



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 14 February, 2024

1. The House met at 11.19 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 13 February, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House, pursuant to Order Six, Rule 4 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, do admit into the Chamber, the Saudi Shura Council Delegates of Saudi-Nigeria Parliamentary Friendship Group (SNPFG) for the purpose of observing the House plenary" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

5. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Iheoma Osimiri & Co., on behalf of Sgt Nte Ibada, on his suspension from the service of the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Kalejaiye Adeboye Paul (*Ajeromi/Ifelodun Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) A petition from Dada, Okey, Opara (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Bassey Inyang and 69 others property owners at Ikot-Effanga, Ikot-Ansa, Calabar, Cross River State, on alleged destruction of their properties by Explosive Disposal Team of the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Joseph Bassey (*Bakassi/Calabar South Federal Constituency*);
 - (iii) A petition from HRM Eze Amb. Obioma Levi Nworgu and 6 others, on behalf of Owaza Ancient Kingdom, Ukwa West Local Government Area, Abia State, on alleged abandonment of multipurpose Billion Naira Owaza Oil and Gas Skill Acquisition Centre by the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, was presented and laid by Hon. Chris Nkwonta (*Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*);

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

6. Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 5)

(i) *Loss of Lives in Erosion Crisis in Ndokwa East Communities:*

Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*) 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 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Loss of Lives in Erosion Crisis in Ndokwa East Communities:

The House:

Notes with great concern the existential threat posed by erosion in Ndokwa East communities along the banks of River Niger, including Abala-osumili, Utchi, Okpai, Abalagada, Aboh, Adai-Obiaka, Utuokwu, Umuolu, and Onyia in Ndokwa/Ukwuani Federal Constituency;

Also notes that the continuous erosion in the areas lead to the destruction of indigenous communities, roads, loss of lives and livelihoods of the residents in the place;

Further notes that the erosion has caused shallowing of the River Niger, thus calling for the urgent need to dredge and sand fill those vulnerable communities;

Concerned that the ongoing erosion has eaten away the shores of the River bank thereby requiring for immediate action to prevent further devastation;

Worried that these communities will face imminent extinction;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ecological project office to expedite the construction of shoreline protection as a matter of urgency to prevent further erosion-related damage and ensure the survival of these communities;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to collaborate with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs in order to address the erosion crisis by dredging the River Niger and sand filling the Ndokwa East communities to mitigate environmental damage and ensure sustainable development in the region;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Environment, Niger Delta Affairs, and Ecological Fund to ensure compliance (*Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with great concern the existential threat posed by erosion in Ndokwa East communities along the banks of River Niger, including Abala-osumili, Utchi, Okpai, Abalagada, Aboh, Adai-Obiaka, Utuokwu, Umuolu, and Onyia in Ndokwa/Ukwuani Federal Constituency;

Also noted that the continuous erosion in the areas lead to the destruction of indigenous communities, roads, loss of lives and livelihoods of the residents in the place;

Further noted that the erosion has caused shallowing of the River Niger, thus calling for the urgent need to dredge and sand fill those vulnerable communities;

Concerned that the ongoing erosion has eaten away the shores of the River bank thereby requiring for immediate action to prevent further devastation;

Worried that these communities will face imminent extinction;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government, through the Ecological project office to expedite the construction of shoreline protection as a matter of urgency to prevent further erosion-related damage and ensure the survival of these communities;
 - (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Environment to collaborate with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs in order to address the erosion crisis by dredging the River Niger and sand filling the Ndokwa East communities to mitigate environmental damage and ensure sustainable development in the region;
 - (iii) mandate the Committees on Environment, Niger Delta Affairs, and Ecological Fund to ensure compliance (**HR. 40/02/2024**).
- (ii) ***Recurrent Attacks of Herdsmen on the Entekpa and Iwilli Community of Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State:***
Hon. Onuh Blessing Onyeche (*Otukpo/Ohimini Federal Constituency*) 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 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Recurrent Attacks of Herdsmen on the Entekpa and Iwilli Community of Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State:

The House:

Notes with deep sense of sorrow and concern the recent attacks meted on the communities of Entekpa and Iwilli of Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State on Saturday, 3 February, 2024;

Also notes that barely 6 months ago, over two hundred person were slaughtered by these heavily armed herdsmen, rendering the rest of the Community homeless for several months;

Concerned that the attacks by the armed herdsmen are becoming more frequent with the recent attacks, claiming dozens of lives in the affected communities without any solution by the Government;

Disturbed that the continuous attacks on these communities even with the presence of Nigeria Police Force and the Army, these perpetrators have taken over the communities mulling down any individual that dares to enter the community;

Worried that no one single individual or these armed herdsmen have been apprehended for these dastardly acts;

Resolves to;

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police, and all relevant security agencies to carry out in-depth investigation on this periodic attacks with a view to bringing the perpetrators to book;
- (iii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy more surveillance to these border communities affected by the attacks;
- (iv) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to immediately deploy relief materials to the displaced victims of the Entekpa Community currently taking refuge in Adoka Village (*Hon. Onyeche Blessing Onuh — Otukpo/Ohimini Federal Constituency and 1 Other*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with deep sense of sorrow and concern the recent attacks meted on the communities of Entekpa and Iwilli of Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State on Saturday, 3 February, 2024;

Also noted that barely 6 months ago, over two hundred person were slaughtered by these heavily armed herdsmen, rendering the rest of the Community homeless for several months;

Concerned that the attacks by the armed herdsmen are becoming more frequent with the recent attacks, claiming dozens of lives in the affected communities without any solution by the Government;

Disturbed that the continuous attacks on these communities even with the presence of Nigeria Police Force and the Army, these perpetrators have taken over the communities mulling down any individual that dares to enter the community;

Worried that no one single individual or these armed herdsmen have been apprehended for these dastardly acts;

Resolved to;

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;

- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police, and all relevant security agencies to carry out in-depth investigation on this periodic attacks with a view to bringing the perpetrators to book;
- (iii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to deploy more surveillance to these border communities affected by the attacks;
- (iv) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to immediately deploy relief materials to the displaced victims of the Entekpa Community currently taking refuge in Adoka Village (**HR. 41/02/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

7. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Armed Forces Trust Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2024(HB. 1111).
- (2) Chartered Institute of Business Educators of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1112).
- (3) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1113).
- (4) Dietitians Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1114).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1115).
- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1116).
- (7) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1117).

8. A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigeria Shippers' Council Act, Cap. N133, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact Nigeria Shipping and Port Economic Regulatory Agency and for Related Matters (HB.1038) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Nigeria Shippers' Council Act, Cap. N133, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact Nigeria Shipping and Port Economic Regulatory Agency and for Related Matters (HB.1038) be read a *Second Time*” (*Hon. Abbas Tajudeen — Zaria Federal Constituency and One Other*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Shipping Services and Related Matters, Port and Harbour.

9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, Etc.) Act, 2015 and for Related Matters (SB.188) — *Second Reading*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do resume debate on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, Etc.) Act, 2015 and for Related Matters (SB.188)” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee of the Whole.

10. **A Bill for an Act to provide a Framework for the Promotion, Protection and providing Safety and Enforcement of Rights and Obligations of Commercial Commuters Protection Bill, 2023 (HB. 220) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to provide a Framework for the Promotion, Protection and providing Safety and Enforcement of Rights and Obligations of Commercial Commuters Protection Bill, 2023 (HB. 220) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali —Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Land Transport.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Akanu Federal University of Technology, Unwana to Provide Training and Teaching Instruction in every aspect of Education and other fields of Applied Learning relevant to the needs of the Development of Education in Nigeria, Matters of Administration and Discipline of Students and for Related Matters (HB. 672) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Akanu Federal University of Technology, Unwana to Provide Training and Teaching Instruction in every aspect of Education and other fields of Applied Learning relevant to the needs of the Development of Education in Nigeria, Matters of Administration and Discipline of Students and for Related Matters (HB. 672) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Igariway Iduma Enwo — Afikpo North/Afikpo South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on University Education.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Professional Bodies (Special Provision) Act, Cap. P33, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to include Nigerians and 3% charges from all Fees paid to Professionals listed in this Act by Public and Corporate organizations and Remit same to the Professional Bodies Association and for Related Matters (HB.322) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Professional Bodies (Special Provision) Act, Cap. P33, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to include Nigerians and 3% charges from all Fees paid to Professionals listed in this Act by Public and Corporate organizations and Remit same to the Professional Bodies Association and for Related Matters (HB.322) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Rotimi Akintunde Oluwaseun — Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

By the leave of the House, debate adjourned for further consultation.

13. **A Bill to Establishment Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State and for Related Matters (HB.1017) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill to Establishment Federal College of Health Technology, Song, Adamawa State and for Related Matters (HB.1017) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Aliyu Wakili Boya — Fufore/Song Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

14. Need to Consider Community Policing Constabulary Scheme and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Volunteers into Future Recruitment Exercise by the Nigeria Police Force and Civil Defence Corps (NSDC)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Recalls that the Sahara Reporters, and online media publication, of July 2019, where the then Chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum and former Ekiti State Governor, Kayode Fayemi, after meeting with the former President, Muhammad Buhari, stated that plans were on to use N-power beneficiaries to kick-start community policing in the country;

Notes that the proposal put up by the Federal Government and the 36 State Governors to recruit 500,000 volunteers across the 774 Local Government Areas of the country through the N-power programme was designed to tackle the shortage of manpower in the Nigeria Police Force;

Also recalls that the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) was initially formed in May 1967 during the Civil War and operated majorly within the Federal Capital Territory of Lagos, initially referred to as the Lagos Civil Defence Committee, in 1970 the institution was name, 'the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps', it became a national security outfit in 1988 and was officially established by Act 3 of 2003;

Also notes that the Nigerian Police Force Spokesman, Muyiwa Adejobi, stated in August 24, 2022, that the volunteers working and trained by the Nigeria Police are not direct employees or personnel of the police but of their respective communities, hence not entitled to salary but allowances (News Agency of Nigeria, August 25, 2022);

Aware that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, in line with his electioneering campaign aimed at strengthening the Nigeria Police towards optimal functionality in resolving the insecurity challenge in Nigeria, gave approval for the annual recruitment of 10,000 personnel into the Force (the Nationonlineng.net; September 2, 2023);

Also aware that the Chairman of the Police Service Commission, Solomon Arase, recently inaugurated an 11-man board saddled with the recruitment of police constables into the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) (Nationonlineng.net, September 4, 2023);

Observes that the implementation of community policing strategies across the country was to focus on building strong ties between the police and members of the communities through interactions with local agencies and members of the public, thus creating partnerships and strategies for reducing crime and disorder;

Conscious of the fact that the NSCDC was primarily established to protect lives, properties, and public infrastructure in conjunction with Nigerian police, and due to the shortage of manpower experienced in the Police Force, the institution relies on volunteers who complement the efforts of regular corps members to effectively carry out their assigned roles and functions;

Cognizant of the need to prioritize experience as a tool in Police and Civil Defence Corps recruitments and consider employing members of the community policing constabulary scheme

(volunteers) and NSCDC volunteers who have demonstrated commendable performance during their recruitment exercises;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Chairman, Police Service Commission, and the Inspector-General of Police to strongly consider members of the community policing constabulary scheme (volunteers) who have diligently performed their duties for recruitment into the Nigeria Police Force during recruitment exercises;
- (ii) also urge the Minister of Interior and the Commandant of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to strongly consider NSCDC volunteers who have diligently performed their duties for recruitment into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps during recruitment exercises; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Affairs, and Interior to ensure compliance (*Hon. Sulaiman Abubakar Gumi — Gummi/Bukkuyum Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iii), immediately after the words “Committees on”, *insert* the words “Police Institutions” (*Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo —Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that the Sahara Reporters, and online media publication, of July 2019, where the then Chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum and former Ekiti State Governor, Kayode Fayemi, after meeting with the former President, Muhammad Buhari, stated that plans were on to use N-power beneficiaries to kick-start community policing in the country;

Noted that the proposal put up by the Federal Government and the 36 State Governors to recruit 500,000 volunteers across the 774 Local Government Areas of the country through the N-power programme was designed to tackle the shortage of manpower in the Nigeria Police Force;

Also recalled that the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) was initially formed in May 1967 during the Civil War and operated majorly within the Federal Capital Territory of Lagos, initially referred to as the Lagos Civil Defence Committee, in 1970 the institution was name, 'the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps', it became a national security outfit in 1988 and was officially established by Act 3 of 2003;

Also noted that the Nigerian Police Force Spokesman, Muyiwa Adejobi, stated in August 24, 2022, that the volunteers working and trained by the Nigeria Police are not direct employees or personnel of the police but of their respective communities, hence not entitled to salary but allowances (News Agency of Nigeria, August 25, 2022);

Aware that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, in line with his electioneering campaign aimed at strengthening the Nigeria Police towards optimal functionality in resolving the insecurity challenge in Nigeria, gave approval for the annual recruitment of 10,000 personnel into the Force, (the Nationonlineng.net; September 2, 2023);

Also aware that the Chairman of the Police Service Commission, Solomon Arase, recently

inaugurated an 11-man board saddled with the recruitment of police constables into the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) (Nationonlineng.net, September 4, 2023);

Observed that the implementation of community policing strategies across the country was to focus on building strong ties between the police and members of the communities through interactions with local agencies and members of the public, thus creating partnerships and strategies for reducing crime and disorder;

Conscious of the fact that the NSCDC was primarily established to protect lives, properties, and public infrastructure in conjunction with Nigerian police, and due to the shortage of manpower experienced in the Police Force, the institution relies on volunteers who complement the efforts of regular corps members to effectively carry out their assigned roles and functions;

Cognizant of the need to prioritize experience as a tool in Police and Civil Defence Corps recruitments and consider employing members of the community policing constabulary scheme (volunteers) and NSCDC volunteers who have demonstrated commendable performance during their recruitment exercises;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Chairman, Police Service Commission, and the Inspector-General of Police to strongly consider members of the community policing constabulary scheme (volunteers) who have diligently performed their duties for recruitment into the Nigeria Police Force during recruitment exercises;
- (ii) also urge the Minister of Interior and the Commandant of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps to strongly consider NSCDC volunteers who have diligently performed their duties for recruitment into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps during recruitment exercises; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Police Institutions, Police Affairs and Interior to ensure compliance (**HR. 43/02/2024**).

