FOURTH REPUBLIC 10<sup>H</sup> NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (2023–2027) FIRST SESSION NO. 129



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA ORDER PAPER

Wednesday, 15th May, 2024

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

### ORDERS OF THE DAY BILLS

- 1. A Bill for an Act to Establish Institute of Chartered Corporate and Business Affairs Management of Nigeria to Provide for the Control of its Membership, Promote and Foster the Practice of Corporate and Business Affairs Management in Nigeria and for Related matters (HB.480) (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere) Second Reading.
- **2.** A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Oba Obafemi Vocational Skills and Entrepreneurship University, Owode and for Related Matters (HB. 726) (Hon. Olumide Osoba) Second Reading.
- **3.** A Bill for an Act to Establish Elites Sheriffs Corps to Facilitate Tax Collection by Relevant Authorities in the Federation to Enhance Budget Implementation through Internal Revenue Generation and for Related Matters (HB.976) (Hon. Victor Abang) Second Reading.

- **4.** A Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and for Related Matters (HB. 999) (*Hon. Patrick Umoh*) *Second Reading*.
- 5. A Bill for an Act to Alter the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to make provision for the Presentation of the Audited Report of the Previous year's expenditures by the President, alongside the laying of the Budget (estimates of the revenues and expenditure) of the Federation for the next financial year and for Related Matters (HB. 780) (Hon. Whinghan Sesi Olusegun) second Reading.

### **MOTIONS**

6. Need to Commence the Construction of Rail Service from Itakpe in Kogi State to Abuja: Hon. Francis E. Waive:

#### The House:

*Notes* that the Uje vwu - Itakpe rail line is expected to transport food stuff passengers from the South and passengers/goods - steel from Itakpe and to other parts of the country;

Also notes that the rail service from Ujevwu to Itakpe is very strategic as it spans through Delta, Edo and Kogi states;

Aware that until recently the 327km Ujevwu-Itakpe rail line as a means of transportation was abandoned long before the previous administration took giant steps to complete the long-abandoned project and commissioned same;

Also aware that an extension of the Ujevwu – Itakpe rail line Northwards by 200km taking it through Lokoja, Abaji, Gwagwalada, Kuje up to ldu (Abuja, city centre) linking it with the existing Abuja – Kaduna line and the planned Kaduna - Kano line has been planned and contract awarded;

*Concerned* that more than three years after the reported contract was awarded nothing has been done by the contractor to executed this all-important project;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Transport to ensure immediate execution of the Contract;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to investigate the reasons for the non-execution of the contract and ensure immediate execution of the contract for the construction of Itakpe to Abuja and report back within the four (4) weeks; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative compliance to ensure compliance.
- 7. Implementation of Monthly Rent to Encourage Inclusive Rental System and Curb Arbitrary Increase in House Rent in the Federal Capital Territory:

  Hon. Emmanuel Ukpong Udo:

#### The House:

*Notes* that within the Federal Capital Territory, monthly rent payments are uncommon, with landlords usually demanding a minimum of at least one year's rent, while others require two years upfront;

Also notes that Nigeria is ripe for an inclusive rental system that reduces housing burden on working class families which will offer affordable monthly rentals for low- and middle-income earners.;

Aware that majority of FCT residents are civil servants and artisans, live in affordable Abuja satellite towns due to their meager salaries;

Also aware that the Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Housing, Barakat Odunuga-Bakare, disclosed that the state's monthly rental scheme will be enforced before the end of 2024 or early 2025;

Alarmed at the arbitrary increase of rent in Federal Capital Territory, one-bedroom self goes for 1 to 1.5 million, while two bedrooms is between 2-3 million, naira and three bedroom 3.5 which is quite burdensome due to the current economic hardship for civil servants, who are already grappling with fuel subsidy removal, rising foreign exchange rates, electricity tariffs increase, and tax or levies;

Worried at the exorbitant charges on house rents ranging from 5–10%, legal fees of 20%, and agency fees, while the service and maintenance fee is 150, 000 and the caution fee is 150, 000 to 400, 000, depending on the landlord;

*Convinced* that monthly rent provides tenants with flexibility, better cash flow management, reasonable move-out options, and ensures a stable income stream;

*Cognizant* of the need for government to come to the rescue of the resident and formulate policies that will to regulate house rents and the activities of landlords in Abuja;

