



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA FIRST VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 11 June, 2024

1. The House met at 11.01 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 6 June, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**
 - (a) **Visitors in the Gallery:**
Mr Speaker announced the presence of the following visitors:
 - (i) The Nigeria Youth Parliament (NYP), Ogun West;
 - (ii) Staff and Students of Grace Pee International Primary, and Secondary School;
 - (iii) Dr Olu Asekun and members of his Legal Team from the United States of America.
 - (b) **Bereavement:**
Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Amobi Godwin Ogah (*Isuikwuato/Umunneochi Federal Constituency*) announcing the demise of his mother, Ezinne Paulina Wilson Ahamefula Ogah, on Friday, 31 May, 2024 at the age of 80.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (c) **Conference Committee on Judicial Officers' Salaries and Allowances:**
Mr Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:
 - (i) Hon. Oluwole Oke — Chairman
 - (ii) Hon. Danjuma Hassan — Member
 - (iii) Hon. David Zachariah — Member
 - (iv) Hon. Rabiu Yusuff — Member

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (v) | Hon. Olumide Osoba | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (vi) | Hon. Ikeagwuonu Onyinye Ugochinyere | — | <i>Member</i> |

(d) *Ad-hoc Committee on the Frequent Closure of Business in Nigeria (HR. 250/06/2024):*

Mr Speaker announced membership of the Committee as follows:

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (i) | Hon. Kayode Akiolu | — | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (ii) | Hon. Oke Busayo Oluwole | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (iii) | Hon. Babajimi Benson | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (iv) | Hon. Solomon Bob | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (v) | Hon. Mansur Manu Soro | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (vi) | Hon. Nnabuike Chinwe Clara | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (vii) | Hon. Saád Wada Taura | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (viii) | Hon. Canice Nwachukwu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (ix) | Hon. Jonathan Okhodiko | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (x) | Hon. Kelechi Nwogu | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xi) | Hon. Abdulrahman Ajiya | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xii) | Hon. Kareem Abisogun | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xiii) | Hon. Patrick Umoh | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xiv) | Hon. Odianosen Okojie | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xv) | Hon. Paul Nnamchi | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xvi) | Hon. Abubakar Fulata Hassan | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xvii) | Hon. Yusuf Saidu Miga | — | <i>Member</i> |
| (xviii) | Hon. Okonkwo Uchenna | — | <i>Member</i> |

(e) *Leadership of Parliamentary Friendship Groups:*

Mr Speaker announced the Leadership of the Groups as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| (i) | Hon. Kelechi Nwogu | — | Nigeria - Croatia |
| (ii) | Hon. Isosa Iyawe | — | Nigeria - Granada |
| (iii) | Hon. Ebikake Marie | — | Nigeria - India |
| (iv) | Hon. Aliyu Ibrahim Mustapha | — | Nigeria - Hungary |
| (v) | Hon. Emeka Idu Godwin Obiajulu | — | Nigeria - Venezuela |
| (vi) | Hon. Haruna Gowon Paul | — | Nigeria - Vietnam |

(f) *Appointment of Committee Chairmen:*

Mr Speaker announced the following Committee Chairmen:

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|---|---|
| (i) | Hon. Aminu Balele | — | <i>Chairman, Committee on Army</i> |
| (ii) | Hon. Busayo Oluwole Oke | — | <i>Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs</i> |
| (iii) | Hon. Jibril Abdulmumin | — | <i>Chairman, Committee on Housing and Habitat</i> |
| (iv) | Hon. Mahmuda Abdullahi | — | <i>Chairman, Committee on Judiciary</i> |

5. *Petitions*

- (i) A petition from Solomon Ameh, on his alleged dismissal from the service of the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Ibe Okwara Osonwa (*Arochukwu/Ohafia Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A petition from the Eleven Communities Forum, Eastern Obolo Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State, on alleged removal of their fishing traps and relocation of their source of livelihood by Sterling Petrochemical and Fertilizer Company without negotiation, was presented and laid by Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie (*Andoni/Opobo Nkoro Federal Constituency*);
- (iii) Petition from M. C. Chambers (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Innocent Usoro and Miden Systems Limited, on alleged wrongful mismanagement of funds by the Sterling Bank Plc, was presented and laid by Hon. Odudoh Uduak Alphonsus (Ikot Abasi/Mkpat Enin/Eastern Obolo Federal Constituency);

- (iv) A petition from Idim Ita Idim, on alleged invasion, vandalization and forceful occupation of his official resident by Esther Enegbuar and Co., was presented and laid by Hon. Bassey Akiba (*Calabar Municipal/Odukpani Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from Transparency Centre Network, on behalf of the people of Amechi and Obeagu Awkunanaw, Enugu South Local Government Area, on the demolition of their Houses by Private Estates International West Africa (PEIWA) Limited and the Enugu Capital Territory Development Authority (ECTDA) was presented and laid by Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (*Bakori/Danji West Federal Constituency*);
- (vi) A petition from Margaret Effiong on alleged unfavourable treatment and marginalization by the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Patrick Umoh (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

6. Privileges (Order Six, Rule 2)

- (i) Hon. Leke Abejide Joseph (*Yagba East/Yagba West/Mopamuro Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to an online publication vide Instagram by Adeola Fayemi a resident of the United States of America alleging that Members collected humongous monthly salary and allowances as legislators. He viewed the allegation as false, spurious and calculated to infringe the integrity of the House. He therefore upheld this as a breach of his privilege and that of the House.

Mr Speaker noted the matter and referred same to the House Leadership.

- (ii) Hon. Ikeagwuonu Onyinye Ugochinyere (*Ideato North/Ideato South Federal Constituency*), drew the attention of the House to a publication in the Sun Newspaper of Sunday, 2 June, 2024, in which Hon. Gagdi Yusuf Adamu alleged that he and some other Members of the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Committee were on oversight visit to Port Harcourt, Rivers State. He noted that the 40 of them who travelled were not Members of the Committee on Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Committee, but were in Port Harcourt, for the purpose of celebrating with Governor Siminalayi Fubara on his one year in office. He viewed the publication as false, and upheld that Hon. Gagdi Yusuf Adamu misinformed the House, and therefore urged the Leadership to look into the matter in line with the provisions of Order Six, Rules 1 and 2, and Section 12 of Legislative Houses (Powers and Privileges) Act.

Mr Speaker noted the matter.

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

- (i) ***Failure to Swear-in Some Newly Elected Members of the Plateau State House of Assembly:***
Hon. Ahmed Idris (Wase 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.

Failure to Swear-in Some Newly Elected Members of the Plateau State House of Assembly:

The House:

Notes that in 2023, the Court of Appeal, hearing appeals arising from judgments of the Plateau State Election Tribunal, made decisions which resulted in the nullification of Certificates of Return of sixteen (16) sitting members of the Plateau State House of Assembly and ordered the issuance of new Certificates of Return to the new Members by the Independent National Electoral Commission;

Also notes that pursuant to the Provisions of Section 72 (1) of the Electoral Act, 2022, the Independent National Electoral Commission issued Certificates of Return to the new Members in compliance with the order of the Appeal Court and the Law;

Aware that Section 94 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides the procedure for the swearing in of newly elected Members of a State House of Assembly;

Also aware that the Members-elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly have met all the requirements of the law, as contained in section 94 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and section 72 (1) of the Electoral Act, 2022;

Concerned that the remaining Members-elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly are being compelled by the Speaker to submit letters of resignation accompanied by court affidavits as a condition for their swearing-in. This act undermines the principles of democracy, especially at a time when Nigeria is celebrating 25 years of uninterrupted democratic governance;

Also concerned that the current situation, where some of the new Members were selected and sworn-in by the Speaker of the Plateau State House of Assembly while others have not been sworn-in, contradicts the principles of fairness and justice that our electoral laws seek to uphold;

Disturbed that failure to address the delays or biases in the swearing-in of these new Members-elect is a total denial of the voices of other constituencies in Plateau State and undermines the commitment to justice, fairness, and the principles of democracy and poses a threat to security in the State;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Leadership of the National Assembly to intervene and ensure that the remaining Members Elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly are sworn for the purpose of equity, fairness and justice (*Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in 2023, the Court of Appeal, hearing appeals arising from judgments of the Plateau State Election Tribunal, made decisions which resulted in the nullification of Certificates of Return of sixteen (16) sitting members of the Plateau State House of Assembly and ordered the issuance of new Certificates of Return to the new Members by the Independent National Electoral Commission;

Also noted that pursuant to the Provisions of Section 72 (1) of the Electoral Act, 2022, the Independent National Electoral Commission issued Certificates of Return to the new Members in compliance with the order of the Appeal Court and the Law;

Aware that Section 94 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides the procedure for the swearing in of newly elected Members of a State House of Assembly;

Also aware that the Members-elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly have met all the requirements of the law, as contained in section 94 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and section 72 (1) of the Electoral Act, 2022;

Concerned that the remaining Members-elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly are being compelled by the Speaker to submit letters of resignation accompanied by court affidavits as a condition for their swearing-in. This act undermines the principles of democracy, especially at a time when Nigeria is celebrating 25 years of uninterrupted democratic governance;

Also concerned that the current situation, where some of the new Members were selected and sworn-in by the Speaker of the Plateau State House of Assembly while others have not been sworn-in, contradicts the principles of fairness and justice that our electoral laws seek to uphold;

Disturbed that failure to address the delays or biases in the swearing-in of these new Members-elect is a total denial of the voices of other constituencies in Plateau State and undermines the commitment to justice, fairness, and the principles of democracy and poses a threat to security in the State;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Leadership of the National Assembly to intervene and ensure that the remaining Members Elect of the Plateau State House of Assembly are sworn for the purpose of equity, fairness and justice (**HR. 262/06/2024**).

(ii) *Escalation of Banditry and Insecurity in Zurmi and Shinkafi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State:*

Hon. Bello Hassan (*Shinkafi/Zurmi 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.

Escalation of Banditry and Insecurity in Zurmi and Shinkafi Local Government Areas of Zamfara State:

The House:

Notes that Zamfara State, particularly the Zurmi/Shinkafi Federal Constituency, has become a hotspot for banditry, causing significant distress in the areas;

Also notes that numerous motions and repeated appeals for government intervention, the situation has only worsened, with escalating violence and insecurity, hence the need to act swiftly and decisively to fulfil its fundamental duty of protecting the lives and property of the citizens to reestablish peace and stability in the region;

Aware that recently, there have been numerous attacks across various villages in the Zurmi Local Government Area of Zamfara State, including Kanwa, Kaiwa Lamba, Gidan Zagi, Gidan Owo, Nasamu, Kwabre, Janbanda, and Magarya villages, among others, all within intervals of three days or less;

Concerned that over 1,000 people have been kidnapped by bandits, who continue to demand huge ransoms from the impoverished villagers, the bandits have successfully burnt down food items, motor vehicles including farm implements, and primary schools with numerous classrooms, among other properties with more than 80 innocent people killed, including policemen;

Also concerned that more than 80% of the abducted individuals are women and children, a the survivors of these crimes have been ordered by the Bandits to pay about 100 million Naira before they can resume their farming activities;

Further concerned that the rampant banditry has severely affected food security in Zamfara State and Nigeria as a whole. The destruction of food items, and agricultural machinery, and the disruption of farming activities threaten the livelihoods of countless families;

Worried that the persistent banditry in Zamfara State is driving a significant increase in poverty levels by the destruction of property and agricultural resources is stripping communities of their livelihoods, leaving families destitute;

Also worried that the demand for ransoms further impoverishes already struggling villagers, pushing them deeper into financial hardship, as insecurity stifles economic activities, opportunities for earning a living are vanishing, exacerbating the cycle of poverty;

Further concerned that this escalating crisis urgently requires comprehensive measures to restore security, support economic recovery, and alleviate the growing poverty in the region;

Resolves to:

- (i) call on the Nigerian Armed Forces, the Nigeria Police and other Security agencies of the Federal government to be proactive and committed in the fight against insecurity and ensure that adequately equipped security personnel are urgently and immediately deployed to repel the insurgents and secure Zurmi/Shinkafi Federal Constituency of Zamfara State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide relief materials to the victims of the ravaging disaster at Zurma/Shinkafi Federal Constituency; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Army, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Bello Hassan Shinkafi — Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Zamfara State, particularly the Zurmi/Shinkafi Federal Constituency, has become a hotspot for banditry, causing significant distress in the areas;

Also noted that numerous motions and repeated appeals for government intervention, the situation has only worsened, with escalating violence and insecurity, hence the need to act swiftly and decisively to fulfil its fundamental duty of protecting the lives and property of the citizens to reestablish peace and stability in the region;

Aware that recently, there have been numerous attacks across various villages in the Zurmi Local Government Area of Zamfara State, including Kanwa, Kaiwa Lamba, Gidan Zagi, Gidan Owo, Nasamu, Kwabre, Janbanda, and Magarya villages, among others, all within intervals of three days or less;

Concerned that over 1,000 people have been kidnapped by bandits, who continue to demand huge ransoms from the impoverished villagers, the bandits have successfully burnt down food items, motor vehicles including farm implements, and primary schools with numerous classrooms, among other properties with more than 80 innocent people killed, including policemen;

Also concerned that more than 80% of the abducted individuals are women and children, a the survivors of these crimes have been ordered by the Bandits to pay about 100 million Naira before they can resume their farming activities;

Further concerned that the rampant banditry has severely affected food security in Zamfara State and Nigeria as a whole. The destruction of food items, and agricultural machinery, and the disruption of farming activities threaten the livelihoods of countless families;

Worried that the persistent banditry in Zamfara State is driving a significant increase in poverty levels by the destruction of property and agricultural resources is stripping communities of their livelihoods, leaving families destitute;

Also worried that the demand for ransoms further impoverishes already struggling villagers, pushing them deeper into financial hardship, as insecurity stifles economic activities, opportunities for earning a living are vanishing, exacerbating the cycle of poverty;

Further concerned that this escalating crisis urgently requires comprehensive measures to restore security, support economic recovery, and alleviate the growing poverty in the region;

Resolved to:

- (i) call on the Nigerian Armed Forces, the Nigeria Police and other Security agencies of the Federal government to be proactive and committed in the fight against insecurity and ensure that adequately equipped security personnel are urgently and immediately deployed to repel the insurgents and secure Zurmi/Shinkafi Federal Constituency of Zamfara State;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently provide relief materials to the victims of the ravaging disaster at Zurma/Shinkafi Federal Constituency; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Army, National Security and Intelligence, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 263/06/2024**).

(iii) ***Heritage Bank Crisis and Protection of Depositors' Interest:***

Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo (*Idemili North/Idemili South 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.

Heritage Bank Crisis and Protection of Depositors' Interest:

The House:

Notes that on June 3, 2024, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) publicly declared the revocation of Heritage Bank's license, citing its violation of Section 12 (1) of the Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act (BOFIA), 2020, and consequently, designated the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) as the entity responsible for overseeing the liquidation process;

Also notes that the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) has initiated the liquidation process of Heritage Bank Plc in accordance with Section 55, subsections (1) and (2) of the NDIC Act, 2023, the corporation has swiftly commenced the liquidation procedures of the failed bank, prioritizing immediate verification and disbursement of insured deposits to the bank's depositors;

Aware that the NDIC regrettably, limits the verification and payment of depositors to a maximum insured amount of 5 million Naira only;

Also aware that the NDIC, in its statement dated June 3, 2024, has specified that depositors with funds surpassing 5 million Naira will receive liquidation dividends only after the realization of the bank's assets and the retrieval of debts owed to the bank;

Further aware that some depositors allegedly entrusted significant sums, amounting to in excess of 10 Billion Naira only, to Heritage Bank, representing their hard-earned savings and financial security, this realization underscores the magnitude of the financial losses and uncertainties they are now facing, highlighting the profound impact of the bank's failure on their lives and well-being;

Concerned that amidst the prevailing economic challenges in Nigeria, the financial stability of its citizens has been significantly compromised, limiting compensation to 5 million Naira is deeply inadequate to alleviate the substantial losses experienced by depositors who had placed their trust in Heritage Bank, exacerbating their financial distress and uncertainty;

Also concerned about the CBN's failure to promptly disclose the financial instability of Heritage Bank, which has left depositors vulnerable to unexpected financial losses, this lack of transparency has not only eroded public trust in the banking system and regulatory bodies but has also intensified the distress and uncertainty faced by depositors who relied on the bank for their financial security;