15. Operations of Telemedicine Practitioners in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Telemedicine is a fast-growing area of healthcare with significant potential for improving access to health care and well-being of people by reducing delays in accessing healthcare due to time, distance, location, it ensures that a person with limited access to care, receives healthcare services when needed;

Also notes that Telemedicine companies have been operating in Nigeria for about a decade and is fast-growing;

Observes that Nigeria's National Health Act, 2014 was signed into law to provide a legal framework for the regulation, development, and management of Nigeria's Health System;

Aware that the legal framework covers patient safety and quality of care, data protection and privacy, verification of medical licensing and qualifications, ethical considerations covering consent and confidentiality;

Worried that there is no legal framework for Telemedicine operators; some providers have been asking for a blueprint/guidance while some are using the information gathered from the United Kingdom;

Concerned that lack of specific legal framework for Telemedicine operators could potentially put Nigerians at significant risk;

Believes that Telemedicine has a huge potential and will benefit the country due to shortage of clinicians to meet the demands in the country;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria to undertake a research on the operation of Telemedicine Practitioners in Nigeria;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to convene a Legislative Summit with all stakeholders in the Telemedicine and policymakers to facilitate the process of creating a legal framework for Telemedicine operators in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Blessing Chigeru Amadi — Port Harcourt II Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (ii), immediately after the words “to convene a ”, *leave out* the word “Legislative” (*Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Telemedicine is a fast-growing area of healthcare with significant potential for improving access to health care and well-being of people by reducing delays in accessing healthcare due to time, distance, location, it ensures that a person with limited access to care, receives healthcare services when needed;

Also noted that Telemedicine companies have been operating in Nigeria for about a decade and is fast-growing;

Observed that Nigeria's National Health Act, 2014 was signed into law to provide a legal framework for the regulation, development, and management of Nigeria's Health System;

Aware that the legal framework covers patient safety and quality of care, data protection and privacy, verification of medical licensing and qualifications, ethical considerations covering consent and confidentiality;

Worried that there is no legal framework for Telemedicine operators; some providers have been asking for a blueprint/guidance while some are using the information gathered from the United Kingdom;

Concerned that lack of specific legal framework for Telemedicine operators could potentially put Nigerians at significant risk;

Believed that Telemedicine has a huge potential and will benefit the country due to shortage of clinicians to meet the demands in the country;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health and the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria to undertake a research on the operation of Telemedicine Practitioners in Nigeria;

- (ii) mandate the Committee on Healthcare Services to convene a Summit with all stakeholders in the Telemedicine and policymakers to facilitate the process of creating a legal framework for Telemedicine operators in Nigeria and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 44/02/2024).

16. Need to Rehabilitate Bakolori Dam at Talata-Mafara and Maradun Local Government Areas of Zamfara State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Bakolori Dam was completed in 1978 and was commissioned in 1982, had its reservoir filled in 1981, with 5.5-kilometer earth-fill concrete embankments;

Also notes that the Dam is a major reservoir on the Sokoto River, a tributary of the Rima River, which in turn feeds the Niger River;

Aware that the primary purposes of the Dam are to provide water supply, irrigation, fishing, flood control, and small hydropower;

Worried that Dam's potential hydropower has been underutilized due to its abandoned status, similarly, the public-private partnership (PPP) on the rehabilitation of the hydropower potentials of the dam, initiated in 2017, has been stultified;

Aware that the rehabilitation of the Dam and maximizing its huge potential will enhance irrigation farming activities, water supply, fishing, and flood control in Zamfara State;

Cognizant that the revival, actualization, and full implementation of the PPP arrangements on Bakori Dam's hydropower potentials would greatly enhance power supply to the Dam and its neighbouring beneficiaries;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to liaise with the management of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Sokoto Rima River Basin, and Bakolori Dam to access the rehabilitation needs with a view to rehabilitating it for optimum utilization; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Power to collaborate with the management of Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission, Sokoto Rima River Basin, and Bakolori Dam to investigate and revive hydropower potentials (*Hon. Isa Muhammad Anka — Anka/Talata Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (iii) as follows:

“mandate the Committees on Water Resources, and Power to ensure securitisation arrangements for all power and water projects slated for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP’s) in line with gas sector procurement” (*Hon. Uchenna Okonkwo — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Bakolori Dam was completed in 1978 and was commissioned in 1982, had its reservoir filled in 1981, with 5.5-kilometer earth-fill concrete embankments;

Also noted that the Dam is a major reservoir on the Sokoto River, a tributary of the Rima River, which in turn feeds the Niger River;

Aware that the primary purposes of the Dam are to provide water supply, irrigation, fishing, flood control, and small hydropower;

Worried that Dam's potential hydropower has been underutilized due to its abandoned status, similarly, the public-private partnership (PPP) on the rehabilitation of the hydropower potentials of the dam, initiated in 2017, has been stultified;

Aware that the rehabilitation of the Dam and maximizing its huge potential will enhance irrigation farming activities, water supply, fishing, and flood control in Zamfara State;

Cognizant that the revival, actualization, and full implementation of the PPP arrangements on Bakori Dam's hydropower potentials would greatly enhance power supply to the Dam and its neighbouring beneficiaries.

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Water Resources to liaise with the management of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Sokoto Rima River Basin, and Bakolori Dam to access the rehabilitation needs with a view to rehabilitating it for optimum utilization;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Power to collaborate with the management of Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission, Sokoto Rima River Basin, and Bakolori Dam to investigate and revive hydropower potentials; and
- (iii) further mandate the Committees on Water Resources, and Power to ensure securitisation arrangements for all power and water projects slated for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP's) in line with gas sector procurement (**HR. 45/02/2024**).

17. Abandoned Ayila-Ayede-Efire Road Spur Ondo State in Ogun Waterside

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the current level of abandoned projects in Nigeria is alarming and negatively impacting the country's infrastructural development;

Also notes that this menace is preventing Nigerians from receiving benefits from the proceeds of their taxes and national resources; thus, statistics shows that currently, over 56,000 projects worth over twelve trillion naira (N12, 000,000.00) are abandoned at different locations in the country;

Observes that the projects were initially designed to improve the living conditions of Nigerians in terms of the construction of roads and bridges, electrification and power improvement, the provision of water, education and health facilities, and so forth;

Also observes that successful administrations have neglected these projects because of the assumption that they were not initiated by their government or did not fall within their policy direction, without considering the impact of those projects to the lives of Nigerians and public funds already expended on them;

Concerned among these projects is the Ayila-Ayede-Efire Road spur Ondo State in Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, which was awarded to Reynolds Construction Company Ltd. (RCC) and commenced in 2018;

Worried that the project, which was facilitated by former Hon. Minister of Finance (Mrs. Kemi Adeosun) aimed at improving the lives of people in the area after being neglected for over fifteen years by the government, was impeded and abandoned immediately after she resigned from office, thereby undermining the reflection of true democracy and the agenda of that administration;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of works to prioritize and ensure that adequate budgetary provision is made in the 2025 budget estimates to comprehensively address the completion of the project; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to conduct an overview assessment of the abandoned project to include the scope of work, date of commencement, contract value, amount spent, and stage of work and ensure that necessary measures are put in place to ensure Reynolds Construction Company Ltd. returns to the field and complete the project; and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Joseph Adegbesan Folorunsho — Ijebu North/Ijebu East/Ogun Waterside Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 46/02/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency , pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

18. Need to Curb the Number of Out-of-School Children

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Education is a fundamental human right of every child yet, thousands of Nigeria children are being deprived of this basic human right;

Also notes that the provisions on Right to Education in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 though regarded as non-justiciable by Chapter 6 of the Constitution, have been given effect and made justiciable by other domestic laws such as the Compulsory Universal Basic Education Act (UBEA), 2004 and the Child's Rights Act of 2003;

Recalls that the 1991 Convention on the Rights of the Child was domesticated into National Law and passed by the National Assembly in July 2003 as the Childs Rights Act of 2003 (CRA);

Also recalls that Section 15 of CRA provides that "Every child has the right to free, compulsory and universal basic education and it shall be the duty of the Government in Nigeria to provide such education" while Section 2(1) of the UBEC Act provides that "Every Government in Nigeria shall provide free, compulsory and universal basic education for every child of primary and junior secondary school age"

Cognizant that the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, approximated 258 million out of school children are out of school globally, with sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia being the most affected regions;

Also cognizant that the issue of out-of-school children is a multifaceted problem with far reaching consequences;

Further cognizant of the significant role and obligations of parents and guardians in the prompt attendance of their children and wards in school, as well as the consequences of their failure as captured in Section 2(2) and (4) respectively, of the UBEC Act;

Concerned that the actualization of promoting the Right to Education is bedeviled by issues such as low enrolment of children particularly the girl child, low completion of basic education, shortage and poor-quality infrastructures in schools, amongst others;

Believes that education plays a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty, and promoting social and economic development;

Also believes that to ensure the efficiency and productivity of children as well as security for a better future for the Nigerian child, swift action need to be taken to address the education crisis;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to increase the budgetary allocation for education to accommodate free basic education for Nigerian children;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Education to ensure the realisation of free basic education for all Nigeria children with no hidden charges/fees;
- (iii) further urge the State Governments to actualise the right to free basic education in all states in Nigeria and mandate the compulsory enrolment of all children in their states;
- (iv) again urge the UBEC to prescribe the minimum standards for basic education, with effective and strict monitoring of the standards and personnel audit of teaching and non-teaching staff,
- (v) also urge State Enforcement Agencies to hold children found loitering during school hours and have their parents face the appropriate consequences;
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to ensure compliance (*Hon. Olamijuwonlo Ayodeji Alao Akala — Ogbomosho North/Ogbomosho South/Orire Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (vii) as follows:

“mandate the Leadership of the House to convene a summit on Basic Education in collaboration with relevant stakeholders” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Education is a fundamental human right of every child yet, thousands of Nigeria children are being deprived of this basic human right;

Also noted that the provisions on Right to Education in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 though regarded as non-justiciable by Chapter 6 of the Constitution, have been given effect and made justiciable by other domestic laws such as the Compulsory Universal Basic Education Act (UBEA), 2004 and the Child's Rights Act of 2003;

Recalled that the 1991 Convention on the Rights of the Child was domesticated into National Law and passed by the National Assembly in July 2003 as the Childs Rights Act of 2003 (CRA);

Also recalled that Section 15 of CRA provides that "Every child has the right to free, compulsory and universal basic education and it shall be the duty of the Government in Nigeria to provide such education" while Section 2 (1) of the UBEC Act provides that "Every Government in Nigeria shall provide free, compulsory and universal basic education for every child of primary and junior secondary school age"

Cognizant that the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, approximated 258 million out of school children are out of school globally, with sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia being the most affected regions;

Also cognizant that the issue of out-of-school children is a multifaceted problem with far reaching consequences;

Further cognizant of the significant role and obligations of parents and guardians in the prompt attendance of their children and wards in school, as well as the consequences of their failure as captured in Section 2(2) and (4) respectively, of the UBEC Act;

Concerned that the actualization of promoting the Right to Education is bedeviled by issues such as low enrolment of children particularly the girl child, low completion of basic education, shortage and poor-quality infrastructures in schools, amongst others;

Believed that education plays a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty, and promoting social and economic development;

Also believed that to ensure the efficiency and productivity of children as well as security for a better future for the Nigerian child, swift action need to be taken to address the education crisis;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to increase the budgetary allocation for education to accommodate free basic education for Nigerian children;
- (ii) also urge the Ministry of Education to ensure the realisation of free basic education for all Nigeria children with no hidden charges/fees;
- (iii) further urge the State Governments to actualise the right to free basic education in all states in Nigeria and mandate the compulsory enrolment of all children in their states;
- (iv) again urge the UBEC to prescribe the minimum standards for basic education, with effective and strict monitoring of the standards and personnel audit of teaching and non-teaching staff,
- (v) still urge State Enforcement Agencies to hold children found loitering during school hours and have their parents face the appropriate consequences;
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Basic Education and Services to ensure compliance;
- (vii) also mandate the Leadership of the House to convene a summit on Basic Education in collaboration with relevant stakeholders (**HR. 47/02/2024**).

19. Need for Construction of a Pedestrian Bridge at Enekwasumpu along Onitsha - Enugu Expressway

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Onitsha-Enugu Expressway is a vital transportation route connecting two major cities in Nigeria, serving as a crucial link for both commuter and freight traffic;

Also notes that Enekwasumpu is a high-traffic pedestrian crossing site where numerous pedestrians, including students, commuters, and residents, cross the expressway daily in unsafe and precarious conditions because of the absence of a designated pedestrian bridge;

Aware that recent data compiled by the Nigerian Bureau of Statistics reports over nine accidents in the last three months at the Enekasumpa Junction, along the Onitsha-Enugu Express Way;

Also aware that the recent surge in the number of road accidents along the Onitsha-Enugu Expressway, primarily at the Enekwasumpu location, resulting in five deaths and several other injuries, has raised concerns about public safety and the need for immediate measures to mitigate the risks involved;

Concerned that lives lost at this location were those of breadwinners and students who were on their way to work or school;

Worried that if immediate action is not taken to construct a pedestrian bridge at Enekwasumpu along the Onitsha-Enugu expressway, the lives of residents will be at risk;

Alarmed that the absence of a pedestrian bridge at Enekwasumpu has contributed to the rise in road accidents and pedestrian fatalities, resulting in severe injuries and loss of life, which negatively impacts the safety, accessibility, wellbeing of the public, and economic vitality of the area;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to prioritize the inclusion of the construction of pedestrian bridge at Enekwasumpu along the Onitsha-Enugu Expressway in the 2025 budget estimates;
- (ii) urge the Federal Road Safety Corps to intensify road safety awareness campaigns in the vicinity and other highways; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Works, Appropriation, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance as well as adequate budgetary allocation (*Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 48/02/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, Appropriation, and Legislative Compliance, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

20. Need to Ban the Use and Distribution of Styrofoam and Single Use Plastic Across the Country
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the provisions of Section 20 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), place a responsibility on the Federal Government to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations, and ensure the health and well-being of its citizens;

Also notes that the increasing use of styrofoam and single-use plastics in Nigeria poses significant environmental and public health risks, including pollution of waterways, soil, and air quality;

Further notes that chemical found in styrofoam, is linked to health issues, such as cancer, vision and hearing loss, impaired memory and concentration, and nervous system effects;

Aware that styrofoam is prohibited in Taiwan, Rwanda, England, and many other European countries, together with some towns and states in the United States. Currently, the product is illegal in Lagos and Abia States;

Also aware that alternatives to styrofoam and single-use plastics, such as biodegradable materials, reusable containers, and recyclable packaging, can reduce environmental impact and public health risks;

Concerned that the increasing use of styrofoam and single-use plastics in Nigeria not only leads to increased plastic waste and environmental pollution but also poses a significant health risk;

Cognizant of the need to address the environmental and public health crises posed by styrofoam and single-use plastics to safeguard the future of Nigeria's natural resources, ecosystems, health, and the well-being of its citizens;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to ban the production, importation, distribution, and use of styrofoam and single-use plastics throughout Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to implement a phased approach to the ban by providing sufficient time for businesses and industries to transition to alternative eco-friendly materials and practices;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) and other relevant agencies to monitor the quality of packaging of foods and beverages, particularly in fast moving consumer goods (FMCGs), ensuring global best practices are followed and all appropriate regulations guiding the whole process are adhered to; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, Environment, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Muktar Tolani Shagaya — Ilorin West/Asa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (iv), immediately after the word “Environment”, insert the words “Commerce, Industry” (*Hon. Onanuga Adewunmi Oriyomi — Ikenne/Shagamu/Remo North Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the provisions of Section 20 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), place a responsibility on the Federal Government to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations, and ensure the health and well-being of its citizens;

Also noted that the increasing use of styrofoam and single-use plastics in Nigeria poses significant environmental and public health risks, including pollution of waterways, soil, and air quality;

Further noted that chemical found in styrofoam, is linked to health issues, such as cancer, vision and hearing loss, impaired memory and concentration, and nervous system effects;

Aware that styrofoam is prohibited in Taiwan, Rwanda, England, and many other European

countries, together with some towns and states in the United States. Currently, the product is illegal in Lagos and Abia States;

Also aware that alternatives to styrofoam and single-use plastics, such as biodegradable materials, reusable containers, and recyclable packaging, can reduce environmental impact and public health risks;

Concerned that the increasing use of styrofoam and single-use plastics in Nigeria not only leads to increased plastic waste and environmental pollution but also poses a significant health risk;

Cognizant of the need to address the environmental and public health crises posed by styrofoam and single-use plastics to safeguard the future of Nigeria's natural resources, ecosystems, health, and the well-being of its citizens;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to ban the production, importation, distribution, and use of styrofoam and single-use plastics throughout Nigeria;
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government to implement a phased approach to the ban by providing sufficient time for businesses and industries to transition to alternative eco-friendly materials and practices;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) and other relevant agencies to monitor the quality of packaging of foods and beverages, particularly in fast moving consumer goods (FMCGs), ensuring global best practices are followed and all appropriate regulations guiding the whole process are adhered to; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services, Environment, Commerce, Industry, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 49/02/2024**).