*Recognizes* the need to build affordable house for civil servants in Abuja to reduce the burden of paying exorbitant rent in Abuja;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministries of Housing and Habitat, and Works to build affordable low-cost Houses and Estate to accommodate Civil Servant; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Housing and Habitat and Works to invite relevant stakeholders to discuss viable solutions to the issue of arbitrarily increase of house rent in the Federal Capital Territory and recommend effective policies to regulate the activities of landlords and report to back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

## 8. Rehabilitation of Yola–Girei–Song–Gombi–Hong–Mubi Federal Roads in Adamawa State Hon, James Shuaibu Barka:

#### The House:

*Notes* that Yola to Mubi Federal Road is a strategic highway connecting major towns in Adamawa state, such as Yola, Girei, Song, Gombi, Hong, Mubi Adamawa state and southern part of Borno State;

*Aware* that the rehabilitation of the Yola-Girei-Song-Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal Road was awarded in 2017 for N22 billion with a 24-month completion period;

Also aware that AG Vision Nigeria Ltd, the contractor responsible for the rehabilitation of Yola Girei-Song-Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal Road project, has failed to complete the project within the agreed time and budget, despite a review and an additional approval of 29 billion Naira in 2022;

*Concerned* that the Yola-Girei-Song-Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal Road has deteriorated greatly, causing hardship and inconvenience to road users and residents in affected areas;

*Cognizant* of the need to investigate the delay and poor execution of the Yola-Girei-Song Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal Road rehabilitation and holding AG Vision Nigeria Limited accountable for any breach of contract or negligence is urgent;

#### Resolves to:

mandate Committee on Works to investigate AG Vision Nigeria Ltd's failure to rehabilitate Yola-Girei-Song-Gombi-Hong-Mubi Federal roads andreport back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

# 9. Need for a Special Admission Quota for Graduates of Nigeria Military Schools into the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA): Hon. Emeka Idu Godwin O:

#### The House:

*Recalls* that Nigeria Military School Zaria, Kaduna State, popularly known as NMS, was first established as the Boys Company of Nigeria on May 20, 1954, modeled after the Boys Wing of the British Army;

Also recalls that the objective behind the NMS was the production of Middle Commissioned Officers, necessitating that overriding emphasis be placed on military and academic training;

Aware that subsequently, the Air Force Military School Jos, the Air Force Girls Military School Jos, and the Nigerian Navy Military School, Ikot Ntuen, were respectively established on August 18, 1980, October 1986, and April 15, 2018 respectively;

Also aware that these military schools admit boys and girls from the age of 12, mold them into disciplined and loyal elements of the Armed Forces of Nigeria through several techniques, including physical training, training on field crafts, weapon handling, tactics, map reading, signals, and other military subjects;

*Cognizant* that the ambition of most graduates of military schools is to join the Nigeria Defense Academy and make a career as commissioned officers in the Nigerian Armed Forces;

Concerned that many of these diligent and well-prepared graduates, called Ex Boys, Ex Jam, Ex Jaw, and Ex Seal, face substantial challenges in gaining admission into the Nigeria Defence Academy, a critical next step in their career paths, hence the need for a more inclusive and equitable admission process;

Worried that despite their exposure to regimental training at the Military Schools, statistics show that in the last decade, only about 4.1% of the total annual admissions into the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA) have gone to the Military Schools' applicants in their first or second attempts;

*Disturbed* that with the increased insecurity across Nigeria, such well-trained young men/women left frustrated could be a handy tool at the disposal of criminal gangs;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Minister of Defense, Chief of Defence Staff, and Board of the Nigeria Defence Academy to urgently review the admission requirements by allocating at least fifty percent (50%) slots to each state to applicants from Nigerian Military Schools pending the presentation and passage of the Nigeria Defence Academy Amendment Bill aimed at making the allocation permanent and statutory; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Defense and Legislative Compliance, to liaise with the Ministry of Defense, Chief of Defense Staff, and all other relevant military bodies towards the realization of the above and report back within two (2) weeks for further legislative action.