Further concerned by allegations suggesting that the CBN had prior knowledge of the bank's deficiencies for an extended period but failed to enact timely corrective measures, which underscores the pressing need for a thorough review of regulatory oversight mechanisms, as

it is unjust for depositors to suffer the consequences of regulatory inaction. Such a review is essential to restoring confidence in the regulatory framework and ensuring the protection of depositors' interests;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) to conduct a comprehensive review of its operations and the effectiveness of its mandate to ensure that it is adequately equipped and resourced to fulfill its role as deposit insurer and investor of failed banks;
- (ii) also urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to conduct a thorough investigation of the leadership and management of Heritage Bank to identify any possible issues of mismanagement or wrongdoing that may have contributed to the bank's failure;
- (iii) further urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) and other pertinent authorities to carefully reassess the current compensation scheme, with a view to offering more meaningful relief to depositors who have experienced substantial financial losses;
- (iv) again urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), on limitations of the current deposit insurance coverage, to consider regulatory amendments to increase the maximum insured amount to better protect depositors' interests. This adjustment would provide greater financial security for depositors in the event of bank failures;
- (v) still urge the Executive Arm of Government of Nigeria to establish a robust and well-funded depositors' protection fund to provide greater financial security and assurance for depositors in the event of bank failures, and to facilitate timely and fair compensation for affected depositors;
- (vi) mandate the Committee on Banking Regulations to promote public awareness and education on risks associated with banking and the importance of diversifying their financial holdings. This initiative aims to empower depositors to make informed decisions about their banking relationships and safeguard their financial well-being;
- (vii) also mandate the Committee on Banking Regulations in Collaboration with other relevant bodies to investigate the circumstances surrounding the Heritage Bank Case and report within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Uchenna Harris Okonkwo — Idemili North/Idemili South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that on June 3, 2024, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) publicly declared the revocation of Heritage Bank's license, citing its violation of Section 12 (1) of the Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act (BOFIA), 2020, and consequently, designated the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) as the entity responsible for overseeing the liquidation process;

Also noted that the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) has initiated the liquidation process of Heritage Bank Plc in accordance with Section 55, subsections (1) and (2) of the NDIC Act, 2023, the corporation has swiftly commenced the liquidation procedures of the failed bank, prioritizing immediate verification and disbursement of insured deposits to the bank's depositors;

Aware that the NDIC regrettably, limits the verification and payment of depositors to a maximum insured amount of 5 million Naira only;

Also aware that the NDIC, in its statement dated June 3, 2024, has specified that depositors with funds surpassing 5 million Naira will receive liquidation dividends only after the realization of the bank's assets and the retrieval of debts owed to the bank;

Further aware that some depositors allegedly entrusted significant sums, amounting to in excess of 10 Billion Naira only, to Heritage Bank, representing their hard-earned savings and financial security, this realization underscores the magnitude of the financial losses and uncertainties they are now facing, highlighting the profound impact of the bank's failure on their lives and well-being;

Concerned that amidst the prevailing economic challenges in Nigeria, the financial stability of its citizens has been significantly compromised, limiting compensation to 5 million Naira is deeply inadequate to alleviate the substantial losses experienced by depositors who had placed their trust in Heritage Bank, exacerbating their financial distress and uncertainty;

Also concerned about the CBN's failure to promptly disclose the financial instability of Heritage Bank, which has left depositors vulnerable to unexpected financial losses, this lack of transparency has not only eroded public trust in the banking system and regulatory bodies but has also intensified the distress and uncertainty faced by depositors who relied on the bank for their financial security;

Further concerned by allegations suggesting that the CBN had prior knowledge of the bank's deficiencies for an extended period but failed to enact timely corrective measures, which underscores the pressing need for a thorough review of regulatory oversight mechanisms, as it is unjust for depositors to suffer the consequences of regulatory inaction. Such a review is essential to restoring confidence in the regulatory framework and ensuring the protection of depositors' interests;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) to conduct a comprehensive review of its operations and the effectiveness of its mandate to ensure that it is adequately equipped and resourced to fulfill its role as deposit insurer and investor of failed banks;
- (ii) also urge the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to conduct a thorough investigation of the leadership and management of Heritage Bank to identify any possible issues of mismanagement or wrongdoing that may have contributed to the bank's failure;
- (iii) further urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) and other pertinent authorities to carefully reassess the current compensation scheme, with a view to offering more meaningful relief to depositors who have experienced substantial financial losses;
- (iv) again urge the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), on limitations of the current deposit insurance coverage, to consider regulatory amendments to increase the maximum insured amount to better protect depositors' interests. This adjustment would provide greater financial security for depositors in the event of bank failures;
- (v) still urge the Executive Arm of Government of Nigeria to establish a robust and well-funded depositors' protection fund to provide greater financial security and assurance for depositors in the event of bank failures, and to facilitate timely and fair compensation for affected depositors;

- (vi) mandate the Committee on Banking Regulations to promote public awareness and education on risks associated with banking and the importance of diversifying their financial holdings. This initiative aims to empower depositors to make informed decisions about their banking relationships and safeguard their financial well-being;
- (vii) also mandate the Committee on Banking Regulations in Collaboration with other relevant bodies to investigate the circumstances surrounding the Heritage Bank Case and report within two (2) weeks (**HR. 264/06/2024**).

Motion referred to the Committee on Banking Regulations.

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (4) to enable it take more than 3 matters of urgent public importance” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

(iv) ***Breakdown of Security in Anka and Talata Mafara Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Zamfara State:***

Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka (*Anka/Talata Mafara 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.

Breakdown of Security in Anka and Talata Mafara Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Zamfara State:

The House:

Notes that recently there has been increased banditry, kidnappings for ransom, killings and displacement of indigenes in some villages in Talata Mafara and Anka Local Government Areas of Zamfara State, which has affected the entire lives of the people;

Also notes that recently in Talata Mafara LGA, seventy-one (71) people were kidnapped from Makera Village, 65 people were kidnapped from Jangebe village and 50 people were kidnapped from Bobo village, where the kidnappers also killed the district head and kidnapped over 150 people in various villages of Anka LGA;

Aware some of the kidnapped people have already been killed even after payments of ransom by their families while some are still being held hostage by their abductors, making life jittery for the people;

Worried that the incessant attacks, kidnapping and killing of citizens, if allowed to linger unchecked, may further exacerbate the already worst situation and as such deserves to be given an URGENT attention by our security agents;

Cognizant of the importance of security to lives and properties of citizens, which is the constitutional responsibility of the Federal Government, there is an urgent need for the security agencies to pay a special attention to Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs of Zamfara State with a view to controlling the alarming banditry, kidnappings and killings which have

significantly affected the lives of innocent residents and is putting fear in the minds of visitors and travellers passing through the two LGAs;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Chief of Army Staff to initiate a special military operation in the affected areas of both Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs with a view dealing with issues enunciated above;
- (ii) also urge the Chief of Air Staff to ensure regular and continuous air surveillance in the affected areas with a view to identifying hideouts of bandits and crushing them entirely;
- (iii) further urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrant and Internally Displaced Persons to look into derelict circumstance of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs with a view to renovating and making them habitable or functional to accommodate internally displaced persons and persons who may be running away from bandits and kidnappers;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, Air Force, Defence, and National Security and Intelligence to visit the affected areas with a view to ascertaining and confirming the poor state of insecurity in those places and report within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that recently there has been increased banditry, kidnappings for ransom, killings and displacement of indigenes in some villages in Talata Mafara and Anka Local Government Areas of Zamfara State, which has affected the entire lives of the people;

Also noted that recently in Talata Mafara LGA, seventy-one (71) people were kidnapped from Makera Village, 65 people were kidnapped from Jangebe village and 50 people were kidnapped from Bobo village, where the kidnappers also killed the district head and kidnapped over 150 people in various villages of Anka LGA;

Aware some of the kidnapped people have already been killed even after payments of ransom by their families while some are still being held hostage by their abductors, making life jittery for the people;

Worried that the incessant attacks, kidnapping and killing of citizens, if allowed to linger unchecked, may further exacerbate the already worst situation and as such deserves to be given an URGENT attention by our security agents;

Cognizant of the importance of security to lives and properties of citizens, which is the constitutional responsibility of the Federal Government, there is an urgent need for the security agencies to pay a special attention to Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs of Zamfara State with a view to controlling the alarming banditry, kidnappings and killings which have significantly affected the lives of innocent residents and is putting fear in the minds of visitors and travelers passing through the two LGAs;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Chief of Army Staff to initiate a special military operation in the affected areas of both Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs with a view dealing with issues enunciated above;
 - (ii) also urge the Chief of Air Staff to ensure regular and continuous air surveillance in the affected areas with a view to identifying hideouts of bandits and crushing them entirely;
 - (iii) further urge the National Commission for Refugees, Migrant and Internally Displaced Persons to look into derelict circumstance of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Anka and Talata Mafara LGAs with a view to renovating and making them habitable or functional to accommodate internally displaced persons and persons who may be running away from bandits and kidnappers;
 - (iv) mandate the Committees on Army, Police Affairs, Air Force, Defence, and National Security and Intelligence to visit the affected areas with a view to ascertaining and confirming the poor state of insecurity in those places and report within two (2) weeks (**HR. 265/06/2024**).
- (v) ***Clean-up of the Niger Delta Region by International Oil Companies Before Their Divestment from the Country:***
Hon. Ekpo Paul Asuquo (*Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency and 1 other*) 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.

Clean-up of the Niger Delta Region by International Oil Companies Before Their Divestment from the Country:

The House:

Notes the incessant oil spillages in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria and the ruination of the Region's environment, human health and traditional livelihoods;

Also notes that there were about 9,870 spill incidents between 2011 and 2021, which released a combined 466,214 barrels of oil into the environment, according to data from the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), and that there are about 1146 publicly available oil spill records in the year 2023;

Further notes that about 16,000 infants in the Niger Delta died within the first month of their life in 2012 because of oil spills, according to a 2019 study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) journal by researchers at the Swiss Institute for International Economics, University of St Gallen;

Worried about the planned divestment by international oil companies from Nigeria under the guise that the oil from the Niger Delta is no longer suitable for their business without a clear-cut remediation plans for the Niger Delta Region;

Concerned that oil spillages caused by the international oil companies have continued to negatively affect the Niger Delta Region's environment, decreasing its agricultural productivity due to farmland degradation, and causing pollution of traditional fishing grounds and destruction of aquatic life;

Aware of the need to conduct a comprehensive and thorough clean-up of the different communities affected by oil spillage in Niger Delta Region;

Disturbed that if international oil companies are allowed to divest from Nigeria without cleaning up the Niger Delta, the region will continue to suffer from environmental degradation and health complications caused by their operations;

Resolves to:

Urge the Executive Arm of Government to ensure that international oil companies clean up the Niger Delta Region before divesting from the country (*Hon. Paul Asuquo Ekpo — Etinan/Nsit Ibom/Nsit Ubium Federal Constituency and One Other*)

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the incessant oil spillages in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria and the ruination of the Region's environment, human health and traditional livelihoods;

Also noted that there were about 9,870 spill incidents between 2011 and 2021, which released a combined 466,214 barrels of oil into the environment, according to data from the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), and that there are about 1146 publicly available oil spill records in the year 2023;

Further noted that about 16,000 infants in the Niger Delta died within the first month of their life in 2012 because of oil spills, according to a 2019 study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) journal by researchers at the Swiss Institute for International Economics, University of St Gallen;

Worried about the planned divestment by international oil companies from Nigeria under the guise that the oil from the Niger Delta is no longer suitable for their business without a clear-cut remediation plans for the Niger Delta Region;

Concerned that oil spillages caused by the international oil companies have continued to negatively affect the Niger Delta Region's environment, decreasing its agricultural productivity due to farmland degradation, and causing pollution of traditional fishing grounds and destruction of aquatic life;

Aware of the need to conduct a comprehensive and thorough clean-up of the different communities affected by oil spillage in Niger Delta Region;

Disturbed that if international oil companies are allowed to divest from Nigeria without cleaning up the Niger Delta, the region will continue to suffer from environmental degradation and health complications caused by their operations;

Resolved to:

Urge the Executive Arm of Government to ensure that international oil companies clean up the Niger Delta Region before divesting from the country (**HR. 266/06/2024**).

(vi) ***Recurring Derailment of Abuja-kaduna Passengers Train Which has Skidded Twice in the Last Two Weeks with Hundreds of Passengers on Board:***

Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo (*Makarfi/Kudan 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.

Recurring Derailment of Abuja-kaduna Passengers Train Which Has Skidded Twice in the Last Two Weeks with Hundreds of Passengers on Board:

The House:

Notes that, rail transportation is presumed to be the safest mode of transportation the world over. However, the recent trend of recurring derailment of the Abuja-Kaduna Train services proves otherwise; a situation which calls for concern;

Concerned that the Abuja-Kaduna train services convey a significant number of passengers and goods from Abuja to Kaduna and vice versa which plays a huge economic and social role in Nigeria;

Worried that the rate at which derailments occur along the Abuja-Kaduna rail line has become unnecessarily alarming with the most recent derailment occurring on Wednesday, 5 June, 2024, when a train travelling from Abuja to Kaduna derailed at Asha Station, leaving many passengers stranded in the Federal Capital territory, This is the second of such unfortunate occurrences just within the last two weeks;

Recalls that on Sunday, May 26, 2024, an Abuja-bound train, derailed along the Abuja-Kaduna route, leading to the passengers being stranded in the Jere area of Kaduna State;

Also worried that these repeated incidents of rail derailment could result in a national calamity;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to invite the Minister of Transportation and other relevant stakeholders in the railway sector to explain the reasons behind the repeated derailment and the measures being taken to avert further reoccurrence of these unfortunate incidents;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Land transportation to investigate the causes of these recurring derailments of the Abuja-Kaduna train services with a view to avert a national calamity and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Umar Shehu Ajilo — Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that, rail transportation is presumed to be the safest mode of transportation the world over. However, the recent trend of recurring derailment of the Abuja-Kaduna Train services proves otherwise; a situation which calls for concern;

Concerned that the Abuja-Kaduna train services convey a significant number of passengers and goods from Abuja to Kaduna and vice versa which plays a huge economic and social role in Nigeria;

Worried that the rate at which derailments occur along the Abuja-Kaduna rail line has become unnecessarily alarming with the most recent derailment occurring on Wednesday, 5 June, 2024, when a train travelling from Abuja to Kaduna derailed at Asha Station, leaving many passengers stranded in the Federal Capital territory, This is the second of such unfortunate occurrences just within the last two weeks;

Recalled that on Sunday, May 26, 2024, an Abuja-bound train, derailed along the Abuja-Kaduna route, leading to the passengers being stranded in the Jere area of Kaduna State;

Also worried that these repeated incidents of rail derailment could result in a national calamity;

Resolved to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to invite the Minister of Transportation and other relevant stakeholders in the railway sector to explain the reasons behind the repeated derailment and the measures being taken to avert further reoccurrence of these unfortunate incidents;
- (ii) also mandate the Committee on Land transportation to investigate the causes of these recurring derailments of the Abuja-Kaduna train services with a view to avert a national calamity and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 267/06/2024**).
- (vii) ***Devastating Impact of Recent Rainstorms on Lives and Property in Ikole and Oye Local Government Area of Ekiti State:***
Hon. Akintunde Rotimi (*Ikole/Oye 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.

Devastating Impact of Recent Rainstorms on Lives and Property in Ikole and Oye Local Government Area of Ekiti State:

The House:

Notes the devastating rainstorms that have recently affected Itapaji Ekiti in Ikole Local Government and Omu/Ijelu in Oye Local Government in Ekiti North I Federal Constituency;

Also notes the significant damage caused to residential and commercial properties, public infrastructure, farmlands, and other vital assets;

Concerned that the severe impact of the rainstorms on the lives and livelihoods of residents, including displacement of families, loss of property, and the disruption of economic activities has caused untold hardship to the affected persons;

Worried that the potential health hazards and other risks that displaced residents and the wider community face due to the destruction of homes and infrastructure could be more devastating if nothing is done;

Recognizes the urgent need for immediate intervention to provide relief and support to affected communities;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to promptly assess the extent of the damage caused by the rainstorms in Itapaji Ekiti, Ikole Local Government Area and Omu Ijelu, Oye Local Government Area and to provide immediate relief materials to the affected residents;
- (ii) call on the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to collaborate with relevant state and local government agencies to undertake the reconstruction and repair of damaged infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public buildings;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within six (6) weeks (*Hon. Akintunde Rotimi — Ikole/Oye Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the devastating rainstorms that have recently affected Itapaji Ekiti in Ikole Local Government and Omu/Ijelu in Oye Local Government in Ekiti North I Federal Constituency;

Also noted the significant damage caused to residential and commercial properties, public infrastructure, farmlands, and other vital assets;

Concerned that the severe impact of the rainstorms on the lives and livelihoods of residents, including displacement of families, loss of property, and the disruption of economic activities has caused untold hardship to the affected persons;

Worried that the potential health hazards and other risks that displaced residents and the wider community face due to the destruction of homes and infrastructure could be more devastating if nothing is done;

Recognized the urgent need for immediate intervention to provide relief and support to affected communities;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to promptly assess the extent of the damage caused by the rainstorms in Itapaji Ekiti, Ikole Local

Government Area and Omu Ijelu, Oye Local Government Area and to provide immediate relief materials to the affected residents;

- (ii) call on the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing to collaborate with relevant state and local government agencies to undertake the reconstruction and repair of damaged infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public buildings;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report back within six (6) weeks (**HR. 268/06/2024**).

Motion referred to the Committees on Banking Regulations, and Insurance and Actuarial Matters.

(viii) *Incessant Increase in Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) by the Central Bank of Nigeria and the Retrogressive Effect on Existing Loans:*

Hon. Obordor Mitema (*Ogbia 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.