21. Abandoned Wind Power Farm, a Project aimed at Generating 10 Megawatts of Electricity for the National Grid in Lambar Rimi, Katsina State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the wind power project was envisioned by the Katsina State Government to produce 10 megawatts of electricity in 2005 and later taken over by the Federal Government in 2007 by the administration of the late President Malam Umaru Musa Yar'Adua to boost sustainable and renewable energy for a better environment;

Also notes that the contract was awarded by the Federal Ministry of Power to French firm Vergnet S.A., a certified wind turbine manufacturer, under the close supervision of consultants O.T. OTIS Energy and German firm Terrawatts;

Further notes that the 10megawatt farm project located at Lambar Rimi is made up of 37 installed turbines capable of generating 273 kilowatts each to be operational at a calculated wind speed of 6.044 M/S at a height of 55m;

Aware that the intention was to introduce a new model, cheaper and cleaner alternative source of energy that could be replicated across the board to rid the country of its frustration with hydro and gas electricity generation sources;

Also aware of the kidnapping of a French engineer from Collomp France kidnapped and rescued in Zaria, leading to project abandonment, equipment damage, and human vandalism, this was confirmed by various teams who visited the site including the Minister of Power;

Appreciate the sight of standing turbines with two blades which serves as a reminder of the circumstances that stalled the commissioning of the project after billions of Naira had gone down the drain;

Worried that the project, which was scheduled to be completed within 12 months, faced numerous unsuccessful commissions attempts even after transmission line completion.;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Power, Works, Finance, Environment, Public Procurement, and Interior to investigate the disastrous loss of taxpayer money on the abandoned Wind Power Farm Project and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Murtala Usman Banye — Batagarawa/Charanchi/Rimi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In the Prayer, immediately after the words “and Interior”, *insert* the words “Renewable Energy, and Legislative Compliance” (*Hon. Salisu Majigiri —Mashi/Dusti Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the wind power project was envisioned by the Katsina State Government to produce 10 megawatts of electricity in 2005 and later taken over by the Federal Government in 2007 by the administration of the late President Malam Umaru Musa Yar'Adua to boost sustainable and renewable energy for a better environment;

Also noted that the contract was awarded by the Federal Ministry of Power to French firm Vergnet S.A., a certified wind turbine manufacturer, under the close supervision of consultants O.T. OTIS Energy and German firm Terrawatts;

Further noted that the 10megawatt farm project located at Lambar Rimi is made up of 37 installed turbines capable of generating 273 kilowatts each to be operational at a calculated wind speed of 6.044 M/S at a height of 55m;

Aware that the intention was to introduce a new model, cheaper and cleaner alternative source of energy that could be replicated across the board to rid the country of its frustration with hydro and gas electricity generation sources;

Also aware of the kidnapping of a French engineer from Collomp France kidnapped and rescued in Zaria, leading to project abandonment, equipment damage, and human vandalism, this was confirmed by various teams who visited the site including the Minister of Power;

Appreciated the sight of standing turbines with two blades which serves as a reminder of the circumstances that stalled the commissioning of the project after billions of Naira had gone down the drain;

Worried that the project, which was scheduled to be completed within 12 months, faced numerous unsuccessful commissions attempts even after transmission line completion.;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Power, Works, Finance, Environment, Public Procurement, Interior, Renewable Energy, and Legislative Compliance to investigate the disastrous loss of taxpayer money on the abandoned Wind Power Farm Project and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 50/02/2024**).

22. Consideration of Reports

(i) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, Cap. C, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (SB.188) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, Cap. C, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (SB.188)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND CYBERCRIMES
(PROHIBITION, PREVENTION, ETC.) ACT, 2015;
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (SB.188)

PART I — OBJECT AND APPLICATION

Clause 1: Amendment of the Principal Act.

The Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, 2015 (hereafter called “the Principal Act”) is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of Section 17: Electronic Signatures.

Section 17 (1) (b) line (1) of the Principal Act is amended by: (i) deleting the word “geniuses” and replace with the word “genuineness”; (ii) in subsection (2) immediately after the word “signature” insert the following “except where they are legally verified in “Certified True Copies”:

- (1) (a) Electronic signature in respect of purchases of goods, and any other transactions shall be binding.
- (b) Whenever the genuineness or otherwise of such signatures is in question, the burden of proof, that the signature does not belong to the purported originator of such electronic signatures shall be on the contender.
- (c) Any person who with the intent to defraud and or misrepresent, forges through electronic devices another person’s signature or company mandate commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not more than 7 years or a fine of not more than ₦10,000,000.00 or to both fine and imprisonment.

- (2) The following transactions shall be excluded from the categories of contractual transactions or declarations that are valid by virtue of electronic signature, except where they are legally verified in “Certified True Copies”:
- (a) creation and execution of wills, codicils and or other testamentary documents;
 - (b) Death certificate;
 - (c) Birth certificate;
 - (d) matters of family law such as marriage, divorce, adoption and other related issues;
 - (e) issuance of court orders, notices, official court documents such as affidavit, pleadings, motions and other related judicial documents and instruments;
 - (f) any cancellation or termination of utility services;
 - (g) any instrument required to accompany any transportation or handling of dangerous materials either solid or liquid in nature;
 - (h) any document ordering withdrawal of drugs, chemicals and any other material either on the ground that such items are fake, dangerous to the people or the environment or expired by any authority empowered to issue orders for withdrawal of such items (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Amendment of Section 21: Reporting of Cyber Threats.

Section 21 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the words “Coordination Center”, the following: (i) “through their respective sectoral CERTs or sectoral Security Operations Centres (SOC)” immediately after the word Center ; (ii) Section 21 (3) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the figure and the word “7 days” and replace with “72 hours of its detection”:

- (1) Any person or institution, who operates a computer system or a network, whether public or private, must immediately inform the National Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordination Center through their respective sectoral CERTs or sectoral Security Operations Centres (SOC) of any attacks, intrusions and other disruptions liable to hinder the functioning of another computer system or network, so that the National CERT can take the necessary measures to tackle the issues
- (2) In such cases mentioned in subsection (1) above, and in order to protect computer systems and networks, the National CERT Coordination Center may propose the isolation of affected computer systems or network pending the resolution of the issues.
- (3) Any person or institution who fails to report any such incident to the National CERT within 72 hours of its detection, commits an offence and shall be liable to denial of internet services. Such persons or institution shall in addition, pay a mandatory fine of N2, 000,000.00 into the National Cyber Security Fund (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Amendment of Section 22: Identity theft and impersonation.

Section 22 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the words “public or private organization” after the word “any”:

- (1) Any person who is engaged in the services of any public or private organization, and as a result of his special knowledge commits identity theft of its employer, staff, service providers and consultants with the intent to defraud is guilty of an offence and upon conviction shall be sentenced to 7 years imprisonment or ₦5,000,000.00 fine or both.
- (2) Any person who fraudulently or dishonestly makes use of the electronic signature, password or any other unique identification feature of any other person; or
- (3) fraudulently impersonates another entity or person, living or dead, with intent to —
 - (a) gain advantage for himself or another person;
 - (b) obtain any property or an interest in any property;
 - (c) cause disadvantage to the entity or person being impersonated or another person; or
 - (d) avoid arrest or prosecution or to obstruct, pervert or defeat the course of justice.
- (4) Any person who makes or causes to be made, either directly or indirectly, any false statement as to a material fact in writing, knowing it to be false and with intent that it be relied upon respecting his identity or that of any other person or his financial condition or that of any other person for the purpose of procuring the issuance of a card or other instrument to himself or another person commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than ₦7,000,000.00 or to both such fine and imprisonment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Amendment of Section 24: Cyberstalking.

Section 24 of the Principal Act is amended by (i) deleting subsisting 24 (a) and replace with the words “is pornographic; or” (ii) by deleting the following words “annoyance, inconvenience danger, obstruction, insult, injury, criminal intimidation, enmity, hatred, ill will or needless anxiety to another or causes” and insert the following words “a breakdown of law and order, posing a threat to life, or causing”:

- (1) Any person who knowingly or intentionally sends a message or other matter through computer systems or networks that —
 - (a) is pornographic; or
 - (b) he knows to be false, for the purpose of causing a breakdown of law and order, posing a threat to life, or causing such message to be sent: commits an offence under this Bill and shall be liable on

conviction to a fine of not more than ₦7,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of more than three years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

- (2) Any person who knowingly or intentionally transmits or causes the transmission of any communication through a computer system or network —
- (a) to bully, threaten or harass another person, where such communication places another person in fear of death, violence or bodily harm or to another person;
 - (b) containing any threat to kidnap any person or any threat to harm the person of another, any demand or request for a ransom for the release of any kidnapped person, to extort from any person, firm, association or corporation, any money or other thing of value; or
 - (c) containing any threat to harm the property or reputation of the addressee or of another or the reputation of a deceased person or any threat to accuse the addressee or any other person of a crime, to extort from any person, firm, association, or corporation, any money or other thing of value, commits an offence under this Bill and shall be liable on conviction —
 - (i) in the case of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection to imprisonment for a term of 10 years and/or a minimum fine of N25,000,000.00; and
 - (ii) in the case of paragraph (c) and (d) of this subsection, to imprisonment for a term of 5 years and/or a minimum fine of ₦15,000,000.00.
- (3) A court sentencing or otherwise dealing with a person convicted of an offence under subsections (1) and (2) may also make an order, which may, for the purpose of protecting the victim or victims of the offence, or any other person mentioned in the order, from further conduct which —
- (a) amounts to harassment; or
 - (b) will cause fear of violence, death or bodily harm; prohibit the defendant from doing anything described/specified in the order.
- (4) A defendant who does anything which he is prohibited from doing by an order under this section, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not more than ₦10,000,000.00 or imprisonment for a term of not more than 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment.
- (5) The order made under subsection (3) of this section may have effect for a specified period or until further order and the defendant or any other person mentioned in the order may apply to the court which made the order for it to be varied or discharged by a further order.
- (6) Notwithstanding the powers of the court under subsections (3) and (5), the court may make an interim order for the protection of victim(s) from further exposure to the alleged offences (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Amendment of Section 27: Attempt, conspiracy, aiding and abetting.

Section 27 (2) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the following “a financial institution found” and replace with the words “any public or private organization”:

- (1) Any person who —
 - (a) attempts to commit any offence under this Bill; or
 - (b) aids, abets, conspires, counsels or procures another person(s) to commit any offence under this Bill: commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to the punishment provided for the principal offence under this Bill.
- (2) Any employee of any public or private organization found to have connived with another person or group of persons to perpetrate fraud using computer system(s) or network, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not more than 7 years and shall in addition, refund the stolen money or forfeit any property to which it has been converted to the bank, financial institution or the customer (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Amendment of Section 30: Manipulation of ATM/POS Terminals.

Section 30 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by (i) inserting the following words “or any other payment technology means” immediately after the word “terminals”; (ii) Subsection (2) is amended by deleting the words “of Point of sales device” and replace with the word “or any other payment technology means” immediately after the word “ATM”:

- (1) Any person who manipulates an ATM machine, Point of Sale terminals or any other payment technology means, with the intention to defraud shall be guilty of an offence and upon conviction sentenced to Five Years imprisonment or ₦5,000,000.00 fine or both.
- (2) Any employee of a financial institution found to have connived with another person or group of persons to perpetrate fraud using an ATM or any other payment technology means shall be guilty of an offence and upon conviction sentenced to Seven Years imprisonment without an option of fine (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV — DUTIES OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Clause 8: Amendment of Section 37: Duties of Financial Institutions.

Section 37 (1) (a) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting “National Identification Number issued by the National Identity Management Commission and other valid” immediately after the word “present”:

- (1) A financial institution shall —
 - (a) verify the identity of its customers carrying out Electronic financial transactions by requiring the customers to present National

Identification Number issued by the National Identity Management Commission and other valid documents bearing their names, addresses and other relevant information before issuance of ATM cards, credit cards, Debit cards and other related electronic devices;

- (b) apply the principle of know your customer in documentation of customers preceding execution of customers electronic transfer, payment, debit and issuance orders;
- (2) Any official or organization who fails to obtain proper identity of customers before executing customer electronic instructions in whatever way, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦5,000,000.00
- (3) Any financial institution that makes an unauthorized debit on a customers account shall upon written notification by the customer, provide clear legal authorization for such debit to the customer or reverse such debit within 72 hours. Any financial institution that fails to reverse such debit within 72 hours, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to restitution of the debit and a fine of ₦5,000,000.00 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Amendment of Section 38: Data preservation and protection of Data by service providers.