# 10. Need to Rehabilitate Rice Mill-Gboko-Ameladu Road in Benue State: Hon. Sekav Dzua Iyortyom:

#### The House:

*Notes* that the Rice Mill-Gboko-Ameladu road in Benue State is a federal road;

Also notes that the Rice Mil|-Gboko-Ameladu road, which measures about 11.9 km, is one of the major roads linking Benue to the states of Cross River, Enugu and other parts of the east, as well as Western and Southern Nigeria;

Aware that along that stretch of road is a private University, two major hospitals, one of which is a regular hospital and the other an Orthopedic and Referral Hospital that service Benue indigenes as well as patients from all over Nigeria, a School of Nursing and Midwifery, Laboratory Technology, College of Health Technology and a Polytechnic;

Also aware that the road is used to convey people to different facilities located along the road, Agricultural products such as yams, oranges, groundnuts, cassava, etc, transported from the farms and markets to the eastern and other neighbouring states;

Cognizant that if the Rice Mill-Gboko-Ameladu road is not urgently rehabilitated, it will pose hazards to commuters, access to the University and Hospitals as well as other facilities on the road, will become impossible and the transportation of farm produce to other parts of the country will be affected, thereby undermining the social, economic and overall wellbeing of the people;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power to install and maintain solar power lights along the road to illuminate and prevent criminal activities;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure the rehabilitation of the road from Rice Mill-Gboko-Ameladu to avoid loss of lives and properties;
- (iii) further urge the Ecological Fund office to provide funds to rehabilitate the potions with ecological challenges along the road for the construction of concrete and durable side drains to avoid incursions of erosion;
- (iv) again urge the Federal Ministry of Works to make provision for the general maintenance of the Rice Mill Gboko Ameladu road in the 2025 budget estimates; and
- (v) mandate the Committee on the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency to ensure compliance.

# 11. Need to Curb the Use of Casualized Labour by Employers of Labour in Nigeria: Hon. Fuad Kayode Laguda:

#### The House:

*Notes* that the oppressive and exploitative act of casualization of employment in Nigeria is rapidly spreading in unprecedented proportions of intensity and scale;

Also notes that Section 7(1) of the Labour Act, provides that "not later than three months after the beginning of a worker's period of employment with an employer, the employer shall give to the worker a written statement specifying the:

- (a) name of the employer or group of employers and, where appropriate, the undertaking by which the worker is employed; and
- (b) name and address of the worker and the place and date of his engagement;

*Observes* that despite the law limiting worker casualization to three months, the practice of casualization remains prevalent in Nigeria, where casual workers occupy a precarious position in the working place and society, and are effectively a new set of slaves' and 'underclass' in the modern-day economy;

Also concerned that Casualization, a form of slavery, can gradually destroy a nation's economy, leading to overworked individuals with inadequate income and retirement savings, this will result in an overworked population who relies on government for survival thus overbearing the social assistance capacity of the government;

Worried that the attributes attached to casualization, among others, include: abysmal low wages, absence of medical care allowances, no job security or promotion at work, no gratuity and other severance benefits, no leave or leave allowance, freedom of association is often jeopardized; no death benefits or accident insurance at work, no negotiation or collective bargaining agreement;

Aware that this unwholesome practice, though prevalent in the banking sector, has gradually become the norm among employers of labour in Nigeria, thereby breaching, the Labour Act and Workmen Compensation Act are not exempt from these provisions;

Alarmed that despite the inflationary trend in Nigeria, contract or casual staff are still paid between 40,000 and 150,000 naira, depending on the bank or financial institution and are often laid off at any time without notice or compensation since the banks are not under any legal contractual obligation or agreement with the employees;

Further notes that since the boom recorded in the banking sector in the early 2000s, banks and other financial institutions in Nigeria have heavily relied on the services of contract staff, often outsourced through recruiting firms and agents;

Also aware of recent findings shows that out of the 95,588 staff employed by Nigerian banks, 40,328 represent more than 42 percent of the total bank employees in Nigeria, as at third quota in 2023, 2 out of every five bank workers are contract workers;

Further aware that contract workers are for a specific period of time and carry out professional service like tellering, marketing, admin, ICT under an unfavourable condition without promotions or job security enjoyed by their colleagues in full-time employment considering their significantly contribute to the growth of the banking industry through their services, leading to profits declared by these banks;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment and Productivity and Human Rights to investigate the extent of these infractions against the rights of Nigerian workers and also relate with the relevant government agencies to curb the unwholesome practices;
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Labour, Employment, and Productivity, Banking Regulations, and Banking Institutions to liaise with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to halt the practice of contract staffing by banks and other financial institutions in Nigeria; and
- (iii) further mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation of these resolutions.

#### 12. Challenges of Irregular Migration:

#### Hon. Tochukwu Okere:

#### The House:

*Notes* that the universal lawful procedures for migration to other countries for legitimate purposes are recognized by all countries in the world, therefore, not following these procedures amounts to illegal entry;

Also notes that many Nigerians do not follow the legitimate procedures as recognized by the migration laws of Nigeria and countries of destination but instead follow illegitimate routes, which expose them to unnecessary hardship, thus constituting an embarrassment to the image of Nigeria and its rating before the community of nations.