Incessant Increase in Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) by the Central Bank of Nigeria and the Retrogressive Effect on Existing Loans:

The House:

Notes that the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) of the Central Bank is the interest at which the Central Bank lends short-term funds to commercial banks in Nigeria, which further directly influences other interest rates in the economy, including lending rates charged by commercial banks, and one of the key tools used by the CBN to control and manage inflation, stabilize the currency, and promote economic growth;

Also notes that a high Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) affects economic growth by discouraging borrowing and investment, and potentially slowing down economic activities, while a lower MPR stimulates economic growth, encourages investment and consumption by making borrowing cheaper, influences capital flows and foreign exchange rates, which are critical for import-export dynamics and overall economic stability;

Aware that on 31 May, 2024, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) announced an increase in the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) by 26.25%, affecting existing loans particularly those with variable interest rates linked to the MPR, and borrowing costs across the economy;

Also aware that the provisions of section 8 (4) and (5) of the CBN Act, 2007 mandates the Central Bank of Nigeria to consult with the National Assembly on matters of public policy, by causing the Governor of CBN to appear before the National Assembly at semi-annual hearings regarding efforts, activities and plans of the Board on monetary policy, economic development and prospects for the future, and make a formal report and presentation on the activities of the Bank and the performance of the economy to the relevant committees of the National Assembly;

Concerned that the increase in Monetary Policy Rate is a matter within the purview of public

policy that requires the Central Bank of Nigeria' Monetary Policy Committee to consult with the National Assembly before implementation;

Also concerned that the Central Bank of Nigeria and its Monetary Policy Committee did not see it necessary to adhere to the section of the CBN Act which provides for CBN's consultation with the National Assembly on matters of public policy before implementing the 26.25% increase in monetary policy rate;

Further concerned that the economic stability and financial well-being of individuals and businesses heavily rely on predictable and stable borrowing costs;

Worried that the CBN increase in Monetary Policy Rate on 31 May, 2024, was the second hike in MPR within three months, after a 24.75 increase in March 2024, and there is no consequential provision for the protection of existing loans from the adverse effect of the increase by the Central Bank of Nigeria to align with the principles of legal non-retrogression;

Informed that it is a fundamental principle of law that changes in regulations should not have retrogressive effects on existing legal rights and obligations;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government and the Central Bank of Nigeria to affirm the principles of legal non-retrogression in economic and financial policy decisions, including changes to the Monetary Policy Rate, particularly the 26.25 CBN increase of the MPR made on 31 May, 2024;
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government and the Central Bank of Nigeria to explore options such as grandfathering clauses or transitional arrangements to protect existing borrowers from immediate and significant increase in loan repayments due to MPR hikes;
- (iii) further urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to put a hold to the implementation of the 26.25% increase in the monetary policy rate for further consultations;
- (iv) mandate the relevant Committees to conduct a thorough review of the potential effects of MPR increases on existing loans and to propose legislative or regulative amendments that upholds the rights and interests of borrowers (*Hon. Mitema Obodor — Ogbia Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) of the Central Bank is the interest at which the Central Bank lends short-term funds to commercial banks in Nigeria, which further directly influences other interest rates in the economy, including lending rates charged by commercial banks, and one of the key tools used by the CBN to control and manage inflation, stabilize the currency, and promote economic growth;

Also noted that a high Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) affects economic growth by discouraging borrowing and investment, and potentially slowing down economic activities, while a lower MPR stimulates economic growth, encourages investment and consumption by making borrowing cheaper, influences capital flows and foreign exchange rates, which are critical for import-export dynamics and overall economic stability;

Aware that on 31 May, 2024, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) announced an increase in the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) by 26.25 %, affecting existing loans particularly those with variable interest rates linked to the MPR, and borrowing costs across the economy;

Also aware that the provisions of section 8 (4) and (5) of the CBN Act, 2007 mandates the Central Bank of Nigeria to consult with the National Assembly on matters of public policy, by causing the Governor of CBN to appear before the National Assembly at semi-annual hearings regarding efforts, activities and plans of the Board on monetary policy, economic development and prospects for the future, and make a formal report and presentation on the activities of the Bank and the performance of the economy to the relevant committees of the National Assembly;

Concerned that the increase in Monetary Policy Rate is a matter within the purview of public policy that requires the Central Bank of Nigeria' Monetary Policy Committee to consult with the National Assembly before implementation;

Also concerned that the Central Bank of Nigeria and its Monetary Policy Committee did not see it necessary to adhere to the section of the CBN Act which provides for CBN's consultation with the National Assembly on matters of public policy before implementing the 26.25 % increase in monetary policy rate;

Further concerned that the economic stability and financial well-being of individuals and businesses heavily rely on predictable and stable borrowing costs;

Worried that the CBN increase in Monetary Policy Rate on 31 May, 2024, was the second hike in MPR within three months, after a 24.75 increase in March 2024, and there is no consequential provision for the protection of existing loans from the adverse effect of the increase by the Central Bank of Nigeria to align with the principles of legal non-retrogression;

Informed that it is a fundamental principle of law that changes in regulations should not have retrogressive effects on existing legal rights and obligations;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government and the Central Bank of Nigeria to affirm the principles of legal non-retrogression in economic and financial policy decisions, including changes to the Monetary Policy Rate, particularly the 26.25 CBN increase of the MPR made on 31 May, 2024;
- (ii) also urge the Executive Arm of Government and the Central Bank of Nigeria to explore options such as grandfathering clauses or transitional arrangements to protect existing borrowers from immediate and significant increase in loan repayments due to MPR hikes;
- (iii) further urge the Central Bank of Nigeria to put a hold to the implementation of the 26.25 % increase in the monetary policy rate for further consultations;
- (iv) mandate the relevant Committees to conduct a thorough review of the potential effects of MPR increases on existing loans and to propose legislative or regulative amendments that upholds the rights and interests of borrowers (**HR. 269/06/2024**).

8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Rural Areas Development Agency (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1199).

- (2) Federal Co-operative Colleges (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1334).
- (3) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1344).
- (4) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1368).
- (5) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1501).
- (6) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1483).
- (7) Fire Arms Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1486).
- (8) Robbery and Fire Arms (Special Provisions) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB. 1488).
- (9) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.1499).
- (10) Federal University of Agriculture, Kabba, Kogi State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1520).
- (11) Federal University of Technology, Badagry, Lagos State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1500).
- (12) Industrial Training Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1519).
- (13) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1475).

9. Presentation of Reports

(i) *Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements on a Bill for an Act to Domesticise and Enforce in Nigeria the International Convention against Doping in Sports, Establish Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre to Implement Nigeria's obligations to World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and for Related Matters (HB.1441)” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) *Committee on Judiciary:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Judiciary on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Increase the number of Justices of the Court from Ninety to at least One hundred and Fifty and Provide for Appointment of a Minimum of six Justices in every Judiciary division of the Court to enhance speedy and efficient Justice delivery and improve Citizens access to Justice and for Related Matters (HB. 999)” (*Hon. Oluwole Oke — Obokun/Oriade Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) *Committee on Public Accounts:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the of the Committee on Public Accounts on the Investigation into Alleged Mismanagement of COVID-19 Intervention Funds to Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government Between 2020

to 2022 (**HR.254/10/2023**)” (*Hon. Bamidele Salam — Ede North/Ede South/Egbedore/Ejigbo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

10. **A Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility, among other things, to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility, among other things, to Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius 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.

11. **A Bill for an Act to Establish National Safety Regulation Board and for Related Matters (HB.1377) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish National Safety Regulation Board and for Related Matters (HB.1377) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Suleiman Abubakar Gumi — Gummi/Bukkuyum Federal Constituency and 1 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 Safety Standards and Regulations.

12. **A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Trade Disputes (Essentials Services) Act, Cap. T9, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact Trade Disputes Bill to Conform to the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and for Related Matters (HB. 793) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Trade Disputes (Essentials Services) Act, Cap. T9, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and Enact Trade Disputes Bill to Conform to the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and for Related Matters (HB. 793) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — Owan East/Owan West Federal Constituency and 1 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 Labour, Employment and Productivity.

- 13. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electoral Act, 2022 and for Related Matters (HB. 1462) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Electoral Act, 2022 and for Related Matters (HB. 1462) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Abubakar Hassan Fulata — Birniwa/Guri/Kiri-Kasamma Federal Constituency and three others).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Electoral Matters.

- 14. A Bill for an Act to Amend the National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 to cure certain defects in the Act, ensure its effective Implementation in Nigeria and address the Lacuna that may be easily exploited by the Tobacco Industry in Nigeria and impose stiffer Penalties for Smoking of Tobacco in Public Places and for Related Matters (HB. 47 & HB. 1151) — Second Reading**

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

- 15. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education, Ijesha, Lagos State and for Related Matters (HB.355) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education, Ijesha, Lagos State and for Related Matters (HB.355) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Lanre Okunlola — Surulere II 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 Federal Colleges and Education .

- 16. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Optometry, Odiokwu, Ahoada-West/Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni, Rivers State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Designated Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Optometry, Ophthalmology and Related Courses, and for Related Matters (HB.587) — Second Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Optometry, Odiokwu, Ahoada-West/Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni, Rivers State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Designated Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Optometry, Ophthalmology and Related Courses, and for Related Matters (HB.587) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Victor Obuzor Chukwuemele — Ahoada West/Ogba /Egbemi Ndoni 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.

17. Need to Provide Training and Support for Women in Politics

Motion made and Question proposed:

Notes that there are a few women in political and leadership positions in Nigeria, with women holding less than 8% of seats in both the National and State Assemblies;

Also notes the importance of gender equality, and the vital role of women in political leadership and raising homes, which is the primary segment of the leadership molding process;

Aware that societal factors such as; cultural or religious norms, marriage, indigeneship, etc. impede women's participation and representation in politics. The full and equitable participation of women in public life is essential to building and sustaining strong and vibrant democracies;

Also aware that education is no longer the ability to read, write, and calculate, but the ability to have problem-solving and critical thinking skills necessary to bring about any changes needed;

Worried that despite progress in recent years, women remain significantly under-represented in political and leadership positions globally and Nigeria in particular;

Also worried that in Nigeria, women don't have equal opportunity and support to serve as political leaders and elected representatives, which is vital to Nigeria's democracy;

Cognizant that to bring about any change in this disparity, it will require pro-active measures to equip women with the leadership skills, resources, and support needed to navigate the political landscape, and effectively participate in decision making processes;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Women Affairs to designate a department with adequate budgetary provision to help groom, train, and support women in politics and encourage the inclusion of the role of women in political leadership in the secondary school curriculum;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Women in Parliament and Women Affairs to liaise with the Ministry of Women Affairs and other relevant agencies to, as a matter of public importance, constantly organize trainings and seminars for women interested in running for political offices, especially women in rural areas, with the understanding that politics starts from the grassroot; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to monitor and ensure compliance (*Hon. Blessing Chigeru Amadi — Port Harcourt II Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that there are a few women in political and leadership positions in Nigeria, with women holding less than 8% of seats in both the National and State Assemblies;

Also noted the importance of gender equality, and the vital role of women in political leadership and raising homes, which is the primary segment of the leadership molding process;

Aware that societal factors such as; cultural or religious norms, marriage, indigeneship, etc, impede

women's participation and representation in politics. The full and equitable participation of women in public life is essential to building and sustaining strong and vibrant democracies;

Also aware that education is no longer the ability to read, write, and calculate, but the ability to have problem-solving and critical thinking skills necessary to bring about any changes needed;

Worried that despite progress in recent years, women remain significantly under-represented in political and leadership positions globally and Nigeria in particular;

Also worried that in Nigeria, women don't have equal opportunity and support to serve as political leaders and elected representatives, which is vital to Nigeria's democracy;

Cognizant that to bring about any change in this disparity, it will require pro-active measures to equip women with the leadership skills, resources, and support needed to navigate the political landscape, and effectively participate in decision making processes;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Women Affairs to designate a department with adequate budgetary provision to help groom, train, and support women in politics and encourage the inclusion of the role of women in political leadership in the secondary school curriculum;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Women in Parliament and Women Affairs to liaise with the Ministry of Women Affairs and other relevant agencies to, as a matter of public importance, constantly organize trainings and seminars for women interested in running for political offices, especially women in rural areas, with the understanding that politics starts from the grassroot; and
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Legislative Compliance to monitor and ensure compliance (HR. 270/06/2024).

18. Need to Provide Palliatives to the Victims of Rainstorm Disaster in Akoko North East/North West Federal Constituency

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Akoko North East / North West Federal Constituency of Ondo State border Kogi and Ekiti States in North Central and South West geopolitical zones of Nigeria respectively;

Also notes that the inhabitants of the Constituency are predominantly farmers and artisans whose livelihood is dependent on their daily income;

Aware that the Constituency is a home to many people from other ethnic nationalities including but not limited to Igbos, Fulanis and Hausas;

Informed that on 2 April, 2024 a very heavy rainstorm swept through many communities across the entire constituency, causing significant damage and disruption to the affected areas;

Worried that over 60,000 constituents were displaced in Ogbagi Akoko, Oyin Akoko, Okeagbe Akoko, Ugbe Akoko, and Ikare Akoko, causing widespread destruction and damage to homes, businesses, and public offices;

Disturbed that the storm destroyed buildings while others had their roofs blown off, disrupting essential services like electricity and water supply resulting in deplorable living conditions in affected communities;

Cognizant of the need to provide short, medium- and long-term assistance to the affected communities;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency to immediately send relief materials to the affected communities;
- (ii) also urge Niger Delta Development Commission and Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation to provide palliative to the affected communities on short, medium- and long-term basis;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), distribute food and non-food materials to affected communities; and
- (iv) also mandate the Committees on Poverty Alleviation, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Ifeoluwa Ehindero — Akoko North East/Akoko North West Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 271/06/2024).

Motion referred to the Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Poverty Alleviation, and Niger Delta Development Commission, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 10 (5).

19. Breaches and Encroachments in the Supervisory Functions of the National Lottery Regulatory Commission (NLRC) by Federal Ministry of Finance

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

20. Rising Price of Fertilizers in Nigeria

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

21. Need to Connect Gajiram via Monguno to Marte Local Government Area to National Grid

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that in 1989, the Federal Government directed that all Local Government Headquarters nationwide to connect to the National grid;

Also notes that the defunct National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), in line with the Federal Government directives compiled information on possible connection and reinforcement of 132kv/33kv lines;

Further notes that Monguno/Nganzai/ Marte Local Government Areas in Borno State were captured in the National Electric Power Authority compiled list;

Aware that Monguno Local Government was created in 1976, while Marte and Nganzai were created in 1992, but the three Local Government Areas are yet to be connected to the 132kv/33kv lines, talk less of 330kv transmission line;

Also aware that most Local Government Areas in the Federation created after 1992 have been connected to the National grid;

Observes that non-installation of the 132kv/33kv lines at Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government Areas of Borno State had prevented the three Local Government from being connected to National grid, thus crippling socio-economic development of the three Local Government Areas and adjoining towns;

Cognizant that if the 132kv/33kv lines were connected to Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government areas and the National grid, adjoining areas of Guzamala, Kukawa and Abadam Local Government Areas will benefit immensely and enhance the economic status of the residents of the aforementioned Local Government Areas;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) and Nigerian Independent Power Project (NIPP) to connect Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government Areas to 132kv/33kv lines and the National grid to ensure availability and stability of Electricity in the Areas; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Power and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Bukar Talba — Monguno/Nganzai/Marte Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that in 1989, the Federal Government directed that all Local Government Headquarters nationwide to connect to the National grid;

Also noted that the defunct National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), in line with the Federal Government directives compiled information on possible connection and reinforcement of 132kv/33kv lines;

Further noted that Monguno/Nganzai/ Marte Local Government Areas in Borno State were captured in the National Electric Power Authority compiled list;

Aware that Monguno Local Government was created in 1976, while Marte and Nganzai were created in 1992, but the three Local Government Areas are yet to be connected to the 132kv/33kv lines, talk less of 330kv transmission line;

Also aware that most Local Government Areas in the Federation created after 1992 have been connected to the National grid;

Observed that non-installation of the 132kv/33kv lines at Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government Areas of Borno State had prevented the three Local Government from being connected to National grid, thus crippling socio-economic development of the three Local Government Areas and adjoining towns;

Cognizant that if the 132kv/33kv lines were connected to Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government areas and the National grid, adjoining areas of Guzamala, Kukawa and Abadam Local Government Areas will benefit immensely and enhance the economic status of the residents of the aforementioned Local Government Areas;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) and Nigerian

Independent Power Project (NIPP) to connect Monguno, Nganzai and Marte Local Government Areas to 132kv/33kv lines and the National grid to ensure availability and stability of Electricity in the Areas; and

- (ii) mandate the Committees on Power and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 272/06/2024**).