Section 38 (1) (a) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting the following “and protect specific traffic data and subscriber information in line with the Provision of the Nigeria Data Protection Act 2023 and as may be prescribed by the relevant authority for the time being, responsible for the regulation of communication services in Nigeria, for a period of 2 years” immediately after the word “keep”:

- (1) A service provider shall keep and protect specific traffic data and subscriber information in line with the Provision of the Nigeria Data Protection Act 2023 and as may be prescribed by the relevant authority for the time being, responsible for the regulation of communication services in Nigeria, for a period of 2 years.
- (2) A service provider shall, at the request of the relevant authority referred to in subsection (1) of this section or any law enforcement agency —
 - (a) preserve, hold or retain any traffic data, subscriber information, non-content information, and content data; or
 - (b) release any information required to be kept under subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) A law enforcement agency may, through its authorized officer, request for the release of any information in respect of subsection (2) (b) of this section and it shall be the duty of the service provider to comply.
- (4) Any data retained, processed or retrieved by the service provider at the request of any law enforcement agency under this Bill shall not be utilized except for legitimate purposes as may be provided for under this Bill, any other legislation, regulation or by an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

- (5) Anyone exercising any function under this section shall have due regard to the individual's right to privacy under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and shall take appropriate measures to safeguard the confidentiality of the data retained, processed or retrieved for the purpose of law enforcement.
- (6) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not more than 3 years or a fine of not more than ₦7,000,000.00 or to both fine and imprisonment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

PART V — ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Clause 10: Amendment of Section 41: Co-ordination and enforcement.

Section 41 (1) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting (d) – (h) and introducing a new (d) –(j):

- (1) The office of the National Security Adviser shall be the coordinating body for all security and enforcement agencies under this Bill and shall:
 - (a) provide support to all relevant security, intelligence, law enforcement agencies and military services to prevent and combat cybercrimes in Nigeria;
 - (b) ensure formulation and effective implementation of a comprehensive cyber security strategy and a national cyber security policy for Nigeria;
 - (c) establish and maintain a National Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordination Center responsible for managing cyber incidences in Nigeria;
 - (d) ensure the establishment of sectoral Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and sectoral Security Operation Centres (SOC) that shall feed into the national CERT
 - (e) ensure that all public and private organizations integrate and route their internet and data traffic to the sectoral SOCs thereby protecting the national cyberspace.
 - (f) establish and maintain a National Computer Forensic Laboratory and coordinate utilization of the facility by all law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies;
 - (g) build capacity for the effective discharge of the functions of all relevant security, intelligence, law enforcement and military services under this Bill or any other law on cybercrime in Nigeria;
 - (h) establish appropriate platforms for public private partnership (PPP);
 - (i) coordinate Nigeria's involvement in international cyber security cooperation to ensure the integration of Nigeria into the global frameworks on cyber security; and

- (j) do such other acts or things that are necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the relevant security and enforcement agencies under this Bill.
- (2) The Attorney – General of the Federation shall strengthen and enhance the existing legal framework to ensure —
- (a) conformity of Nigeria’s cybercrime and cyber security laws and policies with regional and international standards;
 - (b) maintenance of international co-operation required for preventing and combatting cybercrimes and promoting cyber security; and
 - (c) effective prosecution of cybercrimes and cyber security matters.
- (3) All law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies shall develop requisite institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Bill and shall in collaboration with the Office of the National Security Adviser, initiate, develop or organize training programmers nationally or internationally for officers charged with the responsibility for the prohibition, prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of cybercrimes (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Amendment of Section 44: Establishment of National Cyber Security Fund.

Section of 44 (1) (a) of the principal act is amended by: (i) by deleting “0.005 of all electronic transactions by the businesses specified in the second schedule to this Bill” and inserting “0.5 % (0.005) equivalent to a half percent of all electronic transactions value by the business specified in the Second Schedule to this Bill; (ii) Section 44 (6) (a) insert the following immediately after the word “accounts); and (iii) introduce a new section 44 (6) (c):

- (1) There is established a Fund, which shall be known as the National Cyber security Fund (in this Bill referred to as “the Fund”).
- (2) There shall be paid and credited into the Fund established under subsection (1) of this section and domiciled in the Central Bank of Nigeria:
 - (a) a levy of 0.5 % (0.005) equivalent to a half percent of all electronic transactions value by the business specified in the Second Schedule to this Bill.
 - (b) grants-in-aid and assistance from donor, bilateral and multilateral agencies;
 - (c) all other sums accruing to the Fund by way of gifts, endowments, bequest or other voluntary contributions by persons and organizations:

Provided that the terms and conditions attached to such gifts, endowments, bequest or contributions will not jeopardize the functions of the Agency;
 - (d) such monies as may be appropriated for the Fund by the National Assembly; and

- (e) all other monies or assets that may, from time to time accrue to the Fund.
- (3) All monies accruing to the Fund shall be exempted from income tax and all contributions to the Fund shall be tax deductible.
- (4) The levy imposed under subsection (2) (a) shall be remitted directly by the affected businesses or organizations into the Fund domiciled in the Central Bank within a period of 30 days.
- (5) An amount not exceeding 40 percent of the Fund may be allocated for programs relating to countering violent extremism.
- (6) Accounts and records of the Fund —
 - (a) the Office of the National Security Adviser shall administer, keep proper records of the accounts and shall ensure compliance monitoring mechanism;
 - (b) the account of the Fund shall be audited in accordance with guidelines provided by the Auditor General of the Federation.
 - (c) any business specified in the second schedule to this Bill that fails to remit the levy under section 44 subsection (2) (a) of this Bill commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less than 2% of the annual turnover of the defaulting business and failure to comply shall lead to closure or withdrawal of the Business Operational licence (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Amendment of Section 48: Order of forfeiture of assets.
Section 48 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting 48 (4) of the Act.

- (1) The Court in imposing sentence on any person convicted of an offence under this Bill, may order that the convicted person forfeits to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria —
 - (a) any asset, money or property, whether tangible or intangible, traceable to proceeds of such offence; and
 - (b) any computer, equipment, software, electronic device or any other device used or intended to be used to commit or to facilitate the commission of such offence;
- (2) There it is established that a convicted person has assets or properties in a foreign country, acquired as a result of such criminal activities listed in this Bill, such assets or properties, shall subject to any Treaty or arrangement with such foreign country, be forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria.
- (3) The office of the Attorney-General of the Federation shall ensure that the forfeited assets or properties are effectively transferred and vested in the Federal Government of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, 2015 to insert some consequential words that were inadvertently omitted in the Act (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, 2015 and for Related Matters (SB.188) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, Cap. C, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (SB.188) and approved Clauses 1 - 13 the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

- (ii) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, update the list of dangerous drugs, review the penalty provisions, enhance the power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug Related Offences and issues subsidiary legislation and for Related Matters (HB. 472) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, update the list of dangerous drugs, review the penalty provisions, enhance the power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug Related Offences and issues subsidiary legislation and for Related Matters (HB. 472)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ACT, CAP. N30, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO STRENGTHEN THE OPERATIONS OF THE AGENCY, EMPOWER THE AGENCY TO ESTABLISH LABORATORIES, UPDATE THE LIST OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, REVIEW THE PENALTY PROVISIONS, ENHANCE THE POWER OF THE AGENCY TO PROSECUTE DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES AND ISSUE SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 472)

Clause 1: Amendment of Cap. N30, LFN, 2004.

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of section 1.

Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after the closing bracket, the words "under the direct supervision of the Presidency" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Amendment of section 2.

Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (2), a new subsection "(2A)" —

"(2A) The appointment of the Chairman shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Amendment of section 3.

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended —

(a) in subsection (2) by inserting, after the word "functions", the words "and transfer all the seized substances and the suspects to the Agency for necessary action"; and

(b) by inserting, after subsection (2), a new subsection "(3)"

"(3) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other law, the Agency shall, in the course of performing its functions, duties or powers, operate in airports, seaports, land borders, motor parks and railway stations, amongst others" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Amendment of section 4.

Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for subsection (3), a new subsection "(3)" —

"(3) The Agency shall establish laboratories to carry out scientific investigations and analysis of dangerous drugs or controlled substances in Nigeria" (*Hon.*

Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

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

Clause 6: Amendment of section 5.

Section 5 (6) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the words, "after consultation with Federal Civil Service Commission" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Amendment of section 7.

Section 7 (2) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after the words "power to", the words "establish Directorates, Departments, Units as the need arise and" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Amendment of section 8.

Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection (2) (a), by inserting after the word "Act", the words "for drug-related money laundering offences"; and
- (b) in subsection (3), by inserting after the word "Health" the words "and other relevant institutions" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Substitution for section 11.

Substitute for section 11 of the Principal Act, a new section "11" —

- "11.** (1) A person who, without lawful authority —
- (a) imports, manufactures, produces, processes, plants or grows dangerous drugs or controlled substances;
 - (b) exports, transports, or traffics in dangerous drugs or controlled substances
 - (c) sells, buys, exposes or offers for sale or deals in or with dangerous drugs or controlled substances,
- commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not less than 15 years and not more than 25 years without an option of fine;
- (2) A person who, without lawful authority knowingly possesses or uses dangerous drugs or controlled substances by smoking, inhaling or injecting the drug commits an offence and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not more than 15 years" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Amendment of section 12.

Section 12 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the words “drugs popularly known as cocaine, LSD, heroine or other similar drugs” for the words “dangerous drugs or controlled substances” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Substitution for section 13.

Substitute for section 13 of the Principal Act, a new section “13”—

“13. Any person who is unlawfully concerned in the storage, custody, movement, carriage or concealment of dangerous drugs or controlled substances and who, while so concerned, is armed with any offensive weapon or is disguised in any way, shall be guilty of an offence under this Bill and liable on conviction to be sentenced to imprisonment for life” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Amendment of section 14.

Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after the word “years”, the words “without an option of fine” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Amendment of section 16.

Section 16 of the Principal Act is amended by —

- (a) substituting for the words “drugs popularly known as cocaine, LSD, heroine or other similar drugs” the words, “dangerous drugs or controlled substances”; and
- (b) inserting after the word “years”, the words “without an option of fine” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 14: Amendment of section 19.

Section 19 of the Principal Act is amended by —

- (a) substituting for the words, “drugs popularly known as cocaine, LSD, heroine or other similar drugs”, the words, “dangerous drugs or controlled substances”; and
- (b) inserting, after the word “years”, the words, “without an option of fine” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Amendment of section 20.

Section 20 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection (1) —

- (i) in paragraph (a), by substituting for the words, "narcotic drug or any psychotropic substance contrary to the provisions of the 1961 Convention and its Protocols or the 1971 Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs and psychotropic substance 1989", the words "dangerous drug or controlled substances",
 - (ii) in paragraph (b), by substituting for the words, "narcotic drugs contrary to the 1961 Convention", the words, "dangerous drug or controlled substances",
 - (iii) in paragraph (e), by substituting for the words, "narcotic drug or any psychotropic substance", the words "dangerous drug or controlled substances", and
 - (iv) in paragraph (f), by substituting for the words, "narcotic drug or any psychotropic substance", the words "dangerous drug or controlled substance";
- (b) by substituting for subsection (2), a new subsection "(2)" —
- "(2) The penalties for offences under subsection (1) of this section shall —
- (a) in respect of an offence under paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h), be imprisonment for a term of 15 years and not exceeding 25 years without an option of fine; or
 - (b) in respect of an offence under paragraphs (c) and (i), be imprisonment for a term not more than 15 years without an option of fine."
- (c) by substituting for subsection (3), a new subsection "(3)" —
- "(3) The Federal High Court before whom an accused is convicted may in addition or alternative to the punishment prescribed under this Bill, make an order requiring the offender to undergo measures such as treatment, education, aftercare, rehabilitation, social reintegration or other non-custodial measures provided that it is not an offence under sections 11 (a), (b) and (c), 14 and 19 of this Bill"; and"
- (d) in subsection (4), by substituting for the word "minor", the word, "suspect" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Insertion of a new section 20A.

- (1) Insert after section 20 of the Principal Act, a new section "20A" —

"Unlawful possession of listed chemical.

- 20A.** (1) A person who knowingly without lawful authority possesses—
- (a) a listed chemical with intent to manufacture a dangerous drug or controlled substance; or

- (b) distributes listed chemical or having reasonable cause to believe that the listed chemical will be used to manufacture a dangerous drug or controlled substances,

commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than 15 years and not more than 25 years without an option of fine (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Deletion of section 22.

Section 22 of the Principal Act is deleted (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Clause 18: Amendment of section 25.

Section 25 (4) of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the —

- (a) word "exceeding" in line 6, the word "less than"; and
- (b) figure "₦100,000", the figure "₦500,000" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Amendment of section 26.

Section 26 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3), new subsections "(4)" and "(5)" —

- "(4) All drug exhibits tendered in the course of proceeding in a court for offences committed under this Bill, shall be returned to the Agency which shall be fully accountable for such exhibit and upon an order of the court hearing the matter or whenever required, shall produce the exhibits for inspection.
- (5) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (4), a Certificate of Destruction of Drug Exhibits issued by the Agency based on the destruction carried out under an Order of the court, shall be taken into account in proving the existence of the drugs covered by the certificate" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: Amendment of section 30.

Section 30 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) by substituting for the words "any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance", the words, "dangerous drugs or controlled substances"; and
- (b) by inserting after the word "amended", the words, "provided that the passports of foreign nationals forfeited shall be returned to the issuing country through its diplomatic mission in Nigeria or with accreditation to the Federal Republic of Nigeria" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Amendment of section 31.

Section 31 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for paragraph "(a)", a new paragraph "(a)" —

"(a) any property, real or personal, which directly or indirectly represents the gross receipts a person obtains as a result of the violation of this Bill or which is traceable to such receipts or whose value corresponds to such receipts" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Amendment of section 41.

Section 41 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (2), new subsections "(3)" — "(6)" —

"(3) The Agency, pursuant to a Federal High Court order obtained *ex parte* justifying the request, may in order to identify and locate dangerous drugs or controlled substances, proceeds, property, objects or other things related to the commission of an offence under this Bill, carry out intercept of communication.

(4) The Agency or its authorised staff may engage in the use of such special investigative techniques as undercover operations and controlled delivery techniques under such guidelines that may from time to time be issued by the Agency.

(5) The Agency shall have the power to monitor the end use of chemicals and precursors.