Aware that Nigerians traveling out of the country through illegal routes have denied the Nigerian Immigration Service the opportunity to have reliable data on Nigerians traveling out of the country as well as the Nigerian Missions information about the presence of such Nigerians in their host countries,

thereby unable to monitor their activities or provide consular services to such migrants when the need arises.

Also aware of the reports that between 2015 and 2023, a total of 277,833 Nigerians left the country through the desert and Mediterranean routes, out of this number, 2000 ended up in Libyan private prisons and 12,000 seeking asylum in Germany in 2017, in deplorable living conditions. Whereas a total of 5,145 people died in the desert and on the Mediterranean in 2016 and 186, 000 were missing in 2023.

Worried that irregular migration and its consequences have created an image problem for Nigeria and present her as a country without rules and regard for the welfare of its citizens.

Concerned that if urgent steps are not taken to stop this dangerous trend, the situation may worsen to a point that many countries would deal with Nigeria not on the basis of enlightened reciprocity but on the discretion of defective perceptions created by this ugly trend, this has the potential to affect our diplomatic relations with friendly countries whose security and social stability have been affected by it.

Cognizant that Nigerians in the diaspora, particularly those with legitimate migration status, have contributed significantly to the nation's economic growth, development, and social stability and therefore deserve protection from being tainted by the activities of illegal migrants from Nigeria;

*Conscious* of the need to make appropriate resolutions that would help the President effectively deliver on the expectations of Nigerians, particularly in protecting the image and lives of the citizens.

#### Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Interior to investigate the factors that have given vent to the challenges of irregular migration and matters associated therewith and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action.

### CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

# 13. Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to investigate the alleged Manipulation of UTME Result by Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma:

#### Hon. Sada Soli:

"That the House do consider the Report of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Need to Investigate the alleged Manipulation of UTME Result by Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma and approve recommendations therein" (*Laid:* 19/10/2023).

- (i) that Miss Mmesoma Joy Ejikeme should cooperate with JAMB to ensure that all those who conspired with her are identified;
- (ii) members of the public should always verify results through the issuing authorities when in doubt of what is presented to them by candidates seeking for patronage of any kind;
- (iii) that JAMB should be commended for its watertight examination processes and procedures, transparency, innovations and record-keeping system, which makes it possible to retrieve unmutilated transactions with candidates at short notice;
- (iv) the system adopted by JAMB, whereby candidates do not present their results directly to their chosen institutions but relies only on the results JAMB had earlier sent to the institutions, is commendable and should be emulated by employers of labour to reduce falsification of results;
- (v) the *Ad-hoc* Committee further urged JAMB to continue to interact with Miss Ejikeme Mmesoma to unearth those behind the manipulation, especially those who connived with her to distort people's perception of reality;

- (vi) that JAMB should reconsider the three-year ban placed on Miss Ejikeme Joy Mmesoma considering the possible negative impact the ban may have on her career and life so as not to destroy her future prospects given the fact that she is a first offender and appeared remorseful;
- (vii) that JAMB should engage in more public awareness, enlightenment, sensitization and educate members of the public on its procedures and activities, which the Committee finds very assuring and of high ethical standard, to clear any perceived negative perception about the institution;
- (viii) that the House of Representatives should support and strengthen such Institutions like JAMB through appropriation in order to improve their capacity to continue to provide quality services to Nigerians.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

S/N	Committee	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Public Petitions (Investigative Hearing)	Wednesday 15 May 2024	3.00 p.m.	Conference Room 429 (New Building) Assembly Complex
2.	Federal Character Commission	Wednesday 15 May 2024	2.30 p.m.	Committee Room 247 (New Building) Assembly Complex
3.	National Planning and Economic Development	Wednesday 15 May 2024	2.30 p.m.	Training Room 1 National Library E–Library Complex
4.	Specialty Healthcare (Interactive Session on the Need to Prioritise and Implement the Mental Health Act 2021)	Wednesday 15 May 2024	2.30 p.m.	Committee Room 236 (New Building) Assembly Complex
5.	Delegated Legislation	Wednesday 15 May 2024	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 344 (New Building) Assembly Complex
6.	Commerce	Wednesday 15 May 2024	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 436 (New Building) Assembly Complex
7.	National Security and Intelligence	Wednesday 15 May 2024	3.00 p.m.	Committee Room 446 (New Building) Assembly Complex