22. Consideration of Reports

(i) *Committee on Communications:*

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Communications to Authorize the issue from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission the Total Sum of (₦549,674,311,000.00) five hundred and forty-nine billion, six hundred and seventy-four million, three hundred and eleven thousand Naira only, out of which (₦115,059,947.00) one hundred and fifteen billion, fifty-nine million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand Naira only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, (₦18,023,435.00) eighteen billion, twenty-three million, four hundred and thirty-five thousand Naira only, is for Capital Expenditure, (₦66,781,032) sixty - six billion, seven hundred and eighty-one million, thirty-two thousand Naira only, is for Special Projects while the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, is for Transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), (₦332,807,853) three hundred and thirty - two billion, eight hundred and seven million, eight hundred and fifty - three thousand Naira only, is for Transfer to Federal Government and (₦2,044) two thousand and forty - four Naira only is surplus/deficit transfers for the financial year ending 31 December, 2024” (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko Edo Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Twelve, Rule 2 (2) to enable the Deputy Speaker preside in the Committee of Supply” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

ISSUE FROM THE STATUTORY REVENUE FUND OF THE NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION THE TOTAL SUM OF (₦549,674,311,000.00) FIVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE BILLION, SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR MILLION, THREE HUNDRED AND ELEVEN THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, OUT OF WHICH (₦115,059,947.00) ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN BILLION, FIFTY-NINE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR RECURRENT EXPENDITURE, (₦18,023,435.00) EIGHTEEN BILLION, TWENTY-THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, (₦66,781,032) SIXTY - SIX BILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE MILLION, THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS WHILE THE SUM OF (₦17,000,000,000) SEVENTEEN BILLION NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR TRANSFER TO UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROVISION FUND (USPF), (₦332,807,853) THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTY - TWO BILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY - THREE THOUSAND NAIRA ONLY, IS FOR TRANSFER TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND (₦2,044) TWO THOUSAND AND FORTY-FOUR NAIRA ONLY, IS SURPLUS/DEFICIT TRANSFERS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER, 2024

A.	Revenue Profile	₦'000
B.	Expenditure	
	Recurrent Expenditure	
	Establishment Costs	1,128,424
	Salaries and Wages	35,074,681
	Other Personnel Costs	17,848,243
	Travel Costs	5,175,127
	Operational Costs	27,837,230
	Administration Costs	9,636,314
	Spectrum Expenses	18,359,927
	Total Recurrent Expenditure	115,059,947

Question,

That the expenditure of One Hundred and Fifteen Million, Fifty-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Forty-Seven Naira (₦115,059,947) only, for the purposes set out under the Revenue Profile for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) stand part of the Revenue Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — *Agreed to.*

Capital Expenditure

Internal Projects	15,444,456
Consultancies	2,578,978
Total Capital Expenditure	18,023,435

Question,

That the expenditure of Eighteen Million, Twenty-Three Thousand, Four Hundred and Thirty-Five Naira (₦18,023,435) only, for the purposes set out under the Capital Expenditure Costs for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) stand part of the Capital Revenue Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — *Agreed to.*

Special Projects

Emergency Communications Centres (ECC)	5,117,984
Broadband Infrastructure Development Project	390,000
GSM Networks QoS Compliance Monitoring	2,887,510
Strategic Intervention Projects	14,944,299
Nigeria Data Protection Bureau	2,870,141
Transfer to National Broadcasting Commission for Digital Switch Over	35,300,000
Digital Skill Acquisition Programme	3,442,578
Subscribers Database Management	774,000
Digital Parks	400,000
R&D in Emerging Trends in Telecoms	654,520
Total Special Projects	66,781,032

Question,

That the expenditure of Sixty-Six Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-One Thousand, and Thirty-Two Naira (₦66,781,032) only, for the purposes set out under the Special Projects Expenditure Costs for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) stand part of the Capital Recurrent Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — *Agreed to.*

Total Capital Projects	84,804,467
Total Costs	199,864,414
Transfer to USPF	17,000,000

Transfer to Federal Government	332,807,853
Surplus/Deficit (Transfers)	2,044
Total Revenue	549,674,311

Approve the sum of Five Hundred and Forty-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Four Million, Three Hundred and Eleven Thousand Naira (₦549,674,311,000) only, be approved as the Nigerian Communications Commission's Budget for the year 2024 Universal Service Provision Fund.

Main Question,

That the expenditure of Five Hundred and Forty-Nine Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Four Million, Three Hundred and Eleven Thousand Naira (₦549,674,311,000) only, for the purposes set out under the Expenditure Costs for Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) stand part of the Recurrent and Capital Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — **Agreed to.**

SUMMARY OF USPF 2024 BUDGET

<i>Description</i>	2024 Budget (₦)
Revenue	17,000,000,000
Total Funds (A)	17,000,000,000
Payments:	
Recurrent Expenditure:	
Employees Costs	1,668,538,082
Operational Costs	1,221,028,166
Administrative Costs	93,781,487
Board Expenses	575,714,384
Bank Charges	4,000,000
Total Recurrent Expenditure	3,563,062,118

Question,

That the expenditure of Three Billion, Five Hundred and Sixty-Three Million, Sixty-Two Thousand, One Hundred and Eighteen Naira (₦3,563,062,118) only, for the purposes set out under the Revenue Profile for Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF) stand part of the Capital Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — **Agreed to.**

Capital Expenditure	193,300,000
Projects & Programmes Expenditure	13,243,637,881
Total Budget Expenditure (B)	17,000,000,000
Surplus/(Deficit): (A) - (B)	0

Approve the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, for Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF) for 2024 Budget

Question,

That the expenditure of Seventeen Billion Naira (₦17,000,000,000) only, for the purposes set out under the Expenditure Costs for Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF) stand part of the Capital Expenditure for 2024 (*Hon. Peter Ohiozogh Akpatason — Akoko-Edo Federal Constituency*) — **Agreed to.**

Chairman to report proceedings.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of Supply considered the Report of the Committee on Communications to Authorize the issuance from the Statutory Revenue Fund of the Nigerian Communications Commission the Total Sum of (₦549,674,311,000.00) five hundred and forty-nine billion, six hundred and seventy-four million, three hundred and eleven thousand Naira only, out of which (₦115,059,947.00) one hundred and fifteen billion, fifty-nine million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand Naira only, is for Recurrent Expenditure, (₦18,023,435.00) eighteen billion, twenty-three million, four hundred and thirty-five thousand Naira only, is for Capital Expenditure, (₦66,781, 032) sixty - six billion, seven hundred and eighty-one million, thirty-two thousand Naira, only is for Special Projects while the sum of (₦17,000,000,000) Seventeen Billion Naira only, is for Transfer to Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF), (₦332,807,853) three hundred and thirty - two billion, eight hundred and seven million, eight hundred and fifty - three thousand Naira only, is for Transfer to Federal Government and (₦2,044) two thousand and forty - four Naira only, is surplus/deficit transfers for the financial year ending 31 December, 2024 and adopted the Recommendations of the Report.

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

- (ii) ***A Bill for an Act to Prohibit the Exportation of Maize or its Derivatives in Large Commercial Quantities out of Nigeria and for Related Matters (Committee of the Whole): Motion made and Question proposed, “That this House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Prohibit the Exportation of Maize or its Derivatives in Large Commercial Quantities out of Nigeria and for Related Matters” (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 PROHIBIT THE EXPORTATION OF
MAIZE OR ITS DERIVATIVES IN LARGE COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES
OUT OF NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.1509)

Clause 1: Prohibition of exportation of maize, Cap. C49, LFN, 2004.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Custom and Excise Tariff, etc. (Consolidation) Act or any other enactment (including statutory instrument or order), maize (or its derivatives in any form) shall not be exported in large commercial quantity, out of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Offence and penalty.

(1) Any person who —

(a) takes;

(b) causes another person to take;

(c) induces another person to take; or

(d) attempts to take,

unprocessed maize whether in grains, on cobs, fresh or dry, in large commercial quantity of a minimum of one metric ton or higher, out of Nigeria, commits an offence.

- (2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1), is liable on conviction to a fine in monetary value of the goods exported or sought to be exported or imprisonment for a term of one year or both.
- (3) A customs officer or other person who aids, counsels, procures or conspires with another person to commit an offence under this section, is liable on conviction to the penalty under subsection (2).
- (4) The Federal High Court has jurisdiction over any offence committed under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Consequential Amendment.

Item "4" of the Schedule to the Export (Prohibition) Act, Cap. E22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 is deleted (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Maize Export Prohibition Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to prohibit the exportation of maize or its derivatives in large commercial quantities out of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Prohibit the Exportation of Maize or its Derivatives in Large Commercial Quantities out of Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB.1509) (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo 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 Report on a Bill for an Act to Prohibit the Exportation of Maize or its Derivatives in Large Commercial Quantities out of Nigeria and for Related Matters and approved Clauses 1 - 4, 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.

- (iii) ***A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Domestication and Enforcement of African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons and for Related Matters (HB.1350) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Domestication and Enforcement of African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons and for Related Matters (HB.1350)" (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 GIVE EFFECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.1350)

PART I — OBJECTIVE, APPLICATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 1: Objectives.

The objectives of this Bill are to —

- (a) provide a legal and institutional framework for the prevention, mitigation and elimination of root causes of internal displacement;
- (b) make provision for the protection, assistance and durable solutions for internally displaced persons in Nigeria;
- (c) ensure the protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons in line with the provisions of the Constitution, relevant laws, and international instruments to which Nigeria is a party;
- (d) provide for the obligations, responsibilities and roles of government agencies ("competent authorities") and non-state actors;
- (e) provide a comprehensive and gender friendly framework for national response, coordination and collaboration for the protection, assistance and humanitarian interventions relating to internal displacement; and
- (f) promote solidarity, cooperation, durable solutions and mutual support among —
 - (i) State Parties to the Convention,
 - (ii) State Parties and non-state actors,
 - (iii) competent authorities, and
 - (iv) non-state actors in collaboration with relevant agencies, in order to combat displacement and address its consequences (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 2: Application.

This Bill shall apply to causes and situations of internal displacements (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 3 Enforcement of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons.

Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provisions of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa ("Kampala Convention") shall have the force of law and effect in Nigeria (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

PART II — PREVENTION OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 4: Prevention of arbitrary internal displacement.

- (1) A competent authority, shall —
 - (a) refrain from taking actions that may result in the arbitrary displacement of persons;
 - (b) take measures to prevent arbitrary displacement of persons;
 - (c) create public awareness, sensitisation, training and education on the causes, impact and consequences of displacement, means of prevention, early warning, disaster risk reduction and relocation;
 - (d) monitor and evaluate areas inhabited by persons at risk of displacement from time to time, to enable preventive actions;
 - (e) take measures to safeguard areas where internally displaced persons are located, and —
 - (i) protect such locations against infiltration by armed groups and other criminal elements, and
 - (ii) disarm and separate armed groups or criminal elements from internally displaced persons; and
 - (f) integrate internal displacement preventive measures in contingency planning and adaptation programmes.
- (2) A competent authority shall prevent arbitrary displacement during armed conflicts, generalised violence, civil unrest, human rights violations, natural or human-made disasters and development projects.
- (3) For the purpose of preventing arbitrary displacement of persons, the competent authority, armed groups and non-state actors, shall in all circumstances, comply with their obligations under the Constitution, international law, this Bill and other relevant laws.

- (4) Mitigation measures involving relocation of populations or communities shall be undertaken with the participation and in consultation with affected population and in compliance with human rights standards (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiul — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 5: Safeguards and relocation procedures during disaster.

For the purpose of safeguards, public security and relocation during disaster, relevant competent authority shall —

- (a) take appropriate and necessary measures to relocate the affected population;
- (b) consult with internally displaced persons and other civilian population, taking into account their security and rights to life, dignity and liberty;
- (c) take measure to ensure that law enforcement agents comply with human rights standards in their operations;
- (d) ensure that the communities affected have access to information relating to —
 - (i) the nature and level of the disaster they are facing,
 - (ii) the possible risk mitigation measure that may be taken,
 - (iii) early warning information,
 - (iv) on-going humanitarian assistance or recovery efforts, and
 - (v) entitlements, if any; and
- (e) take measures to safeguard the property and possessions involuntarily left behind by affected population against destruction, arbitrary or illegal appropriation, occupation or use (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiul — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 6: Internal displacement induced by development projects.

- (1) The competent authority shall take measures to prevent displacement likely to be caused by project carried out by government or non-state actors in the public interest.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, relevant competent authority shall, prior to the decision to carry out any development project that may lead to displacement of persons —
 - (a) comply with the provisions of section 5 of this Bill; and
 - (b) inform and sensitise the affected population —
 - (i) on the impending development project, and

- (ii) that the displacement is unavoidable and without feasible alternatives.
- (3) Competent authorities shall ensure that the development project referred to in this Bill is not carried out unless —
 - (a) reasonable time is given to the affected population, including for relocation; and
 - (b) there is provision of effective remedial measures to the affected population in accordance with section 44 of the Constitution.
- (4) The relevant competent authority shall —
 - (a) ensure that the displacement induced by project is carried out in a manner that respects the dignity and the rights of those likely to be affected by the project; and
 - (b) take in to account the protection of community land and the special needs of women, children and persons with special needs, by providing —
 - (i) information and ensure their effective participation in the planning, management of the displacement, and in defining suitable durable solutions,
 - (ii) safe, adequate and habitable sites and proper accommodation, and
 - (iii) satisfactory conditions of safety, nutrition, health, hygiene and the protection of the family unity; and
 - (c) be present when relocation is to be effected.
- (5) Where relocation is to be effected, the competent authority shall ensure that the relocation is observed by an independent body.
- (6) In this section, "independent body" means bodies other than competent authority and includes development partners, the media and civil society organisations (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 7: Environmental and socio-economic impact assessment.

- (1) A Competent authority and non-state actors, including companies involved in projects and with the participation of the affected population shall carry out socio-economic and environmental impact assessment of any proposed project prior to the decision to undertake such a project.
- (2) The environmental impact assessment shall include exploration of alternatives and strategies to minimise harm.
- (3) The impact assessments shall take into account, the differential impacts of forced evictions on women, children, the elderly, marginalised or vulnerable

persons, based on the collection of disaggregated data (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

PART III — PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 8: Protection of internally displaced persons.

- (1) Parties involved in armed conflicts shall not forcefully displace civilian population unless the measure is intended to ensure the security of the civilians.
- (2) Internally displaced persons shall be protected from —
 - (a) genocide, murder, summary or arbitrary executions, and enforced disappearance;
 - (b) direct, indirect, indiscriminate attack or other acts of violence;
 - (c) starvation as a strategy for war;
 - (d) being used as a shield for military operations or any form of operation during armed conflict;
 - (e) rape, mutilation, torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, or punishment and other violation of personal dignity, including gender-specific violence, forced prostitution, sale and trafficking in persons, illegal organ transfer and any other form of indecent assault;
 - (f) direct and indirect participation and recruitment of their children in armed conflicts;
 - (g) slavery or any other contemporary forms of slavery, including sale into forced marriage, sexual exploitation, forced labour, child exploitation;
 - (h) acts of terror;
 - (i) internment or confinement into a camp, except for their protection;
 - (j) forced recruitment into the military or any form of forced recruitment into an armed group.
- (3) The property and possession of internally displaced persons shall be protected against —
 - (a) pillage;
 - (b) direct, indirect or indiscriminate attacks or other forms of violence;
 - (c) being used to shield military operation or other forms of armed conflict;
 - (d) reprisal; and

- (e) being destroyed or appropriated as a form of collective punishment, destruction, arbitrary or illegal appropriation, occupation or use.
- (4) Parties to a conflict shall —
 - (a) respect the freedom of persons to movement, including the right to freely move in and out of camps or other forms of shelter; and
 - (b) ensure the protection of family unity.
- (5) Where internal displacement occurs, measures shall be taken to ensure that —
 - (a) the affected populations are, without discrimination, protected under satisfactory conditions of shelter, hygiene, health, education, safety and nutrition; and
 - (b) family members of the affected populations are not separated and receive appropriate psychosocial support.
- (6) A competent authority and non-state actors shall respect the rights of internally displaced persons to voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their homes or places of habitual residence as soon as the reasons for their displacement cease to exist.
- (7) A relevant competent authority shall take measures to —
 - (a) establish a system for the investigation and tracing of missing persons, and notify the next of kin of the missing person of the outcome of the investigation;
 - (b) collaborate with relevant national and international organisations in the investigation and tracing of missing persons;
 - (c) collect and identify the mortal remains of deceased persons, prevent damage or mutilation, and facilitate the return of the remains to the next-of-kin or dispose such mortal remains respectfully;
 - (d) establish camps and settlements where the possibility of self sustainability or fast rehabilitation assistance is not readily available;
 - (e) grant priority access to such groups as women, communities with special attachment to land, single-headed households, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and unaccompanied and separated children; and
 - (f) maintain law and order in the camps and their vicinity, evacuation sites and the site where the displaced settle spontaneously (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 9: Protection of internally displaced persons against disaster.
A competent authority shall —

- (a) ensure that persons displaced by disaster have unimpeded and non-discriminatory access to basic services necessary to meet their immediate needs;
- (b) protect persons displaced by disaster against secondary hazards and dangers of other potential risks;
- (c) take effective measures to ensure the security of populations affected by disasters;
- (d) take measures to ensure that those displaced by disasters are given access to psychosocial assistance and social services, when necessary; and
- (e) ensure that forced evacuations of individuals in cases of natural, human made disasters or other causes are not undertaken, unless such measures are justified by considerations of the safety and health of the affected population (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 10: Protection of internally displaced persons during evacuation.