(6) Subject to relevant laws —

(a) the Agency or any of its authorised officers shall in the course of investigation of an offence under this Bill have the power to request information from any authority, person or service provider in any industry, who shall be under obligation to provide such information; and

(b) in addition to the power conferred upon it by subsection (5) of this section, the Agency shall have the power to direct any authority, person or service provider in any industry to provide any information that will facilitate its operations and intelligence gathering at such regular intervals and under such terms and conditions as the Agency may from time to time prescribe" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Amendment of section 45.

Section 45 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (2), a new subsection "(3)" —

"(3) The Agency may, in consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or any Ministry known by whatsoever name, responsible for foreign affairs of the country, appoint a drug attaché from amongst its staff to serve in any

Nigerian diplomatic mission abroad" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Amendment of section 46.

Section 46 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (3), a new subsection "(4)" —

"(4) The Agency shall retain a portion of the proceeds of forfeited assets from drug-related cases for use in its operations as provided under Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act, 2022" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 25: Amendment of section 49.

Section 49 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the figure "₦20,000", the expression, "not less than ₦100,000" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Substitution for section 50.

Substitute for section 50 of the Principal Act, a new section "50" —

"50. (1) The Agency may make Regulations to give full effect to the provisions of this Bill.

(2) The Attorney General of the Federation may on the advice of the Agency make an order to be published in the official gazette of the Government of the Federation of Nigeria declaring any substance with narcotic contents or which is considered to be dangerous and hazardous to public safety to be temporarily banned or placed under the Second Schedule to this Bill for a period of 12 months based on scientific analyses to determine the actual status of the substances and necessary action by the Nigerian Government for the international scheduling of such substances" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 27: Insertion of a new section 51A.

Insert after section 51 of the Principal Act, a new section "51A":

"Savings and transitional provisions.

51A. (1) These amendments shall not affect the validity of any action done pursuant to the Principal Act before the commencement of this Bill.

(2) The provisions of this Bill shall not affect pending charges for offences being prosecuted, however, that where the amendment relates to any issue of procedure, the amendment shall take immediate effect and regulate the conduct and determination of all such pending cases" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 28: Amendment of section 52.

Section 52 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting in alphabetical order, the definitions of —

"controlled delivery" is an investigative technique in which by consent or agreement of the countries that will be involved, based on their respective domestic laws, illicit consignments (drugs) identified at the port of origin or in the course of transit are allowed to pass through the various ports to the destination port either in their illicit nature (drugs) or, partly or wholly, substituted with dummies with a view to identifying, apprehending and prosecuting the persons involved in the offence (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "controlled delivery" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"controlled substances" are substances under international control in accordance with relevant United Nations Conventions or which are by order of the Attorney-General of the Federation in the Federal Government Gazette temporarily placed under control (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "controlled substances" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"dangerous drugs" are drugs with narcotic contents in accordance with the relevant United Nations Conventions or which are so classified by an order of the Attorney-General of the Federation in the Federal Government Gazette"; and (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "dangerous drugs" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"undercover operation" is an investigative technique in which an authorised law enforcement personnel or other individual under cover and supervision, infiltrates a criminal organisation with a view to gathering intelligence and evidence that could be used to apprehend and prosecute members of the organisation or to bring down the entire organisation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "undercover operation" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

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

Clause 29: Amendment of Second Schedule.

The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the references to "(sections 3 (p) (iii), and 11 (1) (e) and (f) (1992 No.15)", the references to "(sections 3 (1) (p) (iii) and 20 (1) (e) and (f)" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 30: Amendment of Fourth Schedule.

The Fourth Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the reference to "Section 33 (3)", the reference to "Section 42 (3)" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 31: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, Update the List of Dangerous Drugs, Review the Penalty Provisions, Enhance the Power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug-related Offences and Issue Subsidiary Legislation; and for Related Matters (HB. 472) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act, Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, update the list of dangerous drugs, review the penalty provisions, enhance the power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug Related Offences and issues subsidiary legislation and for Related Matters (HB. 472) and approved Clauses 1 - 31, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

(iii) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Eungu State and for Related Matters (Hb. 670) (Committee of the Whole):*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Eungu State and for Related Matters (Hb. 670)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRES ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, AKPUGO, NKANU WEST, ENUGU STATE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.670)

Clause 1: Amendment of the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2023.

The Federal Medical Centres Act, 2023 (hereinafter called "the Principal Act" is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of the Second Schedule.

The Second Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by inserting a new item "3" —
"Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Enugu State" (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Federal Medical Centres Act, 2024 to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Enugu State (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB. 670) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Eungu State and for Related Matters (HB. 670) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, the Schedule, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

(iv) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to Make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB. 111) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB. 111)" (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, REMO, OGUN STATE (FUSTRO) TO MAKE COMPREHENSIVE PROVISIONS FOR ITS DUE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED MATTERS (HB.111)

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, REMO, OGUN STATE (FUSTRO)

Clause 1: Establishment and Objects of the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO).

- (1) There is hereby established a Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) (in this Bill referred to as “the University”).
- (2) The University —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal; and
 - (b) may sue or be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Objectives of the University.

The objectives of the University shall be to —

- (a) encourage the advancement of learning and to hold out to all persons without distinction of race, creed, sex or political conviction the opportunity of acquiring higher education in the area of science;
- (b) to develop and offer academic and professional programmes leading to the award of diplomas, first degrees, post-graduate research and higher degrees with emphasis on planning, adaptive, technical, maintenance, developmental and productive skills the engineering, scientific, and allied professional disciplines relating to science and technology with the aim of producing socially mature men and women with capability not only to understand, use and adapt existing technologies in science but also to improve on them and develop new ones;
- (c) to act as agents and catalysts, through post-graduate training, research and innovation for the effective and economic utilization, exploitation and conservation of the country's technological resources;
- (d) to offer to the people as a form of public service, the results of training and research, and to foster the practical applications of these results;
- (e) to establish appropriate relationships with other national institutions involved in training, research and development of technologies in the areas of science;

- (f) to provide and promote sound basic training as a foundation for the development of science and technology in Nigeria, taking into account indigenous cultures and the need to enhance national unity;
- (g) to encourage and promote scholarship and conduct research in restricted fields of learning and human endeavor;
- (h) to relate its activities to the technological, social, cultural and economic needs of the people of Nigeria; and
- (i) to undertake any other activity appropriate for a university of the highest standard (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Constitution of the University and its Constituent Bodies, etc.

- (1) The University shall consist of —
 - (a) a Chancellor;
 - (b) a Pro-Chancellor and a Council;
 - (c) a Vice Chancellor and a Senate;
 - (d) a Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - (e) a body to be called Congregation;
 - (f) a body to be called Convocation;
 - (g) the campuses and colleges of the University;
 - (h) the faculties, schools, institutes and other teaching and research units of the University;
 - (i) the persons holding the offices constituted by the First Schedule to this Bill other than those mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection;
 - (j) all graduates and undergraduates; and
 - (k) all other persons who are members of the University in accordance with provisions made by Statute in that behalf.
- (2) The First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the Principal Officers of the University mentioned therein.
- (3) Provision shall be made by Statute with respect to the constitution of the following bodies, namely —
 - (a) the Council;
 - (b) the Senate;
 - (c) the Congregation; and

- (d) the Convocation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Powers of the University.

- (1) for the carrying out of its objects as specified in Section 2 of this Bill, the University shall have power to —
- (a) establish such campuses, colleges, faculties, institutes, schools, extra-mural departments and other teaching and research units within the University as may from time to time seem necessary or desirable, subject to the approval of the National Universities Commission;
 - (b) institute professorships, readerships and associate professorships, lectureships and other posts and offices and to make appointments thereto;
 - (c) institute and award fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions, bursaries, medals, prizes and other titles, distinctions, awards and forms of assistance;
 - (d) provide for the residence, discipline and welfare of members of the University;
 - (e) hold examinations and award degrees, diplomas, certificates and other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the University and have satisfied such other requirements as the University may lay down;
 - (f) award honorary degrees, fellowships or academic titles;
 - (g) demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the University for the purpose of instruction such fees as the University may from time to time determine, subject to the overall directives of the appropriate authority;
 - (h) subject to section 22 of this Bill, to acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of movable and immovable property wherever situated;
 - (i) accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to accept the same for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions attaching thereto;
 - (j) enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee, solely or jointly with any other person, and employ and act through agents;
 - (k) erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, lecture halls, halls of residence, refectories, sports grounds, playing fields and other buildings or things necessary, suitable or convenient for any of the objects of the University;
 - (l) hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and book selling;

- (m) subject to any limitations or conditions imposed by Statute, to invest any moneys appertaining to the University by law of endorsement, whether for general or special purposes, and such other moneys as may not be immediately required for current expenditure, in any investments or securities or in the purchase or improvement of land, with power from time to time to vary any such investments and to deposit any moneys for the time being un-invested with any bank on deposit or current account;
 - (n) borrow, whether on interest or not, and if need be, upon the security of any or all of the property movable or immovable of the University, such moneys as the Council may from time to time in its discretion find necessary or expedient to borrow or to guarantee any loan, advances or credit facilities;
 - (o) make gifts for any charitable purpose;
 - (p) do anything which is authorized or required by this Bill or by any other Statute to do; and
 - (q) do all such acts or things, whether or not incidental to the foregoing powers, as may advance the objects of the University.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill and of the Statutes made thereunder and without prejudice to Section 9 (2) of this Bill, the powers conferred on the University by subsection (1) of this section shall be exercisable on behalf of the University by the Council or by the Senate or in any other manner which may be authorized by this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Functions of the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor.

- (1) The Chancellor shall in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University, and when he is present shall preside at all meetings of convocation held for conferring degrees.
- (2) The Pro-Chancellor shall, in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University except the Chancellor, and except for the Vice Chancellor when acting as Chairman of Congregation or Convocation, and the Pro-Chancellor shall when he is present, be the Chairman at all meetings of the Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Establishment and Composition of Council.

- (1) There shall be a Council for the University consisting of:
 - (a) the Pro-Chancellor;
 - (b) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) the Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - (d) one person from the Ministry responsible for Education;

- (e) four persons representing a variety of interest and broadly representative of the whole Federation;
 - (f) four persons appointed by the Senate from among its members;
 - (g) two persons appointed by the congregation from among its members; and
 - (h) one person appointed by Convocation from among its members.
- (2) Persons to be appointed to the Council shall be persons of proven integrity, knowledgeable and familiar with the affairs and tradition of the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Functions of the Council and its Finance and General Purpose.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, the Council shall be the Governing Body of the University and shall be charged with the general control and superintendence of the policy, finances and property of the University, including its public relations.
- (2) There shall be a committee of the Council to be known as the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which shall, subject to the directions of the Council, exercise control over the property and expenditure of the Council as the Council may from time to time delegate to it.
- (3) Provision shall be made by Statute with respect to the constitution of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- (4) The Council shall ensure proper accounts of the University are kept and that the accounts of the University are audited annually by auditors appointed by the Council from the list and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation, and that an annual report is published by the University together with certified copies of the said accounts as audited.
- (5) Subject to this Bill and the Statutes, the Council and the Finance and General Purposes Committee may each make rules for the purpose of exercising any of their respective functions or of regulating their own procedure.
- (6) Rules made under subsection (5) of this section by the Finance and General Purposes Committee shall not come into force unless approved by the Council, and where any rule so made by the Committee conflict with any directions given by the Council (whether before or after the coming into force of the rules in question), the direction of the Council shall prevail.
- (7) There shall be paid to the members of the Council, the Finance and General Purposes Committee and of any other committee set up by the Council, allowances in respect of travelling and other reasonable expenses, at such rates as may from time to time be fixed by extant government circulars.
- (8) The Council shall meet as and when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Bill, and shall meet at least four times every year.
- (9) If required in writing by any five members of the Council, the Chairman shall within twenty-eight days after the receipt of such request call a meeting of the Council:

Provided that if after 28 days of the receipt or delivering to him of such request, the chairman fails or neglects to call a meeting, the Registrar shall within 14 days thereof, cause a meeting of the Council to be convened for that purpose. The request shall specify the business to be considered at the meeting and no business not so specified shall be transacted at that meeting (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Functions of the Senate.

- (1) Subject to section 5 of this Bill and subsections (3) and (4) of this section and to the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, it shall be the general function of the Senate to organize and control teaching in the University, admission to Postgraduate courses and other admission of students, the discipline of students and to promote research in the University.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, it shall in particular be the function of the Senate to make provision for the —
 - (a) establishment, organization and control of campuses, colleges, faculties, departments, schools, institutes and other teaching and research units of the University, and the allocation of responsibility for different branches of learning;
 - (b) organization and control of courses of study in the University and of the examinations held in conjunction with those courses, including the appointment of examiners, both internal and external;
 - (c) award of degrees, and such other qualifications as may be prescribed, in connection with examinations conducted by the University;
 - (d) making of recommendations to the Council with respect to the award to any person of an honorary fellowship or honorary degree or the title of professor emeritus;
 - (e) establishment, organization and control of halls of residence and similar institutions in the University;
 - (f) supervision of the welfare of students in the University and the regulation of their conduct;
 - (g) granting of fellowships, scholarships, prizes and similar awards in so far as the awards are within the control of the University; and
 - (h) determination of what description of dress shall be academic dress for the purposes of the University, and regulating the use of academic dress.
- (3) The Senate shall not establish any new campus, college, faculty, department, school, institute or other teaching and research units of the University, or any hall of residence or similar institution at the University without the approval of the Council.
- (4)
 - (a) Subject to this Bill and the Statutes, the Senate may make regulations for the purpose of exercising any function conferred on it either by

the provisions of this section or for the purpose of providing for any matter for which provision by regulation is authorized or required by this Bill or by Statute.

(b) The Senate shall, by regulation, provide that at least one of the persons appointed as examiners at each final or professional examination held in conjunction with any course of study in the University is not a teacher at the University but is a teacher at the branch of learning to which the course relates in some other university of high repute.

(5) Subject to a right of appeal to the Council from a decision of the Senate under this subsection, the Senate may deprive any person of any degree, diploma or other award of the University which has been conferred on him if after due enquiry he is shown to have been guilty of any dishonourable or scandalous conduct in gaining admission into the University or obtaining that award (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Functions of the Vice-Chancellor.

(1) The Vice-Chancellor shall, in relation to the University, take precedence before all other members of the University except the Chancellor and, subject to section 5 of this Bill, the Pro-Chancellor and any other person for the time being acting as Chairman of the Council.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall have general function, in addition to any other functions conferred on him by this Bill or otherwise, of directing the activities of the University, and shall to the exclusion of any other person or authority be the chief executive and academic officer of the University and *ex-officio* Chairman of the Senate (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART II — TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

Clause 10: Transfer of Property to the University.

(1) All property held by or on behalf of the Provisional Council shall, by virtue of this subsection and without further assurance, vest in the University and be held by it for the purpose of the University.

