affairs
10	Amina Mohammad	Ethics, Privileges & Public Petitions
11	Oredola Abdulrahman Massoud	Police Affairs
12	Sanni Aminat Olajumoke	Rules and Business
13	Mohammed Kabiru Suleiman	Science and Technology
14	Ajayi Oluwafemi Samuel	Primary Healthcare, Development and Disease Control
15	Tomilola Omorilewa	Defence

16	Racheal Dan Epelle	National Planning and Economic Affairs
17	Usman Yahaya Ahmad	Public Accounts
18	Theola Ehinomhen Amiokhaibhor	Appropriations
19	Aisha Ibrahim Zakari	Information and National Orientation
20	Emeghoghena Josephine	Diaspora and NGOs

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

S/N	Name	COMMITTEE
1	Chimezie Victor Okechukwu	Healthcare Services
2	Udoh Joseph	Defence
3	Atabong Alexandra Nene	Judiciary
4	Bwala Eunice Maravi	Justice
5	Ann-Marie Amadi-Emina	Appropriations
6	Aniekwe Chidinma Sophia	Urban Development and Regional Planning
7	Onyekwuo Amara Jane	Solid Minerals
8	Tagwai Zigwai	CSOs and Development Matters
9	Kabir Muhammad	Public Accounts
10	Fatima Mohammed	Communications
11	Kpanja Katherine Kashim	Electoral Matters
12	Olubiyi Christopher Sunday	National Planning and Economic Development



13	Salman Umar Adeyemi	Basic Education Services
14	Fauziya Abu Meepatan	Petroleum Resources (Downstream)
15	Saudatu Ukasha Galadima	Human Rights
16	Yusuf Yahaya Muhammad	Police Affairs
17	Yussuf Nazeerah Jummai	Women Affairs
18	Muhammad Abdulwahab Yusuf	Rules & Business
19	Okwutepa Aminu Oseni	Customs and Excise Duty
20	Peace Fejiro Afavor	Legislative Library, Research and Documentation
21	Mustapha Tukur	Science and Technology

ABOUT PLAC

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) is a non-governmental organization committed to strengthening democratic governance and citizens' participation in Nigeria. PLAC works to enhance citizens' engagement with state institutions, and to promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision-making process.

The main focus of PLAC's intervention in the democratic governance process is on building the capacity of the legislature and reforming the electoral process. Since its establishment, PLAC has grown into a leading institution with capacity to deliver cutting-edge research, policy analysis and advocacy. PLAC receives funding support from donors and other philanthropic sources.



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