- (1) Where imminent natural disaster is likely to create a serious risk to life, physical integrity or health of affected population, relevant competent authority, in line with human rights standards, shall —
 - (a) take appropriate measures necessary to protect evacuated persons that may be in danger, including vulnerable groups;
 - (b) ensure that evacuation measures are carried out in a manner that protects the right to life, dignity, liberty and security of evacuated persons, including —
 - (i) safeguarding homes and assets left behind by evacuated persons,
 - (ii) registering evacuated persons and monitoring their evacuation, and
 - (iii) ensuring that evacuated persons enjoy access to protection and assistance provided to internally displaced persons.
- (2) A competent authority shall, at the end of the emergency phase, guarantee the evacuated persons the option to choose whether to —
 - (a) return to their homes and places of habitual residence;
 - (b) remain in the area to which they were evacuated; or
 - (c) relocate to another part of Nigeria.
- (3) The choice specified under subsection (2) of this section shall not be subjected to any restrictions, except as provided by law for the protection of national security, safety and security of affected populations, public order, public health or the rights and freedom of others (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 11: Needs assessment and initiation of international assistance.

The following procedures and guarantees shall apply to relocation of persons due to displacement by projects —

- (a) competent authorities shall take measures to address the relocation of the affected populations;
- (b) persons and groups to be affected by the measures shall have access to information on —
 - (i) the reasons and procedure for the displacement, and
 - (ii) compensation and relocation, where applicable;
- (c) the competent authorities shall give priority to efforts aimed at securing free and informed consent or the cooperation of those to be displaced, while reserving legitimate enforcement action as measures of last recourse;
- (d) law enforcement measures may be carried out by competent authorities in compliance with the Constitution, relevant laws and applicable human rights standards;
- (e) relocation measures shall safeguard the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, groups and persons requiring particular protection, including their right to property and access to basic services and resources;
- (f) competent authorities shall ensure that necessary amenities, services and economic opportunities are provided at the relocation site;
- (g) internally displaced persons shall not be relocated without reasonable notification or being given options;
- (h) relocation process shall be carried out with the participation of affected populations, including —
 - (i) women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and
 - (ii) people with special attachment to and dependency on land due to their culture and spiritual values; and
- (i) competent authorities shall give consideration to alternative plans proposed by the affected populations (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 12: Termination of international assistance.

- (1) Competent authorities shall —
 - (a) prior to a disaster and based on an initial estimate, evaluate the needs of internally displaced persons;

- (b) ensure that timely, reliable, and disaggregated data is available on the displacement-related needs and vulnerabilities of affected communities; and
 - (c) seek, in collaboration with relevant statistical authorities, inclusion of internal displacement in national statistical efforts in line with the international recommendations on internally displaced persons' statistics.
- (2) Competent authorities shall determine whether domestic capacities are sufficient to effectively respond to the needs of internally displaced persons and affected population (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 13: Procedure for relocation of persons displaced by project.

- (1) Competent authorities shall —
 - (a) establish a mechanism for the registration and collection of information on internally displaced persons;
 - (b) ensure that non-registration, loss or lack of personal documents shall not be used to —
 - (i) justify the denial of essential relief items and services,
 - (ii) prevent internally displaced persons from travelling to safe areas or from returning to their homes, or
 - (iii) impede their access to employment opportunities;
 - (c) take necessary measures to facilitate the registration of internally displaced persons located in urban areas, rural environment or any other forms of settlement or living within communities;
 - (d) facilitate timely recovery or re-issuance of necessary documents including passports, personal identification, birth certificates, marriage certificates, licences and educational certificates, lost or damaged during displacement;
 - (e) develop and publish a simplified procedure for issuing necessary documents upon application by internally displaced persons; and
 - (f) respect the confidentiality of the documents of internally displaced persons, as appropriate.
- (2) Persons with disabilities, women and unaccompanied or separated children shall be issued with the necessary documents in their own name and consideration shall be given to their special needs and peculiarities (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 14: Family reunification.**

- (1) A relevant competent authority shall —
 - (a) facilitate the reunification, without delay, of families separated by displacement and assist them in that regard;
 - (b) take measures to reunify separated and unaccompanied children with their families;
 - (c) facilitate response to the inquiries made by family members; and
 - (d) where necessary, cooperate with local and international humanitarian organisations engaged in family reunification for the purpose of paragraphs (a) to (c) of this section.
- (2) Competent authority shall where expedient, allow members of displaced families who wish to remain together to do so during the emergency phase, return or relocation.
- (3) Family reunification shall be conducted in the best interest of the child and where such reunion may lead to the violation of fundamental rights of the child, the competent authority and relevant non-state actors shall ensure that the reunion is not conducted.
- (4) An unaccompanied or separated child shall be returned to the parents except where further separation is necessary for the best interests of the child, taking into account the rights of the child.
- (5) Competent authorities shall cooperate with law enforcement agencies and international organisations in tracing family members (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 15: Registration and documentation.**

- (1) A competent authority shall, in providing assistance to internally displaced persons, be responsible for —
 - (a) providing assistance without discrimination;
 - (b) taking appropriate measures to ensure that internally displaced persons are received and settled in conditions of safety, dignity and security;
 - (c) recognizing particular situations of displaced pastoralist populations;
 - (d) requesting from international donor agencies, assistance where available resources are not adequate to provide the required assistance to the affected population;
 - (e) facilitating a rapid and unimpeded access by humanitarian organisations;
 - (f) upholding and ensuring respect for humanitarian principles of

humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian actors; and

- (g) ensuring the participation of internally displaced persons in the planning, execution and evaluation of humanitarian assistance programmes.

- (2) Competent authorities shall not persecute or punish internally displaced persons for requesting or seeking assistance in accordance with relevant national and international laws (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiou — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 16: Assistance to internally displaced persons.

- (1) Competent authorities shall provide special protection and assistance to internally displaced persons with special needs, including children, widows, widowers, expectant mothers and mothers with young children, single mothers, the elderly, the wounded, the sick, those with communicable diseases and persons with disabilities.
- (2) Assistance to persons with special needs shall take into account —
 - (a) the specific needs required by their individual circumstances;
 - (b) health needs;
 - (c) reproductive health care; and
 - (d) appropriate counselling, including access to psychological and social counselling.
- (3) A person shall not engage in harmful traditional practices that may affect internally displaced persons, particularly women and children.
- (4) Competent authorities shall take measures in accordance with relevant laws to combat sexual and gender base violence and provide appropriate psychosocial support for internally displaced persons who have become victims of sexual and other related abuses.
- (5) Competent authorities shall take appropriate measures to protect affected populations against forced or compulsory labour, human trafficking or other contemporary forms of slavery, including child labour, forced marriage, forced prostitution, and sexual exploitation (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiou — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 17: Internally displaced persons with special needs.

- (1) Where a community has special attachment to and dependency on land, the competent authority shall ensure that —
 - (a) special interest in such land is duly recognised and protected;

- (b) land leases and agreements take into account their rights and interests;
 - (c) they are not displaced from the land except for compelling and overriding public interest;
 - (d) their cultural and spiritual values are preserved and protected from being displaced from such lands; and
 - (e) they are allowed to participate or through their representatives in the process of land leases and agreements.
- (2) Competent authority shall, where possible, take appropriate measures to ensure the restoration of lands of communities with special dependency and attachment to such lands (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiw — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 18: Communities with special dependency and attachment to land.

The competent authority shall —

- (a) ensure rapid and accelerated passage of —
 - (i) personnel deployed for any internally displaced persons interventions, and
 - (ii) relief consignments and equipment to internally displaced persons;
- (b) ensure protection and security for personnel of local, international, civil society organisations and other relevant actors; and
- (c) ensure that humanitarian supplies are not subject of attack (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiw — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 19: Facilitation and protection of humanitarian activities and personnel.

- (1) Where the domestic capacities are not sufficient to effectively respond to the needs of internally displaced persons and affected population, the relevant competent authority shall, without delay, advise the President on the need to request for international assistance.
- (2) International assistance may be terminated on the basis of effective assessment of the needs of the internally displaced persons and the affected population, based on a wide and effective consultation with internally displaced persons and international organisations providing such assistance.
- (3) The notice of termination of international assistance shall be issued three months prior to the effective date of the termination.
- (4) Competent authorities shall undertake measures to minimise the negative impacts of the termination under subsection (3) of this section on the internally displaced persons and affected population (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiw — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 20: Obligations relating to international organisations and humanitarian agencies.
Local and international organisations shall, in providing assistance to internally displaced persons —

- (a) respect the rights of internally displaced persons and conduct their activities in accordance with the Constitution, international law and other relevant laws;
- (b) be bound by the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian actors;
- (c) ensure respect for relevant international standards and codes of conduct relating to the rights of internally displaced persons; and
- (d) respect the primary responsibility of the competent authorities in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

PART IV — RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 21: Protection of civil and political rights of internally displaced persons.

- (1) Internally displaced persons shall not be denied —
 - (a) civil and political rights and other rights provided for in the Constitution; particularly, the right to vote and be voted for in accordance with relevant laws; and
 - (b) opportunity for employment and participation in economic activities.
- (2) The competent authority shall protect internally displaced persons from —
 - (a) genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law;
 - (b) arbitrary killing, summary execution, abduction, enforced disappearance or torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
 - (c) rape, sexual and gender based violence in all its forms;
 - (d) harmful practices, slavery, starvation, forced labour, recruitment of children and their use in hostilities; and
 - (e) human trafficking and smuggling.
- (3) The competent authority shall ensure that internally displaced persons are —
 - (a) not subjected to discriminatory and arbitrary detention; and
 - (b) protected against adverse reaction for exchanging information or

expressing their opinions and concerns regarding disaster relief, recovery and reconstruction efforts.

- (4) The relevant competent authority shall take measures to provide and facilitate procedures for internally displaced persons to be registered as voters and for a waiver of requirements that may likely prevent internally displaced persons from registration and voting (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 22: Economic, social and cultural rights.

- (1) The relevant competent authorities shall subject to available resources, ensure that the rights of internally displaced persons to economic, social and cultural rights are not violated in accordance with the Constitution, relevant national laws, international and regional human rights instruments.
- (2) Competent authorities shall as a minimum, provide internally displaced persons with security and ensure safe access to —
- (a) essential food and potable water;
 - (b) basic shelter and housing;
 - (c) appropriate clothing;
 - (d) essential medical services and sanitation;
 - (e) education; and
 - (f) animal health services.
- (3) The relevant competent authorities shall take measures to ensure participation of women, children and persons living with disabilities in the planning and distribution of basic services (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 23: Basic shelter and housing.

A relevant competent authority shall —

- (a) establish procedures to identify and prioritize basic shelter and adequate housing on the basis of need and particular vulnerability of internally displaced persons;
- (b) remove legal and administrative obstacles contained in building codes and similar instruments, for the construction of transitional shelters or the rebuilding of houses for the return or relocation of internally displaced persons; and
- (c) protect internally displaced persons against forced evictions (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 24: Education.

A relevant competent authority shall —

- (a) take measures to ensure that displaced children, receive education, which shall be free and compulsory at the primary level, having regard to their cultural identity, language and religion;
- (b) undertake special efforts to ensure the full and equal participation of women and girls in educational programmes;
- (c) undertake measures to facilitate the accessibility of education to internally displaced persons in areas where the formal school system might not be available or easily accessible; and
- (d) take measures to ensure that educational and training facilities are made available to internally displaced persons (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 25: Health.

A relevant competent authority shall —

- (a) take measures to ensure that wounded and sick internally displaced persons and those with disabilities receive medical care and attention without delay and discrimination;
- (b) ensure that internally displaced persons have access to psychological and social services;
- (c) give attention to the health needs of women, including access to female health care providers and services, such as reproductive health care, counselling for victims of sexual and other abuses;
- (d) provide necessary healthcare services for the prevention of infectious diseases among internally displaced persons;
- (e) establish procedures to identify and prioritise beneficiaries of health services on the basis of need and peculiar vulnerability;
- (f) pay special attention to the health needs of groups with special needs, including provision of appropriate clothing and hygienic supplies, access to female healthcare providers and such services as reproductive health care;
- (g) provide for the waiver of standard and universal requirements such as specific documentation, residency requirements, health insurance coverage that limit or exclude access of internally displaced persons to free access to health services on particular vulnerability (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 26: Food, water and sanitation.**

A relevant competent authority —

- (a) shall take measures to provide essential food and potable water for internally displaced persons;
- (b) may request for assistance from international donor agencies, where the need of internally displaced persons to food and potable water cannot be sufficiently satisfied at the local level;
- (c) shall establish procedures to identify and prioritise internally displaced persons for food, nutritional aid, water and sanitation services on the basis of need and vulnerability; and
- (d) shall facilitate the importation of food aid, including exemption from import restrictions and quotas, custom duties and other taxes (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 27: Employment, economic activities and social protection.**

A relevant competent authority shall —

- (a) take measures to entrench the right to work and access to social protection for internally displaced persons; and
- (b) promote measures to assist internally displaced persons to regain their livelihoods or engage in new economic activities, including provisional work programmes, micro-credit systems, vocational training or distribution of agricultural inputs (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:**Clause 28: Access to information.**

- (1) A relevant competent authority shall establish procedures for data protection, sharing and exchange of personal information relating to internally displaced persons with humanitarian organisations involved in the provision of humanitarian and protection services for the purpose of —
 - (a) avoiding imminent danger or physical harm to internally displaced persons;
 - (b) protecting public health;
 - (c) facilitating family reunification; or
 - (d) any other reason as may be considered appropriate and necessary.
- (2) A relevant competent authority shall provide prompt and accessible information to affected population about a disaster, stating —
 - (a) the possible risk mitigation measures that can be taken;

- (b) early warning information;
 - (c) humanitarian aid available; and
 - (d) recovery efforts.
- (3) The competent authorities shall facilitate the involvement of internally displaced persons and relevant civil society actors in the development and implementation of early warning system, disaster reduction strategies, emergency and disaster preparedness and management measures (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 29: Freedom of movement.

- (1) A relevant competent authority shall ensure that an internally displaced person's freedom of movement and choice of place of residence is not subject to any restriction except as prescribed by law for the purposes of national security, public order or health, morals or other people's rights and freedoms.
- (2) The right of internally displaced persons to move freely in and out of camps or other settlements shall not be restricted unless it is done under transparent rules based on public necessity.
- (3) A relevant competent authority shall take measures to ensure that internally displaced persons seeking safety in another part of Nigeria are protected against forceful return or relocation to any place where their life, safety, liberty or health may be at risk (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 30: Access to judicial mechanisms.

Internally displaced persons shall have access to courts, legal aid scheme, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to seek appropriate redress consistent with the Constitution and other relevant laws (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

PART V — EFFECTIVE REMEDIES AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 31: Effective remedies.

- (1) Competent authorities shall take measures to ensure that fair and just reparation is made for loss of life, property or goods, including rights or interests in property.
- (2) Pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, reparation shall be provided without discrimination for economically quantifiable damage, as may be appropriate and proportional to the circumstances of each case, such as —
 - (a) loss of life or limb;

- (b) physical or mental harm;
- (c) lost opportunities, including employment, education and social benefits;
- (d) material damages and loss of earnings; and
- (e) costs required for —
 - (i) legal or expert assistance,
 - (ii) medical services, and
 - (iii) psychological and social services.
- (3) Competent authorities shall facilitate the provision of free legal advisory services for affected indigent internally displaced persons.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, internally displaced persons may seek for the review of reparation provided, from a relevant competent authority in accordance with this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 32: Resettlement and reintegration.

- (1) A competent authority shall ensure that internally displaced persons participate in the planning and management of their return, local integration and relocation.
- (2) A competent authority shall ensure that internally displaced persons are —
 - (a) allowed to make free and informed decision on whether to return, integrate locally or relocate;
 - (b) to relocate in safety and dignity, to their homes or places of habitual residence, integrate locally or relocate voluntarily in any part of Nigeria; and
 - (c) protected from abuse and human rights violations, attacks or threat of attacks in their chosen place of return, local integration and relocation.
- (3) A competent authority shall, for the purpose of finding and implementing durable solutions, collaborate with the African Union, the United Nations and non-state actors.
- (4) A competent authority shall not permit the return of internally displaced persons to their homes or places of habitual residence, where their homes or place intended to return are in danger of potential hazards and other disaster risks.
- (5) The restrictions under subsection (4) of this section, shall last as long as such danger and risk exist.