(2) The provisions of the Second Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the transfer of property by this section and to matters arising therefrom and with respect to other matters mentioned in that Schedule (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART III — STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Clause 11: Power of the University to make Statutes.

(1) Subject to this Bill, the University may make Statutes for any of the following purposes —

(a) making provision with respect to the composition and constitution of any authority of the University;

- (b) specifying and regulating the powers and duties of any authority of the University, and regulating any other matter connected with the University or any of its authorities;
 - (c) regulating the admission of students where it is done by the University, and their discipline and welfare;
 - (d) determining whether any particular matter is to be treated as an academic or non-academic matter for the purposes of this Bill and of any Statute, regulation or other instrument made there-under; and
 - (e) making provision for other matters for which provision by Statute is authorized or required by this Bill.
- (2) Subject to section 25 (6) of this Bill, the Interpretation Act shall apply in relation to any Statute made under this section as it applies to a subsidiary instrument within the meaning of section 27 (1) of that Act.
- (3) The Statute contained in the Third Schedule to this Bill shall be deemed to have come into force on the commencement of this Bill and shall be deemed to have been made under this section by the University.
- (4) The power to make Statute conferred by this section shall not be prejudiced or limited in any way by reason of the inclusion or omission of any matter in or from the Statute contained in the Third Schedule to this Bill or any subsequent Statute (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Mode of exercising the power to make Statutes.

- (1) The power of the University to make Statutes shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- (2) A proposed Statute shall not have the force of law until it has been approved at a meeting of the —
- (a) Senate, by the votes of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting; and
 - (b) Council by the votes of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting.
- (3) A proposed Statute may originate either in the Senate or Council, and may be approved as required by subsection (2) of this section by both bodies in no particular order.
- (4) A Statute which —
- (a) makes provision for or alters the composition or constitution of the Council, the Senate or any other authority of the University; or
 - (b) provides for the establishment of a new campus or college or for the amendment or revocation of any Statute whereby a campus or college is established,
- shall not come into operation unless it has been approved by the Visitor.

- (5) For the purpose of section 2 (2) of the Interpretation Act, a Statute shall be treated as being made on the date on which it is approved by the Council and the Senate in accordance with subsection (3) of this section or in the case of a Statute falling within subsection (4) of this section, on the date on which it is approved by the President (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Proof of Statute.

A Statute may be proved in any court by the production of a copy thereof bearing or having affixed to it a certificate signed by the Vice-Chancellor or the Registrar to the effect that the copy is a true copy of a Statute of that University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 14: Power to decide the meaning of Statute.

- (1) In the event of any doubt or dispute arising at any time as to the meaning of any provision of a Statute, the matter may be referred to the Visitor, who shall take such advice and make such decision thereon as he deems fit.
- (2) The decision of the Visitor on any matter referred to him under this section shall be binding upon the authorities, staff and students of that University and where any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute has been decided by the Visitor under this section, no question as to the meaning of that provision shall be entertained by any other authority in Nigeria:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall affect the power of a court of competent jurisdiction to determine whether any provision of a statute is wholly or partly void as being ultra vires or as being inconsistent with the Constitution.

- (3) The foregoing provisions of this section shall apply in relation to any doubt or dispute as to whether any matter is, for the purposes of this Bill, academic or a non-academic matter as they apply in relation to any such doubt or dispute as is mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, and accordingly the reference in subsection (2) of this section to any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute shall include references to any question as to whether any matter is for the said purposes an academic or non-academic matter (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV — SUPERVISION AND DISCIPLINE

Clause 15: The Visitor.

- (1) The President shall be the Visitor of the University.
- (2) The Visitor shall as often as the circumstances may require, not being less than once every five years, conduct a visitation of the University or direct that such a visitation be conducted by such persons as the Visitor may deem fit and in respect of any of the affairs of the University.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the bodies and persons comprising the University to —

- (a) make available to the Visitor, and to any other persons conducting a visitation in pursuance of this section, such facilities and assistance as he or they may reasonably require for the purpose of the visitation; and
- (b) give effect to any instructions consistent with the provisions of this Bill which may be given by the Visitor in consequence of the visitation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Removal of certain Members of the Council.

- (1) If it appears to the Council that a member (other than the Pro-Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor) should be removed from office on grounds of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect through the Minister to the University Executive Council and if Executive Council, after making such enquiries (if any) as may be considered necessary, approves the recommendation, it may direct the removal of the member from office.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Minister to use his best endeavors to cause a copy of the instrument embodying a direction under subsection (1) of this section to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Removal and discipline of Academic, Administrative and Professional Staff.

- (1) If it appears to the Council that there are reasons for believing that any person employed as a member of the academic, administrative or professional staff of the University, other than the Vice-Chancellor, should be removed from office or on grounds of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office Council shall —
 - (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;
 - (b) afford such person an opportunity of making representation in person on the matter to the Council; and
 - (c) take a decision to terminate or not to terminate the appointment.
- (2) If the affected staff or any three members of the Council so request within a period of one month from the date of receipt of the notice of the Council's decision, the Council shall make arrangements for —
 - (a) a joint committee of the Council and the Senate to review the matter and to report on it to the Council;
 - (b) the person in question to be afforded an opportunity to appear before and be heard by an investigating committee with respect to the matter; and if the Council after considering the report of the investigating committee, is satisfied that the person in question should be removed, the Council may so remove him by an instrument in writing signed on the directions of the Council.
- (3) The Vice-Chancellor may, in a case of gross misconduct by a member of

staff which in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor is prejudicial to the interest of the University, suspend such member and any such suspension shall immediately be reported to the Council.

- (4) Any member of staff may be suspended from duty or his appointment may be terminated by Council for a good cause and for the purposes of this subsection "good cause" means —
 - (a) conviction for any offence which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit for the discharge of the functions of his office;
 - (b) any physical or mental incapacity which the Council, after obtaining medical advice, considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold office;
 - (c) conduct of a scandalous or disgraceful nature which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold office; or
 - (d) conduct which the Council considers to be such as to constitute failure or inability of the person concerned to discharge the functions of his office or to comply with the terms and conditions of his service.
- (5) Any person suspended pursuant to subsection (3) of this section shall be on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months from the date of such suspension consider the case against that person and come to a decision as to whether to —
 - (a) continue such person's suspension and if so on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);
 - (b) reinstate such person in which case the Council shall restore his full emoluments with effect from the date of suspension;
 - (c) terminate the appointment of the person concerned in which case such a person will not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or
 - (d) take such lesser disciplinary action against such person (including the restoration of such proportion of his emoluments that might have been withheld) as the Council may determine.
- (6) Where the Council, pursuant to this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against the person, the Council shall, before the expiration of three months from such decision come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning such a person.
- (7) It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed in pursuance of subsection (1) above to use his best endeavors to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.
- (8) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall prevent the Council

from making regulations for the discipline of staff and workers of the University as may be appropriate (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Removal of Examiners.

- (1) If, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor, it appears to the Senate that a person appointed as an examiner for any examination of the University ought to be removed from his office or appointment, then, the Senate may, after affording the examiner an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter, direct the Vice-Chancellor to remove the examiner by an instrument in writing signed by the Registrar.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of any regulation made pursuant to section 8 (4) of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor may, on the recommendation of Senate, appoint an appropriate person as examiner in the place of the examiner removed.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the Registrar on signing an instrument of removal pursuant to this section, to use his best endeavors to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Discipline of Students.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the Vice-Chancellor that any student is guilty of misconduct, the Vice-Chancellor may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by Statute or regulations, direct that the —
 - (a) student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the direction, participate in such activities of the University or make use of such facilities of the University as may be so specified;
 - (b) activities of the student shall, during such period as may be specified in the direction, be restricted in such manner as may be so specified;
 - (c) student be rusticated for such period as may be specified in the direction; or
- (2) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) paragraphs (c) or (d) of this section in respect of any student, the student may, within the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner, appeal against the direction to the Senate.
- (3) Where an appeal is brought pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, the Senate shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Senate considers just, either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Senate thinks fit.
- (4) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending.

- (5) The Vice-Chancellor may delegate his powers under this section to a disciplinary board consisting of such members of the University as he may nominate.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of a student's activities at the University for conduct which in the opinion of Senate is prejudicial to the interest of the University or to its corporate objective or image.
- (7) A direction under subsection (1) (a) of this section may be combined with a direction under subsection (1) (b) of this section (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART V — MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Clause 20: Exclusion or discrimination on account of race, religion, etc.

- (1) No person shall be required to satisfy requirements as to any of the following matters, that is to say, race (including ethnic grouping) sex, place of birth, family origin, religious or political persuasion, as a condition for becoming or continuing to be a —
 - (a) student in the University;
 - (b) holder of any degree, appointment or employment in the University; or
 - (c) member of any body established by virtue of this Bill.
- (2) No person shall be subjected to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage in relation to the University by reference to any of the matters referred to in subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall be construed as preventing the University from imposing any disability or restriction on any of the persons specified in subsection (1) of this section where such persons wilfully refuse or fail on grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly imposed on all such persons or any group of them which duty, having regard to its nature and the special circumstances, is in the opinion of the University reasonably justifiable in the national interest (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Transfer of land to the University.

- (1) For the purpose of the Land Use Act (which provides for the compulsory acquisition of land for public purposes) any purpose of the University shall be the same as that of the Federation.
- (2) Where an estate or interest in land is acquired by the University pursuant to this section, the Government may, by a certificate under the hand and seal of the Federal Government of Nigeria or any other person authorized in that behalf transfer it to the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Restriction on disposal of land by University.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Land Use Act, the University shall not dispose of or charge any land or an interest in any land (including any land transferred to the University by this Bill) except with the prior written consent, either general or special, of the Visitor:

Provided that such consent shall not be required in the case of any lease or tenancy at a rack-rent for a term not exceeding twenty-one years of any lease or tenancy to a member of the University for residential purpose (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Quorum and procedure of bodies established by this Bill.

Except as may be otherwise provided by Statute or by Regulation, the quorum and procedure of any body of persons established by this Bill shall be such as may be determined by that body (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Appointment of Committees, etc.

- (1) Anybody of persons established by this Bill shall, without prejudice to the generality of the powers of that body, have power to appoint committees, which need not consist exclusively of members of that body and authorize a committee established by it to —
 - (a) exercise on its behalf, such of its functions as it may determine; and
 - (b) co-opt members and direct whether or not co-opted members shall be entitled to vote in that committee.
- (2) Any two or more such bodies may arrange for the holding of joint meetings of those bodies or for the appointment of committees consisting of members of those bodies, for the purpose of considering any matter within the competence of those bodies or any of them and either dealing with it or of reporting on it to those bodies or any of them.
- (3) Except as may be otherwise provided by Statute or Regulations, the quorum and procedure of a committee established or meeting held pursuant to this section shall be such as may be determined by the body or bodies which have decided to establish the committee or hold the meeting.
- (4) The Pro-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor shall be members of every committee of which the members are wholly or partly appointed by the Council, (other than a committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the officer in question) and the Vice-Chancellor shall be a member of every committee of which the members are wholly or partly appointed by the Senate.
- (5) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall be construed as enabling —
 - (a) statutes to be made otherwise than in accordance with section 11 of this Bill; or

- (b) the Senate to empower any other body to make Regulations or to award degrees or other qualifications (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 25: Miscellaneous Administrative provisions.

- (1) The seal of the University shall be such as may be determined by the Council and approved by the Chancellor and the affixing of the seal shall —
- (a) in the case of certificates issued by the University, be authenticated by the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar; and
- (b) in the case of any other document, be authenticated by any member of Council, the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar or any other person authorized by Statute.
- (2) Any document purporting to be a document executed under the seal of the University shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.
- (3) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the University by any person generally or specially authorized to do so by the Council without seal.
- (4) The validity of the proceedings of anybody established pursuant to this Bill shall not be affected by any member of any such body who has a personal interest in any matter proposed to be considered by that body shall disclose his interest to the body and shall not vote on any question relating to that matter.
- (5) Nothing in section 12 of the Interpretation Act (which provides for the application, in relation to subordinate legislation, of certain incidental provisions) shall apply to Statutes or Regulations made pursuant to this Bill.
- (6) The power conferred by this Bill on anybody to make Statute or Regulations shall include power to revoke or vary any —
- (a) Statute (including the Statute contained in the Third Schedule to this Bill; or
- (b) regulation by a subsequent Statute or Regulation as the case may be:
- Provided that the Statutes and Regulations may have different provisions in relation to different circumstances.
- (7) No stamp or other duty shall be payable in respect of any transfer of property to the University by virtue of sections 10, 21 and the Second Schedule to this Bill.
- (8) Any notice or other instrument authorized to be served by virtue of this Bill may, without prejudice to any other mode of service, be served by post (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Interpretation.

(1) In this Bill —

"appropriate authority" means any person, body or authority authorized by law to act in a specific or general capacity in relation to a subject matter (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "appropriate authority" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"campus" means any campus which may be established by the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"college" means any college which may be established by the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"graduate" means a person on whom a degree (other than an honorary degree) has been conferred by the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"gross misconduct" means any act of misconduct and improper behavior that may be designated as gross misconduct by any Statute or Regulation made, pursuant to this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "gross misconduct" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility for education (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"misconduct" means any conduct which is prejudicial to the good name of the University and or discipline and the proper administration of the business of the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"notice" means notice in writing (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"officer" does not include the Visitor (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the word “officer” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"prescribed" means prescribed by Statute or Regulation made under this Bill (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “prescribed” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"professor" means a person designated as a professor of the University in accordance with provisions made in that behalf by Statute or by Regulations (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “professor” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"property" includes rights, liabilities and obligations (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “property” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"the provisional Council" means the provisional Council appointed for the University by the President with effect from September 2020 (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the words “the provisional Council” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"regulations" means regulations made by the Senate or Council (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “relations” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Senate" means the Senate of the University established by the Act (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “Senate” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Statute" means a law made by the University under section 11 of this Bill and in accordance with the provisions of section 12 of this Bill (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “Statute” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"the Statutes" means all such laws as are in force from time to time (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the words “the Statutes” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"teacher" means a person holding a full time appointment as a member of the teaching or research staff of the University (Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Question that the meaning of the word “teacher” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the word “Constitution” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"undergraduate" means a person in the University, other than —

- (a) a graduate; and
- (b) a person of such description as may be prescribed for the purposes of this definition (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the word “undergraduate” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"the University" the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State incorporated and constituted by this Bill; and (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words “the University” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"the Act" means the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State Act (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words “the Act” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

- (2) Where in any provision of this Bill, it is laid down that proposals are to be submitted or a recommendation is to be made by one authority to another through one or more intermediate authorities, it shall be the duty of every such intermediate authority to forward any proposals or recommendations received by it pursuant to that provision to the appropriate authority; but any such intermediate authority may, if it thinks fit, forward therewith its own comments thereon (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 27: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State. (FUSTRO) (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 3 (2)

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Chancellor

1. The Chancellor shall be appointed by and hold office at the pleasure of the President.

The Pro-Chancellor

2. (1) The Pro-Chancellor shall be appointed or removed from office by the President.
(2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Pro-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of four years from the date of his appointment.