- (6) A competent authority shall ensure the preservation of the human rights of internally displaced persons on their return, local integration and relocation as to —
- (a) long-term safety, protection and security;
 - (b) enjoyment of humane standard of living without discrimination, including shelter, food, water, sanitation, health and medical care and education;
 - (c) equal and unimpeded access to generally available public programmes, such as social housing or welfare measures and poverty alleviation programmes;
 - (d) where applicable, access to employment and livelihoods;
 - (e) access to documentation;
 - (f) family reunification and location of the whereabouts of missing relatives;
 - (g) participation in public affairs; and
 - (h) access to justice.
- (7) Where a displaced spouse is deceased, the competent authority shall take measures to eliminate gender inequality and give attention to the protection concerns of the returning spouse and any other person with respect to disputes on the ownership of family or other property.
- (8) A competent authority shall ensure that the rights of children, including right to inherit family property in the event of death of parents is not violated and create trust for such children's inheritance.
- (9) A competent authority shall ensure that property of returning communities, pastoralists and other groups whose means of livelihood depends on attachment to their lands is protected and such communities, pastoralists and other groups may be reintegrated to areas previously occupied.
- (10) Where communities, pastoralists and other groups cannot be reintegrated to areas previously occupied, they shall —
- (a) be provided with land, at least equal in value to the land previously occupied; and
 - (b) where alternative land of equal value cannot be allocated, compensation package may be made available to them.
- (11) A competent authority shall ensure that internally displaced persons who have returned to their homes or places of habitual residence or relocated in another part of the country are not discriminated against for having been displaced and denied participation in public affairs or access to public services (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VI — NATIONAL COORDINATION

*Committee's Recommendation:***Clause 33: Establishment of Internal Displacement Coordination Committee.**

- (1) There is established, a Committee to be known as the Internal Displacement Coordination Committee ("the Committee"), which shall consist of —
 - (a) the Minister or his representative as Chairperson;
 - (b) a representative not be below the rank of a Director from the Ministry responsible for —
 - (i) Humanitarian affairs,
 - (ii) Justice,
 - (iii) Communications,
 - (iv) Education,
 - (v) Environment,
 - (vi) Finance,
 - (vii) Health,
 - (viii) Interior,
 - (ix) Agriculture,
 - (x) Water Resources,
 - (xi) Women Affairs,
 - (c) representative of the Office of the National Security Adviser;
 - (d) Chief executives of the following —
 - (i) National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons,
 - (ii) National Emergency Management Agency,
 - (iii) National Bureau of Statistics,
 - (iv) National Identity Management Commission,
 - (v) National Human Rights Commission,
 - (vi) National Population Commission,
 - (vii) Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution,
 - (viii) National Centre for Disease Control,
 - (ix) National Disaster Early Warning, Preparedness and Management Mechanism;

- (e) representative of the —
 - (i) Nigeria Police Force,
 - (ii) Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps;
- (f) representative of the following organisations —
 - (i) National Red Cross and Red Crescent Society,
 - (ii) Non-Governmental Organizations with relevant expertise in humanitarian issues, who may from time to time be appointed, where the need arises,
 - (iii) representatives of internally displaced persons;
- (g) representatives of the following bodies, serving as observers —
 - (i) United Nations agencies with mandate on internally displaced persons, and
 - (ii) International Committee of the Red Cross.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Minister may, as the need arises, co-opt any agency or body on ad-hoc basis.
- (3) The Ministry shall provide Secretariat services for the Committee.
- (4) The supplementary provisions set out in the First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect in relation to the proceedings of the Committee and other matters specified therein (First Schedule) (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 34: Functions of the Committee.

The Committee shall —

- (a) assist in the formulation of guidelines, strategies and action plan to be used by the Ministry for periodic monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of this Bill;
- (b) monitor and evaluate the level of implementation of Nigeria's commitments and obligations under regional and international conventions on internally displaced persons;
- (c) ensure and monitor timely intervention of relevant competent authority and humanitarian communities towards providing lasting solutions to internal displacement issues in Nigeria;
- (d) provide enabling environment for the participation of internally displaced persons in the decision-making processes affecting their lives;
- (e) engender effective cooperation and collaboration among the competent authorities and relevant humanitarian organisations providing interventions on internal displacement;

- (f) receive and resolve complaints, petitions and grievances of internally displaced persons or their host communities as they relate to their fundamental rights, safety, security and well-being in line with the Constitution, this Bill, regional protocols, conventions and regulations;
- (g) liaise with the competent authority and agencies to develop the requisite technical capacity, human and material resources to respond to internal displacement situations in Nigeria;
- (h) review the plan and programmes of relevant authorities under different sectoral guidelines and policies to ensure that internally displaced persons access and benefit on an equal basis;
- (i) advise the competent authorities on any other issue relating to the provision of effective assistance and protection to internally displaced persons in Nigeria;
- (j) liaise with a State Emergency Management Agency and Local Government Emergency Management Committee, where there is mass displacement in such state or local government; and
- (k) perform such other functions as are necessary for giving effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 34 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VII — INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS MANAGEMENT FUND

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 35: Establishment of Internally Displacement Persons Management Fund.

- (1) There is established an Internally Displaced Persons Management Fund ("the Fund") into which shall be paid —
 - (a) funds appropriated by the National Assembly;
 - (b) such intervention funds as may be provided by the Federal Government;
 - (c) donations, gifts or endowment from individuals, corporate entities, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and other developmental partners; and
 - (d) such other monies that may accrue to the Fund from time to time.
- (2) The Fund shall be utilised in the management of the internally displaced persons.
- (3) The Minister shall with the approval of the President, issue guidelines for the management and utilisation of the Fund (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 35 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 36: Annual estimates, accounts and audit.

- (1) The Minister shall not later than 30th September of each year, submit its

estimates of income and expenditure of the Fund for the next financial year to the President for approval.

- (2) The Ministry shall —
- (a) keep proper records of all accounts of income and expenditure of the Fund; and
 - (b) prepare statement of account in respect of each financial year.
- (3) The Minister shall, not later than 30th June of each financial year, cause the income and expenditure of the Fund to be audited by auditors appointed from the list of qualified auditors in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Auditor-General for the Federation (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 36 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 37: Annual report.

The Minister shall, not later than 30th June of each financial year, submit to the President, in respect of the preceding financial year, an annual report on the activities of the Committee and the Auditor-General's report pursuant to section 36 (3) of this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 37 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART VIII — OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 38: Offences in relation to arbitrary displacement.

A person who —

- (a) causes displacement of persons based on discrimination or other similar practices aimed at, or resulting in altering the ethnic, communal or religious composition of the population;
- (b) causes displacement of civilians population, in situations of armed conflict, unless the security of the civilians involved or imperative military reasons so demand, in accordance with the Constitution, other relevant laws and international humanitarian law;
- (c) intentionally displaces persons as a method of warfare or due to other violations of international humanitarian law in situations of armed conflict;
- (d) causes displacement of persons by generalised violence or violations of human rights;
- (e) causes displacement of persons by way of harmful practices;
- (f) causes forceful evacuations without lawful justification in cases of natural or human made disasters or other causes, where the evacuations are not required for the safety and health of those affected;
- (g) causes displacement using collective punishment;

- (h) causes displacement by any act of comparable gravity to the offences prescribed in paragraphs (a) to (g) of this section and which is not justified under the Constitution and other relevant laws and international law, including human rights and international humanitarian law; and
- (i) causes displacement amounting to genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity,

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years and a fine of not less than ₦5,000,000 or to both (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 38 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 39: Offences against internally persons.

A person who —

- (a) restricts the freedom of movement of internally displaced persons within and outside their areas of residence without just cause;
- (b) recruits internally displaced children or requiring or permitting them to take part in hostilities under any circumstances;
- (c) forcefully recruits internally displaced persons, kidnaps, abducts or takes hostage, engages in sexual slavery and trafficking in persons especially of internally displaced women,

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years and a fine of not less than ₦5,000,000 or to both (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 39 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 40: Offences against humanitarian workers or personnel.

A person who attacks or otherwise harms a humanitarian worker or personnel deployed for any internally displaced persons interventions, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than two years or a fine of not less than ₦2,000,000 or to both (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 40 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 41: General offences.

A person who —

- (a) denies internally displaced persons, food, water, health and shelter, and the right to live in satisfactory conditions of dignity, security, sanitation, or separate members of the same family;
- (b) impedes humanitarian assistance and passage of relief consignments, equipment and personnel to internally displaced persons; or
- (c) attacks or destroy resources or other materials deployed for the assistance or

benefit of internally displaced persons or steals, loots, abuses, misuses, confiscate or divert such materials commits an offence and is liable on conviction to, in the case of —

- (i) a body corporate, a fine of not less than ₦10,000,000; and
- (ii) an individual, imprisonment for a term of not less than two years or a fine of not less than ₦2,000,000 or to both (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 41 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

PART IX — MISCELLANEOUS

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 42: Jurisdiction.

The Federal High Court, High Court of the Federal Capital Territory and High Court of a State shall have jurisdiction to try and determine offences under this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 42 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 43: Power to give direction.

The President may give directive of a general or specific nature to the Committee or relevant competent authority in connection with the objectives of this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 43 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 44: Power to make Regulations.

The Minister may make Regulations or guidelines to give effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 44 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee's Recommendation:

Clause 45: Interpretation.

- (1) This Bill shall be construed and interpreted in line with the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons, subject to the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Altered).

- (2) In this Bill —

"affected population" include affected persons and communities (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"arbitrary displacement" means arbitrary displacement as described in section 38 of this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"armed groups" means dissident armed forces or other organised armed groups that are distinct from the armed forces of Nigeria (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"basic services" means service provision systems that meets basic human needs such as water, sanitation and hygiene, energy, healthcare, psychosocial support, education, shelter and food (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"competent authority or competent authorities" means Ministries, Departments and Agencies responsible for the management of the internally displaced persons as specified in the Second Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “competent authority or competent authorities” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Constitution" means constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as altered) (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"disaggregated data" means data collected based on different categorisations, including sex, age, religion, literacy level, location, vocation, etc. (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"disaster" means a calamitous event or series of events resulting in widespread loss of life, great human suffering and distress, displacement of population or large-scale material or environmental damage, thereby seriously disrupting the functioning of society (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"durable solution" means a situation where internally displaced persons no longer have specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to displacement, and such persons can enjoy their human rights without discrimination resulting from their displacement modalities (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"enforced disappearance" means the arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of forced deprivation of liberty by agent of the state, person or group of persons acting with or without the authorisation, support or acquiescence of the relevant authority followed by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty, or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"evacuation" means relocation of population from endangered areas such as settlement or camps, conflict or disaster areas to another part of the country justified for reasons of public security, health or safety and other risk to life including the presence of armed elements and health risk (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"harmful practices" means all behaviour, attitudes or practices which negatively affect the fundamental rights of persons, such as but not limited to their right to life, health, dignity, education, and mental and physical integrity (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"internal displacement" means the involuntary or forced movement, evacuation or relocation of persons or groups of persons within internationally recognised State borders (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"internally displaced persons" means persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situation of generalised violence, violation of human rights or natural or human-made disasters and who have not crossed an internationally recognised State border (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words "internally displaced persons" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Kampala Convention" means African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons, adopted by the Special Summit of the African Union, held in Kampala, Uganda on the 22nd October, 2009 (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"Minister" means minister responsible for matters relating to humanitarian affairs (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"Ministry" means Federal Ministry responsible for matters relating to humanitarian affairs (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"non-state actors" means actors who are not public officials of the State, including individuals, companies, communities, civil society organisations, international humanitarian and development partners and any other relevant actor whose acts cannot be officially attributed to the State (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that the meaning of the words “non-state actors” be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"protection" means activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of internally displaced persons in accordance with this Bill (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"relocation" means a planned process in which an internally displaced persons are moved or assisted to move away from their homes or places of temporary residence, settled in a new location and provided with conditions for rebuilding their lives; and (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

"reparation" includes restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, reimbursement or payment of damages, satisfaction and guarantee of non-repetition (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Question that Clause 45 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Committee’s Recommendation:

Clause 46: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Domestication and Enforcement) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiū — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Question that Clause 46 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO
THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Meeting and Proceedings of the Committee

1. Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, the Committee may make standing orders to provide for the proper conduct of its business.
2. Meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the chairperson, but four members may by notice in writing signed by them, request the chairperson to convene a special meeting of the Committee for the purposes specified in such notice and upon receipt of such notice, the chairperson shall convene a special meeting for such purposes at the earliest convenient date.
3. The Committee may constitute subcommittee, to carry out on behalf of the Committee, such functions as the Committee may determine.
4. A subcommittee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons (not necessarily members of the Committee) as may be determined by the Committee and a person other than a member of the Committee, shall hold office on the subcommittee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
5. A decision of a subcommittee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Committee.
6. Where, upon any special occasion, the Committee desires to obtain the advice of any person upon any matter, may co-opt such person to be a member of such meeting as may be required and the person shall, whilst so co-opted, have all the rights and privileges of a member of the Committee, save that the person shall not be entitled to vote on any question.
7. Issues and questions proposed for decision of the Committee shall be determined by the majority of the votes of the members present and voting.
8. The chairperson shall have an original vote and also, if upon any question the votes are equally divided, a casting vote.
9. At a meeting of the Committee, the chairperson and five other members shall form a quorum.
10. The Committee shall not be disqualified for the transaction of business by reason only of any vacancy among the members and in case of the absence of the chairperson or his representative, the representative of the Ministry in the Committee shall serve as temporary chairperson (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

SECOND SCHEDULE

[Section 33]

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

1. **Coordination**

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Sectors</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Co-Lead Technical Support</i>
1.	Coordination	Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

2.	Protection	(a) National Human Rights Commission (b) National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
3.	Child Protection	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
4.	Gender-Based Violence	Federal Ministry of Women Affairs	United Nations Population Fund
5.	Nutrition	Federal Ministry of Health	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
6.	Education in Emergency	Federal Ministry of Education	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
7.	Camp Coordination and Camp Management	National Emergency Management Agency	International Organisation for Migration
8.	Emergency Shelter	National Emergency Management Agency	International Organisation for Migration
9.	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Federal Ministry of Water Resources	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
10.	Health	Federal Ministry of Health	World Health Organisation
11.	Durable Solutions	National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
12.	Logistics	National Emergency Management Agency	World Food Programme
13.	Security	Office of the National Security Adviser	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
14.	Information Management	Federal Ministry of Information	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|---|--|
| 15. | Identification Data | (a) | Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development. | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. |
| | | (b) | Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy | |
| 16. | Registration | (a) | Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development. | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs |
| | | (b) | Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning | |
2. The competent authorities shall integrate the specific needs of internally displaced persons and affected communities into their sectoral programmes and projects (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

(This note does not form part of this Bill but intends to explain its purport)

This Bill seeks to domesticate and enforce in Nigeria the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and elimination of root causes of internal displacement in Nigeria in line with the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 and other relevant laws and international instruments to which Nigeria is a party (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Give Effect to the Provisions of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB.1350) (*Hon. Yusuf Rabiu — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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 Provide for the Domestication and Enforcement of African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons and for Related Matters (HB.1350) and approved Clauses 1 - 46, 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.

- (iv) ***A Bill for an Act to provide for Establishment of Federal University of Environment Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni and for Related Matters (HB.1040) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for

an Act to provide for Establishment of Federal University of Environment Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni and for Related Matters (HB. 1040)” (*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 PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENT TECHNOLOGY,
KOROMA/SAAKPENWA, TAI OGONI; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS**

**PART I — ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS
OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
TECHNOLOGY, KOROMA/SAAKPENWA, TAI OGONI**

Clause 1: Establishment and Objectives of the Federal University of Environmental Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni.

- (1) There is hereby Established Federal University of Environmental Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni
- (2) The University shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name.
- (3) The University shall be a training institution for the development of Environmental Scientists and Technologists in the country.
- (4) The University shall be supervised by the Federal Ministry of Education through the National Universities Commission (NUC) who shall be responsible for approving and regulating all academic programmes run in the University, to ensure quality compliance and provide funds for academic and research programmes, infrastructures and remunerations of employees.
- (5) The objects of the University shall be —
 - (a) to encourage the advancement of learning in environment technology, environmental chemistry and all related disciplines as ecology, hydrochemistry, waste water treatment, atmospheric chemistry and environmental microbiology., and to hold out to all persons without discrimination on race, creed, sex or political conviction;
 - (b) to develop and offer academic and professional programmes leading to the award of certificates, first degrees, post-graduate research, diploma and higher degrees with emphasis on planning, developmental and adaptive skills in environmental technology, applied sciences on climate change and allied environmental and ecological related professional disciplines;
 - (c) to produce environmentally and ecologically mature technologists with capabilities not to only understand the environmental and

- ecology needs of Nigeria as a nation, but to also exploit existing technological infrastructure and improve on it to develop new ones to provide required solutions;
- (d) to act as agents and catalysts for effective environmental and ecological technology system, through post graduate training, research and innovation, for effective economic utilization and for conservation of its immediate environment and the country's entire natural And human resources;
 - (e) to bring quality transformation in Environmental Science and Technology Education by focusing on practical teaching, research and learning innovations that add value;
 - (f) to collaborate with other national and international institutions involved in training, research and development of ecological and environmental technology solutions, with a view to promoting quality good governance, leadership and management skills among Environmental Scientists and Technologists;
 - (g) to identify and promote the principles of sustainable development to represents an important part of the study curriculum with a special emphasis on its biological, chemical and technological aspects of environmental and ecological needs of the society, with a view to finding solutions to them within the context of overall national development needs;
 - (h) to provide and promote sound basic environmental and ecological technology training as a foundation for the development for development of Nigeria, taking into account indigenous environmental challenges, culture and the needs to enhance national response to ecological disasters;
 - (i) to provide higher Education and foster a systematic advancement of knowledge that is oriented towards industrial toxicology, ecotoxicology, environmental analysis, decontamination technologies and assessment of environmental impacts;
 - (j) to provide for instructions in such branches of Environmental Technology Education as it may deem necessary to provide for research, and for the dissemination of environmental knowledge as it may determine;
 - (k) to prepare global experts that have excellent theoretical knowledge, practical skills and experience in basic natural scientific disciplines and related field of engineering with operational competence and knowledge in environmental protection, managing ecological and climate change problems;
 - (l) to undertake any other activities that is appropriate for a University of Environment and Technology of the highest standard (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Constitution and Principal Officers of the University.

- (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 body to be called Congregation;
 - (e) a body to be called Convocation;
 - (f) the campuses and colleges of the University;
 - (g) the colleges, institutes and other teaching and research units of the University;
 - (h) 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;
 - (i) all graduates and undergraduates of the University; and
 - (j) 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.
- (3) Subject to section 5 of this Bill provision shall be made by statute with respect to the constitution of the Council, the Senate, Congregation and Convocation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Powers of the University.

- (1) For the carrying out of its objects as specified in section 1 of this Bill, the Federal University of Environmental Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni shall have power:
 - (a) to offer courses of instruction, training and research in Environmental Technology and allied areas for the production of quality and skilled technologists required at lower, middle and higher levels of manpower in Nigeria in particular and the world at large;
 - (b) to establish such Colleges, Campuses, Institutes, Schools, Departments and other Teaching and Research units within the University as may from time to time be deemed necessary or desirable subject to the approval of National Universities Commission;
 - (c) to institute Professorships, Readerships or Associate Professorships, Lectureships, and other posts and offices and to make appointments thereto;

- (d) to institute and award Fellowships, Scholarships, Exhibitions, Bursaries, medals, prizes and other titles, distinctions, awards and forms of assistance;
- (e) to provide for the discipline and welfare of members of the University;
- (f) to hold examinations and grant 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;
- (g) to grant Honorary Degrees, Fellowships or academic titles;
- (h) to demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the University for the purposes of instruction, such fees as the University may from time to time determine subject to the overall directives of the Minister;
- (i) subject to section 20 of this Bill, to acquire, hold, grant, charge or otherwise deal with or dispose of movable and immovable property wherever it is situate;
- (j) to accept gifts, legacies and donations, but without obligation to accept the same for a particular purpose unless it approves the terms and conditions attached thereto;
- (k) to enter into contracts, establish trusts, act as trustee, solely or jointly with any other person, and employ and act through agents;
- (l) to erect, provide, equip and maintain libraries, laboratories, workshops, 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;
- (m) to hold public lectures and to undertake printing, publishing and book selling;
- (n) subject to any limitations or conditions imposed by statute, to invest any moneys appertaining to the University by way of endowment, not being 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 to deposit any moneys for the time being not invested with any bank on deposit or current account;
- (o) to 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 it necessary or expedient to borrow or guarantee any loan, advances or credit facilities;
- (p) to make gifts for any charitable purpose;
- (q) to do anything which it is authorized or required by this Bill or by statute to do; and

- (r) to 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 and without prejudice to section 7(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 many other manner which may be authorized by the statute.
- (3) The power of the University to establish further campuses and colleges within the University shall be exercisable by statute and not otherwise (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: 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 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 4 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 5: Composition, Tenure and Powers of the Council of the University.

- (1) The Council of the University shall consist of —
 - (a) the Pro-Chancellor who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister of Education;
 - (b) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) the Deputy Vice-Chancellor(s);
 - (d) one person from the Ministry responsible for Education;
 - (e) four persons representing a variety of interests and broadly representative of the whole Federation to be appointed from:
 - (i) the Teacher's Registration Council,
 - (ii) Tertiary Education Trust Fund, and
 - (iii) two other persons, one of whom shall be a representative of the University host community;
 - (f) four persons appointed by the Senate from among its members;
 - (g) two persons appointed by Congregation from among its members;
 - (h) one person appointed by Convocation from among its members;

- (2) Persons to be appointed to the Council shall be of proven integrity, knowledgeable and familiar with the affairs and tradition of the University.
- (3) The Council so constituted shall have a tenure of four years 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.
- (4) The powers of the Council shall be exercised, as in this Bill and to that extent establishment circulars that are inconsistent with this Bill shall not apply to the University.
- (5) The Council shall be free in the discharge of its functions and exercise of its responsibilities for the good management, growth and development of the University.
- (6) The Council in the discharge of its functions shall ensure that disbursement of funds of the University complies with the approved budgetary ratio for —
 - (a) personnel cost;
 - (b) overhead cost;
 - (c) research and development;
 - (d) library developments; and
 - (e) the balance in expenditure between academic vis-à-vis non-academic activities (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Functions of the Council and its Finance and General Purpose Committee.

- (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.
- (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 University and perform such other functions 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 that proper accounts of the University are kept and that the accounts of the University are audited annually by an independent firm of auditors approved by the Council 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 sub-section (5) of this section by the Finance and General Purposes Committee shall not come into force unless approved by the Council; and in so far and to the extent that any rules so made by that Committee conflict with any direction given by the Council, whether before or after the coming into force of the rules in question, the directions of the Council shall prevail.
- (7) There shall be paid to the members respectively 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 the Minister.
- (8) The Council shall meet as and when necessary for the performance of its functions under this Bill and shall meet at least three times in every year.
- (9) If requested in writing by any five members of the Council, the chairman shall within 28 days after the receipt of such request call a meeting of the Council.
- (10) Any request made under subsection (9) of this section shall specify the business to be considered at the meeting and no business not so specified shall be transacted at that meeting (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Functions of the Senate of the University.

- (1) Subject to section 6 of this Bill and subsections (3) and (4) of this section and the provisions of this Bill relating to the Visitor, it shall be the general function of the Senate to organize and control the teaching by the University, the admission of student where no other enactment provides to the contrary and the discipline of students; and to promote research at the University.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section and subject as therein mentioned, it shall in particular be the function of the Senate to make provision for:
 - (a) the establishment, organization and control of Campuses, Colleges, Schools, Institutes and other teaching and research units of the University and the allocation of responsibility for different branches of learning;
 - (b) the organization and control of courses of study at the University and of the examinations held in conjunction with those courses, including the appointment of examiners, both internal and external;
 - (c) the award of Degrees, and such other qualifications as may be prescribed in connection with examinations held as aforesaid;
 - (d) the 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) the establishment, organization and control of halls of residence and similar institutions at the University;

- (f) the supervision of the welfare of students at the University and the regulation of their conduct;
 - (g) the granting of Fellowships, Scholarships, prizes and similar awards in so far as the awards are within the control of the University; and
 - (h) determining what descriptions 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, School, Department, 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) 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 foregoing provisions of this section or otherwise or for the purpose of making provision for any matter for which provision by regulations is authorized or required by this Bill or by statute.
 - (5) Regulations shall provide that at least one of the persons appointed as the examiners at each final or professional examination held in conjunction with any course of study at the University is not a teacher at the University but is a teacher of the branch of learning to which the course relates at some other University of high repute or a person engaged in practicing the profession in a reputable organization or institution.
 - (6) Subject to right of appeal to the Council from a decision of the Senate under this sub-section, the Senate may deprive any person of any degree, Diploma or other award of the University which has been conferred upon him if after due enquiry he is found to have been guilty of dishonourable or scandalous conduct in gaining admission into the University or obtaining that award (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: 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 4 of this Bill except the Pro-Chancellor and any other person for the time being acting as Chairman of the Council.
- (2) Subject to sections 6, 7 and 14 of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall have the 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 be the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the University and ex-officio Chairman of the Senate.
- (3) The Vice Chancellor shall be the Chairman of the University Tenders' Board, which is saddled with the responsibility of approving the conduct of public procurement of goods, works and services within the approved threshold from time to time.
- (4) It shall be the responsibility of the Vice Chancellor to establish and appoint members of the Tenders' Board in line with the extant Public Procurement

Rules and Regulations (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART II — GENERAL FUND, TRANSFER OF PROPERTY, ETC., TO
THE UNIVERSITY AND CONDITION OF SERVICE OF EMPLOYEES

Clause 9: General Fund of the University.

- (1) There shall be a general fund of the University which shall consist of the following:
 - (a) grants-in-aid;
 - (b) fees;
 - (c) income derived from investments;
 - (d) gifts, legacies, endowments and donations not accepted for a particular purpose;
 - (e) income derived from the exercise of any functions conferred or imposed on the University by this Bill;
 - (f) any other amounts, charges or dues recoverable by the University;
 - (g) revenue, from time to time, accruing to the University by way of subvention;
 - (h) interests on investments;
 - (i) donations and legacies accruing to the University from any source for the general or special purposes of the University; and
 - (j) regular TETFUND interventions.
- (2) The general fund shall be applied for the purposes of the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Transfer of Property.

- (1) All property held by or on behalf of the Provisional Council of the University shall, by virtue of this sub-section 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, and to matters arising from, the transfer of property by this section and with respect to the other matters mentioned in that Schedule (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo 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, that is to say:

- (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 no other enactment provides to the contrary), 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 thereunder; or
 - (e) making provision for any other matter 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 28 (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.

Third Schedule.

- (4) The power to make statutes 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 Power to Make Statutes.

- (1) The power of the University to make statutes shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this section and not otherwise.
- (2) A proposed statute shall not become law unless it has been approved:
- (a) at a meeting of the Senate, by the votes of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting; and
 - (b) at a meeting of the 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 in the Council, and may be approved as required by subsection (2) of this section by either one of those bodies or the other.
- (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.

- (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 duly approved by the Council after having been duly approved by the Senate, or on the date on which it is duly approved by the Senate after having been duly approved by the Council, as the case may be 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.
- (6) In the event of any doubt or dispute arising at any time:
- (a) as to the meaning of any provision of a statute; or
- (b) as to whether any matter is for the purposes of this Bill an academic or non-academic matter as they relate to such doubt or dispute, the matter may be referred to the Visitor, who shall take such advice and make such decision thereon as he shall think fit.
- (7) The decision of the Visitor on any matter referred to him under sub-section (6) of this section shall be binding upon the authorities, staff and students of the University and where any question as to the meaning of any provision of a statute has been decided by the Visitor under that sub-section, no question as to the meaning of that provision shall be entertained by any court of law in Nigeria.
- (8) Nothing in sub-section (7) of this section shall affect any 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 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — 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 purporting to be signed by the Vice-Chancellor or the Secretary to the Council to the effect that the copy is a true copy of a statute of the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV — SUPERVISION AND DISCIPLINE

Clause 14: The Visitor.

- (1) The President shall be the Visitor of the University.
- (2) The Visitor shall cause a visitation to the University when necessary, at least every five years, or direct that such a visitation be conducted by such person or 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 make available to the Visitor and to any other person conducting a visitation in pursuance of this section, such facilities and assistance as he or they may reasonably require for the purposes of a visitation.
- (4) The Visitor shall make the report of such visitations and white paper thereon

available to the Council which shall implement same (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Removal of Certain Members of Council.

- (1) If it appears to the Council that a member of the Council (other than the Pro-Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor) should be removed from office on the ground of misconduct or inability to perform the functions of his office or employment, the Council shall make a recommendation to that effect through the Minister to the President, and the President, after making such enquiries (if any) as he may consider appropriate approves the recommendation, he may direct the removal of the person in question from office.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Minister to use his best endeavours 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 15 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 16: 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 his office or employment on the ground of misconduct or of professional inability to perform the functions of his office or employment, the Council shall —
 - (a) give notice of those reasons to the person in question;
 - (b) afford him an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter by the Council; and
 - (c) for the person in question to be afforded an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the 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 as aforesaid, the Council may so remove him by an instrument in writing signed on the directions of the Council.
- (2) The Vice-Chancellor may, in a case of misconduct by a member of the 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 forthwith be reported to the Council.
- (3) For good cause, any member of the staff may be suspended from his duties or his appointment may be terminated by the Council; 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; or
 - (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 his office; or
- (c) conduct of a scandalous or other disgraceful nature which the Council considers to be such as to render the person concerned unfit to continue to hold his 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; or
 - (e) conduct which the Council considers to be generally of such nature as to render the continued appointment or service of the person concerned prejudicial or detrimental to the interest of the University.
- (4) Any person suspended pursuant to subsection (2) or (3) of this section shall be on half pay and the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months after the date of such suspension consider the case against that person and come to a decision as:
- (a) whether to continue such person's suspension and if so on what terms (including the proportion of his emoluments to be paid to him);
 - (b) whether to reinstate such person, in which case the Council shall restore his full emoluments to him with effect from the date of suspension;
 - (c) whether to terminate the appointment of the person concerned, in which case such a person shall not be entitled to the proportion of his emoluments withheld during the period of suspension; or
 - (d) whether to 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.
- (5) In any case where the Council, pursuant to this section, decides to continue a person's suspension or decides to take further disciplinary action against a person, the Council shall before the expiration of a period of three months from such decision come to a final determination in respect of the case concerning any such person.
- (6) It shall be the duty of the person by whom an instrument of removal is signed in pursuance of subsection (1) of this section to use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it relates.
- (7) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall:
- (a) apply to any directive given by the Visitor in consequence of any visitation; or
 - (b) prevent the Council from making regulations for the discipline of other categories of workers of the University as may be prescribed (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Removal of Examiners.

- (1) If, on the recommendation of the Senate, it appears to the Vice-Chancellor that a person appointed as an examiner for any examination of the University ought to be removed from his office or appointment, then, except in such cases as may be prescribed by the Vice-Chancellor may, after affording the examiner an opportunity of making representations in person on the matter to the Vice-Chancellor, remove the examiner from the appointment by an instrument in writing signed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of regulations made in pursuance of section 7 (5) of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the Senate, appoint an appropriate person as examiner in the place of the examiner removed in pursuance of subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chancellor on signing an instrument of removal pursuant to this section, to use his best endeavours to cause a copy of the instrument to be served as soon as reasonably practicable on the person to whom it is related (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Participation and Discipline of Students,

- (1) The Students shall be:
 - (a) represented in the University's Students Welfare Board and other committees that deal with the affairs of students;
 - (b) participate in various aspects of curriculum development;
 - (c) participate in the process of assessing academic staff in respect of teaching; and
 - (d) be encouraged to be more self-assured as part of the national development process.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this section, where it appears to the Vice-Chancellor that any student of the University has been guilty of misconduct, the Vice-Chancellor may, without prejudice to any other disciplinary powers conferred on him by statute or regulations, direct:
 - (a) that the student shall not, during such period as may be specified in the directions, participate in such activities of the University, or make use of such facilities of the University, as may be so specified, or
 - (b) that the 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, or
 - (c) that the student be rusticated for such period as may be specified in the direction; or
 - (d) that the student be expelled from the University.

- (3) Where a direction is given under subsection (1) (c) or (d) of this section in respect of any student, that student may, within the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner, appeal to the Council; and where such an appeal is brought, the Council shall, after causing such inquiry to be made in the matter as the Council considers just either confirm or set aside the direction or modify it in such manner as the Council thinks fit.
- (4) The fact that an appeal from a direction is brought in pursuance to subsection (2) of this section shall not affect the operation of the direction while the appeal is pending:
 - (a) 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;
 - (b) nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the restriction or termination of students' activities at the University otherwise than on the ground of misconduct; and
 - (c) a direction under subsection (2) (a) of this section may be combined with a direction under subsection (2) (b) of this section (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART V — MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Clause 19: Exclusion of 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, account of race, place of birth or of family origin, or religious or political persuasion, as a condition of becoming or continuing to be a student at the University, the holder of any degree of the University or of any appointment or employment at the University, or a member of anybody established by virtue of this Bill; and no person shall be subject to any disadvantage or accorded any advantage relation to the University, by reference to any of those matters.
- (2) 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 mentioned in that subsection where such person wilfully refuses or fails on grounds of religious belief to undertake any duty generally and uniformly imposed on all such person or any group of them which duty, having regard to its nature and the special circumstances pertaining thereto, is in the opinion of the University reasonably justifiable in the national interest (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: 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 Governor:

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 21 years or any lease or tenancy to a member of the University for residential purpose (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Quorum and Procedure of Bodies Established by this Bill.

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

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

Clause 22: Appointment of Committee, etc.

- (1) Anybody or 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 to authorize a committee established by it:
 - (a) to exercise, on its behalf, such of its functions as it may determine; and
 - (b) to co-opt members.
- (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 of 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 by regulations, the quorum and procedure of a committee established or meeting held in pursuance of 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) Nothing in the provisions of subsection (1), (2) and (3) of this section shall be construed as:
 - (a) enabling the statutes to be made otherwise than in accordance with section 1 of this Bill; or
 - (b) enabling the Senate to empower any other body to make regulations of the award degrees or other qualifications.
- (5) 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 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Retiring Age of Academic Staff.

- (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Pension Act, the compulsory retiring age of the following categories of staff shall be as follows:

- (a) Academic staff of the University in the non-Professorial cadre shall be 65 years;
 - (b) Academic staff of the University in the Professorial Cadre shall be 70 years;
 - (c) Non-academic staff of the University shall be 65 years.
- (2) A law or rule requiring a person to retire from the public service after serving for 35 years shall not apply to an academic staff of the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Special Provisions relating to Pension of Professors.