The Vice-Chancellor

3. The procedure for the appointment and removal of the Vice-Chancellor shall be in accordance with the provision of the University (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993 as amended.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

4. (1) There shall be for the University, two Deputy Vice-Chancellors or such number of Deputy Vice Chancellors as the Council may, from time to time, deem necessary for the proper administration of the University.
(2) The procedure for the appointment and removal of the Deputy Vice Chancellor shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Universities {Miscellaneous Provisions} Act 1993 as amended.
(3) A Deputy Vice-Chancellor shall —
 - (a) assist the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of his functions;
 - (b) act in place of the Vice-Chancellor when the post of the Vice-Chancellor is vacant or if the Vice-Chancellor is, for any reason, absent or unable to perform his functions as Vice-Chancellor; and
 - (c) perform such other functions as the Vice-Chancellor or the Council may, from time to time, assign to him.

Office of the Registrar, Bursar and University Librarian

5. (1) There shall be for the University, a Registrar, who shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of the University and shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administration of the University except as regards matters for which the Bursar is responsible in accordance with paragraph 6 (2) below.
(2) The person holding the office of Registrar shall by virtue of that office be Secretary to the Council, the Senate, Congregation and Convocation.

- (3) The Registrar shall hold office for such period and on such terms and conditions as to emoluments as may be specified in his letter of appointment.
6. (1) There shall be for the University, the following Principal Officers in addition to the Registrar, that is —
- (a) the Bursar; and
- (b) the University Librarian.
- (2) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the University and shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the University.
- (3) The University Librarian shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the administration of the University Library and the co-ordination of all library services in the University and its campuses, colleges, faculties, schools, departments and institutes and other teaching or research units.
- (4) The Bursar and the University Librarian —
- (a) shall each hold office for such period and on such terms and conditions as to emoluments as may be specified in his letter of appointment.

Other Officers of the University

7. There shall be for the University, a Director of Works, who shall be responsible to the Vice Chancellor for the administration of the Works Department. He shall be responsible for all works, services and maintenance of University facilities.
8. There shall be for the University, a Director of Health Services, who shall be responsible to the Vice Chancellor for the administration of the Health Centre. He shall be the Chief Medical Officer of the University and shall coordinate all matters relating to the health of all staff and students.

Resignation and re-appointment

9. (1) Any officer mentioned in the foregoing provisions of this schedule may resign his office in —
- (a) the case of the Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor, by notice to the Visitor;
- (b) the case of the Vice-Chancellor by notice to the Council which shall immediately notify the Minister; and
- (2) A person who has ceased to hold an office so mentioned otherwise than by removal for misconduct shall be eligible for re-appointment to that office (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the provisions of the First Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 10 (2)

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AS TO PROPERTY, FUNCTIONS, ETC.

Transfer of Property to the University

1. Without prejudice to the generality of Section 10 (1) of this Bill —
 - (a) the reference in the subsection to property held by the provisional Council and the University shall include a reference to the right to receive and give a good discharge for any grants or contributions which may have been voted or promised to the provisional Council and the University; and
 - (b) all outstanding debts and liabilities of the provisional Council shall become debts and liabilities of the University established by this Bill.
2.
 - (1) All agreements, contracts, deeds and other instruments to which the provisional Council was a party shall, so far as possible and subject to any necessary modifications, have effect as if the University established by this Bill had been a party to it in place of the provisional Council.
 - (2) Documents not falling within sub-paragraph (1) above, including enactments, which refer whether specially or generally to the provisional Council shall be construed in accordance with that subparagraph so far as applicable.
 - (3) Any legal proceedings or application to any authority pending by or against the provisional Council may be continued by or against the University established by this Bill.

Registration of Transfers

3.
 - (1) If the law in force at the place where any property transferred by this Bill is situated provides for the registration of transfers of property of the kind in question (whether by reference to an instrument of transfer or otherwise), the law shall, so far as it provides for alterations of a register (but not for avoidance of transfers, the payment of fees of any other matter) apply, with the necessary modifications to the transfer of the property in question.
 - (2) It shall be the duty of the body to which any property is transferred by this Bill to furnish the necessary particulars of the transfer to the proper officer of the registration authority, and of that officer to register the transfer accordingly.
4.
 - (1) The first meeting of the Council shall be convened by the Pro-Chancellor on such date and in such manner as he may determine.
 - (2) The persons who were members of the provisional Council shall be deemed to constitute the Council until the date when the Council set up under the Third Schedule to this Bill must have been duly constituted.
 - (3) The first meetings of the Senate as constituted by this Bill shall be convened by the Vice-Chancellor on such date and in such manner as he may determine.
 - (4) The persons who were members of the Senate immediately before the coming into force of this Bill shall be deemed to constitute the Senate of the University until the date when the Senate as set up under the Third Schedule of this Bill must have been duly constituted.
 - (5) Subject to any regulations which may be made by the Senate after the date on which this Bill is made, the faculties, faculty boards and students of the University

immediately before the coming into force of this Bill shall on that day become faculties, faculty boards and students of the University as established by this Bill.

- (6) Persons who were deans or associate deans of faculties or members of faculty boards shall continue to be deans or associate deans or become members of the corresponding faculty boards, until new appointment are made in pursuance of the Statutes under this Bill.
5. Any person who was a member of the staff of the University as established or was otherwise employed by the provisional Council shall be employed at the University on such designation, status and functions which correspond as nearly as possible to those which pertained to him as a member of that staff or as such an employee.
6. Questions as to the scope of the responsibilities of the aforesaid officers shall be determined by the Vice-Chancellor (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the provisions of the Second Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

THIRD SCHEDULE

Section 11 (3)

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, REMO, OGUN STATE STATUTE NO. 1

Articles:

1. The Council.
2. Finance and General Purpose Committee
3. The Senate.
4. The Congregation.
5. Convocation.
6. Organization of Faculties and the Branches thereof.
7. Faculty Board.
8. The Dean of the Faculty.
9. Selection of Certain Principal and other key officers.
10. Creation of Academic Post.
11. Appointment of Academic Staff.
12. Appointment of Administrative and Technical Staff.

The Council

1. (1) Any member of Council holding office pursuant to section 6 (e), (f), (g) or (h) of this Bill may, by notice to the Council, resign his office.
- (2) A member of Council holding office pursuant to section 6 (e), (f), (g) or (h) of this Bill shall, unless he previously vacates it, vacate that office on the expiration of a period of four years starting from 1st August in the year in which he was appointed.
- (3) Where a member of Council holding office pursuant to section 6 (e), (f), (g) or (h) of this Bill vacates office before the expiration of his tenure, the body that appointed him may appoint a successor to hold office for the residue of his unexpired term.
- (4) A person ceasing to hold office as a member of Council otherwise than by removal for misconduct shall be eligible for reappointment for only one further period of four years.

- (5) The quorum of the Council shall be five, at least one of whom shall be a member pursuant to Section 6 (d) and (e) of this Bill.
- (6) If the Pro-Chancellor is not present at a meeting of the Council, the members present at the meeting may appoint one of them to be the Chairman at that meeting, and subject to section 5 of this Bill and the provisions of this paragraph the Council may regulate its own procedure.
- (7) Where the Council desires to obtain advice with respect to any particular matter, it may co-opt not more than two persons for that purpose; and the persons co-opted may take part in the deliberations of the Council at any meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.
- (8) The Council constituted by this Bill shall have a four year tenure from the date of its inauguration, provided that where a Council is found to be incompetent and corrupt, it shall be dissolved by the visitor and a new Council shall be immediately constituted for the effective functioning of the University.
- (9) The powers of the Council shall be exercised in accordance with the laws and Statutes of the University, and to that extent, establishment circulars that are inconsistent with the laws and Statutes of the University shall not apply to the University.

The Finance and General Purpose Committee

2. (1) The Finance and General Purpose Committee of the Council shall consist of —
 - (a) the Pro-Chancellor, who shall be the Chairman of the committee at any meeting at which he is present;
 - (b) the Vice-Chancellor and a Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) six other members of the Council appointed by the Council two of whom shall be selected from among the four members of the Council appointed by the Senate and one of whom shall be selected from among members of the Council appointed by the congregation; and
 - (d) the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education or, in his absence, such member of his Ministry as he may designate to represent him.
- (2) The quorum of the Committee shall be six.
- (3) Subject to any directions given by the Council, the committee may regulate its own procedure.

The Senate

3. (1) There shall be a Senate for the University consisting of:
 - (a) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (b) the Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) all Professors of the University;
 - (d) all Deans, Provosts and Directors of Academic units of the University;

- (e) all Heads of Academic Departments, Units and Research Institutes of the University;
 - (f) the University Librarian; and
 - (g) academic members of the congregation who are not Professors as specified in the Laws of the University.
- (2) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Senate when he is present and in his absence, one of the Deputy Vice-Chancellors appointed by him shall be the chairman at the meeting.
- (3) The quorum of the Senate shall be one-quarter (or the nearest whole number less than one quarter), and subject to paragraph (2) above the Senate may regulate its own procedure.
- (4) If so requested in writing by any ten members of the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor, or in his absence a person duly appointed by him, shall convene a meeting of the Senate to be held not later than the tenth day following that on which the request was received.

Congregation

4. (1) Congregation shall consist of —
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor;
 - (b) the full time members of the academic staff;
 - (c) the Registrar;
 - (d) the Bursar; and
 - (e) every member of the administrative and technical staff who holds a degree of any University recognized for the purpose of this Statute by the Vice-Chancellor, not being an honorary degree.
- (2) Subject to section 5 of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairman at all meetings of congregation when he is present, and in his absence one of the Deputy Vice Chancellors appointed by him shall be the chairman at the meeting.
- (3) The quorum of congregation shall be one-third (or the nearest whole number to one-third) of the total number of members of congregation or fifty, whichever is less.
- (4) A certificate signed by the Vice-Chancellor specifying —
- (a) the total number of members of Congregation for the purposes of any particular meeting or meetings of Congregation; or
 - (b) the names of the persons who are members of Congregation during a particular period; shall be conclusive evidence of that number or as the case may be of the names of those persons.
- (5) Subject to the provisions of this schedule, congregation may regulate its own procedure.

- (6) Congregation shall be entitled to express by resolution or otherwise its opinion on all matters affecting the interest and welfare of the University and shall have such other functions in addition to the function of electing a member of the Council, as may be provided by Statute or Regulations.

Convocation

5. (1) Convocation shall consist of —
- (a) the Officers of the University mentioned in Schedule 1 to this Bill;
 - (b) all teachers within the meaning of this Bill; and
 - (c) all other persons whose names are registered in accordance with paragraph (2) below.
- (2) A person shall be entitled to have his name registered as a member of convocation if he —
- (a) is either a graduate of the University or a person satisfying such requirements as may be prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph; and
 - (b) applies for the registration of his name in the prescribed manner and pays the prescribed fee.
- (3) Regulations shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a register for the purpose of this paragraph and, subject to paragraph (3) below, may provide for the payment from time to time of further fees by persons whose names are on the register and for the removal from the register of the name of any person who fails to pay those fees.
- (4) The person responsible for maintaining the register shall, without the payment of any fees, ensure that the names of all persons who are for the time being members of convocation by virtue of paragraph (1) (a) or (b) of this paragraph are entered and retained on the register.
- (5) A person who reasonably claims that he is entitled to have his name on the register shall be entitled on demand to inspect the register, or a copy of the register at the principal offices of the University at all reasonable times.
- (6) The register shall, unless the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence that any person named therein is, and that any person not named therein is not, a member of convocation; but for the purpose of ascertaining whether a particular person was such a member on a particular date, any entries in and deletions from the register made on or after that date shall be disregarded.
- (7) The quorum of convocation shall be fifty or one-third (or the whole number nearest to one-third) of the total number of members of convocation whichever is less.
- (8) Subject to section 5 of this Bill, the Chancellor shall be chairman at all meetings of convocation when he is present, and in his absence the Vice Chancellor shall be the chairman at the meeting.
- (9) Convocation shall have such functions, in addition to the function of appointing a member of the Council, as may be provided by statute.

Organization of Faculties and Branches

6. Each Faculty shall be divided into such number of branches as may be prescribed.
7. (1) There shall Be established in respect of each Faculty, a Faculty Board, which, subject to the provisions of this Bill, and subject to the directions of the Vice-Chancellor, shall —
 - (a) regulate the teaching and study of, and the conduct of examinations connected with the subjects assigned to the faculty;
 - (b) deal with other matters assigned to it by Statute, by the Vice-Chancellor or by the Senate; and
 - (c) advice the Vice-Chancellor or Senate on any matter referred to it by the Vice-Chancellor or Senate.
- (2) Each Faculty Board shall consist of —
 - (a) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (b) the persons severally in charge of the branches of the faculty;
 - (c) such number of the teachers assigned to the faculty and having the prescribed qualifications as the Board may determine; and
 - (d) such persons whether or not members of the University as the Board may determine with the general or special approval of Senate.
- (3) The quorum of the Board shall be eight members or one-quarter of the members of the Board for the time being whichever is greater.
- (4) Subject to the provisions of this statute and to any provision made by regulations in that behalf, the Board may regulate its own procedure.

The Dean of the Faculty

8. (1) The Dean of a faculty shall be a professor elected by the Faculty Board and such Dean shall hold office for a term of two years. He will be eligible for re-election for another term of two years after which he may not be elected again until two years have elapsed.
- (2) If there is no professor in a faculty, the Vice-Chancellor shall appoint an Acting Dean who shall not be below the rank of Senior Lecturer for the faculty, who will act for a period of one year in the first instance, renewable for another one year only.
- (3) In the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Faculty Board when he is present and he shall be a member of all committees and other boards appointed by the faculty.
- (4) The Dean of a faculty shall exercise general superintendence over the academic and administrative affairs of the faculty and it shall be the function of the Dean to present to the convocation for the conferment of Degrees, persons who have qualified for the Degrees of the University at examinations held in the branches of learning for which responsibility is allocated to that faculty.

- (5) There shall be a committee to be known as the Committee of Deans which shall consist of all the Deans of the several faculties and that committee shall advise the Vice-Chancellor on all academic matters and on particular matters referred to the Committee by the Senate.
- (6) The Dean of a faculty may be removed from office for a good cause by the Faculty Board after a vote would have been taken at a meeting of the Board, and in the event of a vacancy occurring following the removal of the Dean, an Acting Dean may be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor provided that at the next faculty board meeting an election shall be held for a new Dean.
- (7) In this article, "good cause" has the same meaning as in section 17 (4) of this Bill.

Selection of Certain Principal and other key Officers

9. (1) When a vacancy occurs in the Office of the Registrar, Bursar, the University Librarian, Director of Works or Director of Health Services, a Selection Board shall be constituted by the Council and shall consist of —
 - (i) the Pro-Chancellor;
 - (ii) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (iii) two members appointed by the Council, not being members of Senate; and
 - (iv) two members appointed by the Senate not being members of Council.
- (2) The Selection Board, after making such inquiries as it thinks fit, shall recommend a candidate to the Council for appointment to the vacant office, and after considering the recommendation of the Board the Council may make an appointment to that office.
- (3) A person appointed to the office of Director of Works or Director of Health Services shall hold office for such period and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.

Creation of Academic Post

10. Recommendation for the creation of posts other than those mentioned in paragraph 9 of this Schedule shall be made by the Senate to the Council through the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Appointment of Academic Staff

11. Subject to this Bill and the Statutes derived from it, the filling of vacancies in academic posts (including newly created ones) shall be as prescribed from time to time by Statutes.

Appointment of Administrative and Technical Staff

12. (1) The administrative and technical staff of the University, other than those mentioned in paragraph 9 of this schedule shall be appointed by the Council on its behalf by the Vice-Chancellor or the Registrar in accordance with any delegation of powers made by the Council in that behalf.
- (2) In the case of administrative or technical staff that has close and important contacts with the academic staff, there shall be Senate participation in the process of selection (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the provisions of the Third Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to Make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and Related Matters (HB.111) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB. 111) and approved Clauses 1 - 26, the Schedules, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

- (v) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to provide for the Appointment of the Provost and other Officers of the College to carry out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB. 185) (Committee of the Whole): Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to provide full-time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to provide for the Appointment of the Provost and other Officers of the College to carry out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB. 185)” (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).***

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, Omu ARAN, TO PROVIDE FULL-TIME COURSES, TEACHING, INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING IN TECHNOLOGY, APPLIED SCIENCE, ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND MANAGEMENT; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PROVOST AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE COLLEGE TO CARRY OUT THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS, ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 185)

Clause 1: Establishment of the Federal College of Education, Omu Aran.

- (1) There is established the Federal College of Education, Omu Aran (Hereinafter referred to as "the College").
- (2) The College shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and

common seal and shall have power to acquire and dispose of interest in movable and immovable properties.

- (3) The College may sue and be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Governing Council of the College.

- (1) The governance and direction of the College affairs shall rest in the governing Council of the College (in the Bill referred to as "the Council").
- (2) The Council shall have the responsibility to consider and approve:
 - (a) the Programme of studies to be undertaken in the College;
 - (b) the annual estimates of the College; and
 - (c) the investment plan of the College.
- (3) The Provision of the schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the Council as mentioned herewith (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Membership of the Council in the College.

The Council of the College shall consist of:

- (a) a chairman and other members to be appointed by the President;
- (b) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Education;
- (c) a representative of the University of which the College is affiliated to for the purpose of moderation;
- (d) two representatives of the academic board of the College;
- (e) a representative of the National Commission for Colleges of Education; and
- (f) the Provost of the College (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Tenure of Members of the College.

- (1) A member of the Council (other than the ex-officio members) shall hold office for a term of four years and subject to the provision of subsection (2) of this section shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further period of four years and also move.
- (2) The office of a member appointed under section 3 of this Bill shall become vacant if:
 - (a) the member resigns from office by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Minister; or

- (b) the Minister is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the College for the person appointed to continue in office and notifies the member in writing to that effect (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Functions of the College.

The functions of the College shall be:

- (a) to provide full-time courses in teaching instruction and training:
- (i) in technology, applied sciences, arts, social science, humanities and management, and
- (ii) in such other fields of applied learning relevant to the needs of development of Nigeria;
- (b) to conduct Courses in Education for qualified teachers;
- (c) to arrange conference, seminars and workshops relative to the functions of the College; and
- (d) to perform such other functions as in the opinion of the Council may serve to promote the objective of the College (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Powers of the Council.

The Council of the College shall have power to:

- (a) hold examinations and grant NCE, Diplomas, Professional Council Certificates and other distinctions to persons who have pursued course of study approved and accredited by the National Commission for Colleges of Education;
- (b) hold examinations in Education for qualified teachers;
- (c) recruit staff and determine structure of such staff;
- (d) demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the College, for the purpose of construction, such fees as the Council may with the prior approval of the Minister, from time to time determine;
- (e) hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and bookselling;
- (f) award fellowship, medals, prizes and other titles;
- (g) establish and maintain such schools and other teaching units with the College or extra moral departments as the Councils may from time to time determine;
- (h) erect, provide, equip and maintain such educational recreational and residential facilities as the College may require;

- (i) create lectureships and other academic post and offices and to make appointment thereof Receive and make gifts;
- (j) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for carrying into effect the objective of the College;
- (k) provide amenities for and make such other provisions for the welfare of the staff and students of the College;
- (l) encourage and make provision for research in the College;
- (m) do such acts and things whether or not incidental to the foregoing as may advance the objects of the College (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: The Visitor.

- (1) The minister responsible for education shall be the visitor of the College.
- (2) The visitor shall, not less than once in every five years, conduct a visitation to the College or appoint a visitation panel to consist of not less than five experts to conduct the visitation:
 - (a) for the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative performance of the College; or
 - (b) for such other purpose as the visitor may deem fit (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: The Academic Board and its functions.

- (1) There shall be established for the College a board to be known as the Academic Board which shall consist of the following members:
 - (a) the Provost of the College as the chairman;
 - (b) all heads of departments;
 - (c) the College bursar;
 - (d) the College Librarian; and
 - (e) not more than three members of the Academic staff other than the heads of departments to be appointed by the Council.
- (2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for:
 - (a) the direction and management of academic matters of the College including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates, scholarships, prizes and other academic distinction;
 - (b) discharging any other functions which the Council may from time to time delegate to it (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Power of Minister.

The Minister may give to the Council directions of general character or relating generally to matters with regard to the exercise by the Council of its functions and it shall be the duty of the Council to comply with such directions (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: The Provost of the College.

- (1) There shall be a Provost for the College (hereinafter referred to as "the Provost") who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the minister.
- (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the post of the provost, the Council shall:
 - (a) advertise the vacancy in reputable widely read newspaper in Nigeria specifying:
 - (i) the qualities of the person who may apply for the post,
 - (ii) the terms and condition of service applicable to the post and thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for consideration of the Minister.
- (3) The President shall appoint as provost one of the candidates recommended by the minister.
- (4) Subject to the general control of the Council the provost shall be the chief executive of the College and shall be charged with general responsibility for matters relating to the day-to-day management and operations of the College.
- (5) The Provost shall hold office for a period of five years only and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Deputy Provost.

- (1) There shall be for the College two deputy provosts namely: Deputy Provost (Academic) and the Deputy Provost (Administration).
- (2) The Council shall appoint the deputy provosts from among the chief lecturers in the College in any of the following ways, that is:
 - (a) from a list of five candidates in order of preference, submitted by the provost;
 - (b) on the recommendation of a selection Board constituted for that purpose; or
 - (c) on the nomination of the provost;
- (3) The selection Board referred to in subsection (2) (b) of this section shall consist of:

- (i) the Chairman of the Council;
 - (ii) the Provost of the College;
 - (iii) two members of the Academic board; and
 - (iv) two members of the Council not being members of the Academic Board.
- (4) (a) The Deputy Provost (Academic) shall:
- (i) assist the provost in the performance of his function in Academic matters of the College;
 - (ii) act as the provost when the post of the provost is vacant or if the provost is for any reason, absent or unable to perform his function.
- (b) The Deputy Provost (Administration) shall:
- (i) assist the provost in administrative matters of the College; and
 - (ii) perform such other functions as the provost or the Council may from time to time assign to him.
- (5) Each of the deputy provosts shall hold office for a period of two years and no more (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: The Registrar and other Staff of the College.

- (1) There shall be a registrar for the College to be appointed by the Council.
- (2) The registrar shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the Council;
- (3) The registrar shall be the secretary to:
 - (a) the Council;
 - (b) the Academic Board; and
 - (c) any Committee of the Council.
- (4) The registrar may perform any duty as may be assigned to him by the Council or the Provost.
- (5) The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five years and no more (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Other Principal Officers of the College.

- (1) There shall be for the College in addition to the registrar:

- (a) the Bursar; and
 - (b) the College Librarian who shall be appointed by the Council.
- (2) The Bursar shall be the chief financial officer of the College and be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the College.
- (3) The College Librarian shall be responsible to the provost for the administration of the College library and the coordination of the library services in the teaching units of the College.
- (4) The Bursar and the College Librarian shall each hold office for a period of five years and no more (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 14: Resignation of appointment of Principal Officer.

A principal officer of the College may resign his appointment:

- (a) in case of the provost by notice to the visitor; and
- (b) in any other case by notice to the Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Other employees of the College.

- (1) The Council may appoint other persons to be employees of the College as the Council may deem fit to assist the Provost and the Principal Officers in the performance of their functions.
- (2) The remuneration, tenure of office and condition of service of the employees of the College shall be determined by the Council in consultation with the Federal Civil Service Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Pension.

Service in the College shall be approved service for the purpose of the Pension Reform Act and accordingly, officers and other persons employed in the College shall be entitled to pensions, gratuity and other retirement benefit as may be prescribed in their respective letters of appointment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Selection Board for other Principal Officers.

- (1) There shall be a Selection Board for the College which shall consist of:
- (a) the Chairman of the Council;
 - (b) the Provost;

- (c) four members of the Council not being members of the Academics Board; and
 - (d) two members of the Academic Board.
- (2) The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the selection Board constituted under subsection (1) of this section shall be determined from time to time by the Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Fund of the College.

- (1) The College shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be applied towards the promotion of the objective of this Bill.
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established under subsection (1) of this section:
- (a) such sums as may from time to time be granted by the Federal Government through the National Commission for Colleges of Education;
 - (b) all monies raised by the Council by way of gifts, grants in aid or monetary disposition; and
 - (c) all subscription, fees and charges for services rendered by the Council and all other sums that may accrue to the Council from any Source.
- (3) The Council shall submit to the Minister, through the National Commission for Colleges of Education not later than three months before the end of each financial year or at such other time as he may direct an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the next succeeding financial year (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Power to accept gifts.

- (1) The College may accept gifts of loan, money or of other property upon such terms and conditions, if any as may be specified by the person making the gifts.
- (2) The College shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached to the Account and gifts are inconsistent with the functions of the College (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: Account and Audit.

The College shall keep proper accounts of its receipt, payments, assets and liabilities and shall in respect of each year cause the account to be audited (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Annual Reports.

The Council shall as soon as may be after the expiration of each financial year, prepare and submit to the minister a report of its activities during the immediate preceding financial year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the College for that year and of the auditor's report of the accounts (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Interpretation.

In this Bill:

"Chairman" means the chairman of the Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"College" means the Federal College of Education Omu Aran established under section(1) of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Council" means the Governing Council of the College established under section 2 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Function" includes power and duties (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Minister" means the minister charged with responsibility of education (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Member" means a member of the Council including the chairman (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Provost" means the provost of the College established under section 10 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

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

Clause 23: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Education, Omu Aran (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULE

[Section 2 (3)]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.*Terms of Service*

1. There may be paid to the members of the Council or any committee, other than *ex-officio* members, such remuneration and allowances as may from time to time be determined by the President.
2. Where a vacancy occurs in respect of the membership specified in section 3, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor in office and such successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.
3. The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or any defect in the appointment of a member or the absence of a member.

Proceedings

4. (1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such times, places and on such days as the chairman may appoint but shall meet not less than once every four months.
- (2) The chairman may at any time and shall at the request in writing of not Less than six members, convene a meeting of the Council.
- (3) Where the Council desires to obtain the advice of any person on any particular matter, the Council may co-opt persons who are not members of the Council but persons co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of the Council.
- (4) The Quorum of the Council shall be one half of the total members of the Council, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed by the President.
- (5) Decisions of the Council shall be made on approval by a simple majority of members.

Miscellaneous

5. (1) The fixing of the seal of the College shall be authenticated by the signature of the chairman, Provost and of some other members of the Council authorized generally or specially by the Council to act for that purpose.
- (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person other than a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may be made executed on behalf of the College by any person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the Council.
- (3) Any document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the College shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the provisions of the Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanation Note:

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal College of Education, Omu Aran as institute to offer full-time courses leading to the awards of National Certificates of Education, Diplomas, etc. (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to Provide Full-Time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to Provide for the Appointment of the Provost and Other Officers of the College to Carry Out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College; and for Related Matters (HB. 185) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to provide full-time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to provide for the Appointment of the Provost and other Officers of the College to carry out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB. 185) and approved Clauses 1 - 23, the Schedules, the Explanatory Memorandum, and the Long Title of the Bill.

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

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Twelve, Rule 4, to enable it take the Third Reading of the Bills considered today” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

23. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, Cap. C, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (SB.188) — Third Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, etc.) Act, Cap. C, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (SB.188) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

24. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, update the list of dangerous drugs, review the penalty provisions, enhance the power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug Related Offences and issues subsidiary legislation and for Related Matters (HB. 472) — Third Reading**
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency Act Cap. N30, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to strengthen the Operations of the Agency, Empower the Agency to Establish Laboratories, update the list of dangerous drugs, review the penalty provisions, enhance the power of the Agency to Prosecute Drug

Related Offences and issues subsidiary legislation and for Related Matters (HB. 472) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

25. **A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Eungu State and for Related Matters (Hb. 670) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act to Establish Federal Medical Centre, Akpugo, Nkanu West, Eungu State and for Related Matters (Hb. 670) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

26. **A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB. 111) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (FUSTRO) to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB. 111) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

27. **A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to provide full-time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to provide for the Appointment of the Provost and other Officers of the College to carry out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB. 185) — *Third Reading***
Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal College of Education, Omu Aran, to provide full-time Courses, Teaching, Instruction and Training in Technology, Applied Science, Arts, Social Sciences, Humanities and Management; and to provide for the Appointment of the Provost and other Officers of the College to carry out the Discipline of Students, Administration of the College and for Related Matters (HB. 185) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

28. **Adjournment**
That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 15 February, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.04 p.m.