- (1) An academic staff of the University who retires as a Professor in the University shall be entitled to pension at a rate equivalent to his annual salary provided that the Professor has served continuously in the University up to the retirement age.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) where the professor has not served up to retirement age, he shall be entitled to the rate of pension mentioned under subsection (1), provided that he has served a minimum of 20 years as a professor in a recognised University.
- (3) Where an academics joins a Nigerian University as a Professor, such a Professor shall have served continuously for at least 20 years in a recognised University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo 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 be authenticated by any member of the Council and by the Vice-Chancellor, Secretary to the Council 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 presumed to be so executed.
- (3) Any contract or instrument 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.
- (4) The validity of any proceedings of anybody established in pursuance of this Bill shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the body, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of the body or by reason that any person not entitled to do so took part in the preceding.
- (5) Any member of any such body who has a personal interest in any matter proposed to be considered by that body shall forthwith disclose his interest to the body and shall vote on any question relating to that matter.
- (6) 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 in pursuance to this Bill.

- (7) The power conferred by this Bill on anybody to make statutes or regulations shall include power to revoke or vary any statute (including the statute contained in the Third Schedule of this Bill) or any regulation by a subsequent statute or as the case may be, by a subsequent regulation and statutes and regulations may make different provisions in relation to different circumstances.
- (8) No stamp or other duty shall be payable in respect of any transfer of property to the University by virtue of section 8 or section 18 of this Bill or the Second Schedule to this Bill.
- (9) 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 Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Restriction of Suits and Execution.

- (1) Pre-Action Notice:
 - (a) no legal proceeding shall be instituted and/or commenced against the University or any of its agents in the course of their official duties unless a 3 months' Pre-Action Notice of such intention is served on the University by an aggrieved party;
 - (b) the Notice shall state the reason and the cause of action intended to be taken against the University, the particulars of the claim, the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief which he claims;
 - (c) for the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that no suit shall be commenced against an officer or servant of the University, in any case where the University is vicariously liable for any alleged act, neglect or default of the officer or servant in the performance or intended performances of his duties, unless three months at least has elapsed after written notice of intention to commence the same shall have been served on the University by the intending plaintiff or his agent;
 - (d) in any suit against this University, no execution or attachment or process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the University, but any sums of money which may be judgment of the court be awarded against the University shall, subject to any direction given by the court where notice of appeal has been given by the University in respect of the said judgment, be paid by the University from its general fund.

Service of Notices.

- (2) Service upon the University of any notice, order or other document may be effected by delivering the same or by sending it by registered post addressed to the Registrar and Secretary of the Council (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 27: Interpretation.

(1) In this Bill —

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

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

"College" means the College established pursuant to section 2 (1) (b) of this Bill for the University (*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 University established by section 5 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.

"Functions" includes powers and duties (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the word "Functions" 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 and any other person as may be designated as a graduate by the Council, acting in accordance with the recommendation of the Senate (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Minister" means the Minister 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.

"Notice" means notice in writing (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo 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 Omozuanvbo 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 regulations (*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.

"Provisional Council" means the provisional council appointed for the University (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

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

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

"Senate" means the Senate of the University established pursuant to section 2 (1) (e) of this Bill (*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.

"School" means a unit of closely related academic programmes (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Statute" means a statute made by each University under section 10 of this Bill and in accordance with the provisions of section 11 of this Bill, and (*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 statutes 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.

"Undergraduate" means a person registered as a student undergoing a course of study for a first degree of the University or such other course in the University as may be approved by the Senate as qualifying a student undergoing it for the status of an under-graduate (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"University" means the Federal University of Environment and Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni, established pursuant to section 1 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

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

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

Clause 28: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Federal University of Environment and Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

[Section 2 (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 who shall be the Chairman of Council shall be appointed or

removed from office by Mr President upon recommendation by the Minister of Education.

- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Pro-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of four years beginning with the date of his appointment.

The Vice-Chancellor

3. (1) There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph.
- (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the post of a Vice-Chancellor, the Council shall -
- (a) advertise the vacancy in a reputable journal or a widely read newspaper in Nigeria, specifying —
- (i) the qualities of the persons who may apply for the post; and
- (ii) the terms of conditions of service applicable to the post, and thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for the post for consideration:
- (b) constitute a Search Team consisting of —
- (i) a member of the Council, who is not a member of the Senate, as chairman;
- (ii) two members of the Senate who are not members of the Council, one of whom shall be a Professor;
- (iii) two members of Congregation who are not members of the Council, one of whom shall be a Professor, to identify and nominate for consideration, suitable persons who are not likely to apply for the post on their own volition because they felt that it is not proper to do so.
- (3) A Joint Council and Senate Selection Board consisting of —
- (a) the Pro-Chancellor, as chairman:
- (b) two members of the Council, not being members of the Senate;
- (c) two members of the Senate who are Professors, but who were not members of the Search Team, shall consider the candidates and persons in the shortlist drawn up under subsection (2) of this paragraph through an examination of their curriculum vitae and interaction with them, and recommend to the Council three candidates for further consideration.
- (4) The Council shall select and appoint as the Vice-Chancellor one candidate from among the three candidates recommended to it under subsection (3) of this section and thereafter inform the Visitor.
- (5) The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a single term of five years only on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment.
- (6) The Vice Chancellor may be removed from office by the Council on grounds of

gross misconduct or inability to discharge the functions of his office as a result of infirmity of the body or mind, at the initiative of the Council, Senate or the Congregation after due process.

- (7) When the proposal for the removal of the Vice-Chancellor is made, the Council shall constitute a Joint Committee of Council and Senate consisting of:
 - (i) three members of the Council, one of whom shall be the Chairman of the committee; and
 - (ii) two members of the Senate:

Provided that where the ground for removal is infirmity of the body or mind, the Council shall seek appropriate medical opinion.
- (8) The committee shall conduct investigation into the allegations made against the Vice-Chancellor and shall report its findings to the Council.
- (9) The Council may where the allegations are proved remove the Vice-Chancellor or apply any other disciplinary action it may deem fit and notify the Visitor accordingly provided that a Vice-Chancellor who is removed shall have right of appeal to the Visitor.
- (10) There shall be no sole administrator in the University.
- (11) In any case of a vacancy in the office of the Vice-Chancellor, the Council shall appoint an acting Vice-Chancellor on recommendation of the Senate.
- (12) An acting Vice Chancellor in all circumstances shall not be in office for more than 6 months.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

4. (1) There shall be for the University such number of Deputy Vice-Chancellors as Council may from time to time deem necessary for the proper administration of the University.
- (2) Where a vacancy occurs in the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall forward to the Senate a list of two candidates for each post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor that is vacant.
- (3) The Senate shall select for each vacant post one candidate from each list forwarded to it under subsection (2) of this paragraph and forward his name to the Council for confirmation.
- (4) A Deputy Vice-Chancellor shall:
 - (a) assist the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of his functions;
 - (b) act in the 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.

- (5) A Deputy Vice-Chancellor:
- (a) shall hold office for a period of two years beginning from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment; and
 - (b) may be reappointed for one further period of two years and no more.
 - (c) may be removed from office for good cause by the Council acting on the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor and Senate.
 - (d) "Good cause" for the purpose of this section means gross misconduct or inability to discharge the functions of his office arising from infirmity of the body or mind.

Office of the Registrar

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 administrative work of the University except as regards matters for which the Bursar is responsible in accordance with paragraph 6 (2) of this Schedule.
- (2) The person holding the office of the Registrar shall by virtue of that office be Secretary to the Council, the Senate, Congregation and Convocation.

Other Principal Officers of the University

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,
- who shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Selection Board constituted under paragraph 7 of this Schedule.
- (2) The Bursar shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the University and 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 the library services in the University and its campuses, colleges, schools, departments, institutes and other teaching or research units.
- (4) Any question as to the scope of the responsibilities of the aforesaid officers shall be determined by the Vice-Chancellor

Selection Board for other Principal Officers

7. (1) There shall be, for the University, a Selection Board for the appointment of principal officers, other than the Vice-Chancellor or Deputy Vice-Chancellor, which shall consist of —
- (a) the Pro-Chancellor, as Chairman;

- (b) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) four members of the Council not being members of the Senate; and
 - (d) two members of the Senate.
- (2) The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the Selection Board constituted under subsection (1) of this paragraph shall be as the Council may, from time to time, determine.
 - (3) The Registrar, Bursar and Librarian shall hold office for a single term of five years only beginning from the effective date of their appointments and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in their letters of appointment.
 - (4) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, the Council may, upon satisfactory performance, extend the tenure of the Registrar, Bursar or Librarian for a further period of one year only and thereafter such principal officer shall relinquish his post and be assigned to other duties in the University.

Resignation and Re-appointment

8. (1) Any officer mentioned in the foregoing provisions of this Schedule may resign his office —
 - (a) in the case of the Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor, by notice to the Visitor;
 - (b) in any other case, by notice to the Council and the Council shall, in the case of the Vice-Chancellor, immediately notify the Visitor.
- (2) Without prejudice to paragraph 4 of this Schedule, 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

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AS TO PROPERTY, FUNCTIONS, ETC.

Transfer of Property to University

1. Without prejudice to the generality of section 9 (1) of this Bill:
 - (a) the reference in that subsection to property held by the Provisional Council 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;
 - (b) all debts and liabilities of the Provisional Council outstanding shall become debts or liabilities of the University.
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 had been a party thereto in place of the Provisional Council.
- (2) Documents not falling within subsection (1) of this paragraph, including enactment

which refer, whether specially or generally, to the Provisional Council, shall be construed in accordance with that sub-section 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.

Registration of transfers

3. (1) If the law in force at the place where any property transferred by this Bill is situate 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 or any other matter) apply, with necessary modifications, to the property aforesaid.
- (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.

Transfer of Functions, etc.

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 as set up under the Third Schedule to this Bill shall have been duly constituted.
- (3) The first meeting 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 Academic Board 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 to this Bill shall 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 schools, school boards and students of the University immediately before the coming into force of this Bill shall on that day become schools, school boards and students of the University as constituted by this Bill.
- (6) Persons who were Deans of schools and Heads of Academic Departments shall continue to be Deans or HODs of the corresponding School/Department, until new appointments are made in pursuance of the statutes.
- (7) Any person who was a member of the staff of the University as established or was otherwise employed by the Provisional Council shall become the holder of an appointment at the University with the status, designation and functions which correspond as nearly as may be to those which appertained to him as member of that staff or as such an employee (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

THIRD SCHEDULE

**FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
TECHNOLOGY, KOROMA/SAAKPENWA, TAI OGONI**

Statute No. 1

ARRANGEMENT OF ARTICLES

Articles:

1. The Council.
2. The Finance and General Purposes Committee
3. The Senate
4. The Congregation
5. Convocation
6. Division of Colleges
7. College/School Boards
8. Dean of the College
9. Selection of certain Principal Officers
10. Creation of academic posts
11. Appointment of academic staff
12. Appointment of administrative and professional staff
13. Interpretation.
14. Short Title

The Council

1. (1) The composition of the Council shall be as provided in section 5 of this Bill.
- (2) Any member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of section 5 (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this Bill may, by notice to the Council, resign his office.
- (3) A member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of section 5 (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this Bill shall, unless he previously vacates it, vacate that office on the expiration of the period of four years beginning with effect from 1 August in the year which he was appointed.
- (4) Where a member of the Council holding office otherwise than in pursuance of section 5 (a), (b), (g), or (h) of this Bill vacates office before the expiration of the period aforesaid, the body or person by whom he was appointed may appoint a successor to hold office for the residue of the term of his predecessor.
- (5) A person ceasing to hold office as a member of the Council otherwise than by removal for misconduct shall be eligible for re-appointment for only one further period of four years.
- (6) The quorum of the Council shall be five, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed pursuant to section 5 (d) or (e) of this Bill.
- (7) If the Pro-Chancellor is not present at a meeting of the Council, such other member of the Council present at the meeting as the Council may appoint as respects that meeting shall be the chairman at that meeting, and subject to section 4 of this Bill and the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the Council may regulate its own procedure.
- (8) Where the Council desires to obtain advice with respect to any particular matter 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.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee

2. (1) The Finance and General Purposes 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 Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
 - (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 member appointed to the Council by Congregation;
 - (d) the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education, or in his absence, such member of his Ministry as he may designate to represent him; and
 - (e) the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund, or in his absence, such member of the Fund as he may designate to represent him.
- (2) The quorum of the Committee shall be five.
- (3) Subject to any directions given by the Council, the Committee may regulate its own procedure.

Annual budget and estimates, etc.

- (4) (i) The estimates of income and expenditure for a financial year shall be presented by the Vice-Chancellor to the Council and may be approved by the Council before the beginning of that financial year;

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor may during any financial year present and the Council may approve supplementary estimates of income or expenditure.
- (ii) The annual and supplementary estimates shall be prepared in such form and shall contain such information as the Council may direct.

Gifts, donations, etc.

- (5) (i) The Council may on behalf of the University accept by way of grants, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise, property and money in aid of the finances of the University on such conditions as it may approve.
- (ii) Registers shall be kept of all donations to the University including the names of donors and any special conditions under which any donation may have been given;

Provided that the University shall not be obliged to accept a donation for a particular purpose unless it approves of the terms and conditions attaching to such donation.
- (iii) All property, money or funds donated for any specific purposes shall be

applied and administered in accordance with the purposes for which they are donated and shall be accounted for separately.

Payment into bank

- (6) All sums of money received on account of the University shall be paid into such bank as may be approved by the Council for the credit of the University's general, current or deposit account:

Provided that the Council may invest, as it deems fit, any money not required for immediate use other than donations of money referred to in subsection (1) of this section.

Audit

3. (1) The Council shall cause the accounts of the University to be audited by auditors appointed by the Council as soon as may be after the end of each financial year or for any such other period as the Council may require.
- (2) The appointment and other matters relative to the auditors, their continuance in office and their functions, as the case may be, shall, subject to the provisions of this section, be prescribed by statute.

The Senate

4. (1) The Senate shall consist of:
- (i) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (ii) Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
 - (iii) the Deans of respective Colleges;
 - (iv) the Professors in the University;
 - (v) Heads of Academic Departments and Units;
 - (vi) the University Librarian;
 - (vii) one elected representative of each College;
 - (viii) two members of Academic Staff elected by the Congregation;
 - (ix) one elected representative of each department;
 - (x) two members representing a variety of interests of the professional bodies outside the University appointed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (xi) Registrar — Secretary.
- (2) The procedure for election of members of Senate to the Council shall be prescribed by Regulations.
- (3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the chairman at all meetings of the Senate when he is present, and in his absence any of the Deputy Vice-Chancellors present at the

meeting as the Senate may appoint for that meeting shall be the chairman at the meeting.

- (4) The quorum of the Senate shall be one quarter or the nearest whole number less than one quarter; and subject to paragraph (3) of this Article, the Senate may regulate its own procedure.
- (5) An elected member may, by notice to the Senate, resign his office.
- (6) Subject to paragraph (8) of this article, there shall be elections for the selection of elected members which shall be held in the prescribed manner on such day in the month of May or June in each year as the Vice-Chancellor may from time to time determine.
- (7) An elected member shall hold office for the period of two years beginning with 1 August in the year of his election, and may be a candidate at any election held in pursuance to paragraph (6) of this article in the year in which his period of office expires, so however that no person shall be such a candidate if at the end of his current period of office he will have held office as an elected member for a continuous period of six years or would have so held office if he had not resigned it.
- (8) No election shall be held in pursuance of this article in any year if the number specified in the certificate given in pursuance to paragraph (11) of this article does not exceed by more than one the figure which is thrice the number of those elected members holding office on the date of the certificate who do not vacate office during that year in pursuance of paragraph (7) of this article.
- (9) For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that no person shall be precluded from continuing in or taking office as an elected member by reason only of reduction in the after 30 April in any year in which he is to continue in or take office as all elected member.
- (10) If so requested in writing by any fifteen members of the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor or in his absence any of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor 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.
- (11) The "total of non-elected members" means in respect of any year, such number as may be certified by the Vice-Chancellor on 30 April of that year to be the number of persons holding office as members of the Senate on that day otherwise than as elected members.

Congregation

5. (1) Congregation shall consist of —
 - (i) Vice-Chancellor;
 - (ii) the Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
 - (iii) the full-time members of the academic staff
 - (iv) the Registrar;
 - (v) the Librarian;

- (vi) every member of the administrative staff who holds a degree, other than honorary degree, of any University recognised for the purposes of this statute by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (2) Subject to section 4 of this Bill, the Vice-Chancellor shall be the chairman at all meetings of Congregation when he is present; and in his absence any of the Deputy Vice Chancellors present at the meeting as Congregation may appoint for that meeting, shall be the chairman at the meeting.
- (3) The quorum of Congregation shall be one third or the whole number nearest to one third of the total number of members of Congregation of fifty, whichever is less.
- (4) A certificate signed by the Vice-Chancellor specifying:
 - (a) the total number of members of Congregation for the purpose 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) The procedure for election of members of Congregation to the Council and the Senate shall be prescribed by Regulations.
- (6) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this article, Congregation may regulate its own procedure.
- (7) Congregation shall be entitled to express by resolutions 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

- 6. (1) Convocation shall consist of:
 - (i) the officers of the University mentioned in the First Schedule to this Bill;
 - (ii) all teachers within the meaning of this Bill;
 - (iii) all other persons whose names are registered in accordance with paragraph (2) of this article.
- (2) A person shall be entitled to have his name registered as a member of convocation if —
 - (a) he is either a graduate of a University or a person satisfying such requirements as may be prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph; and
 - (b) he applies for the registration of his name in the prescribed manner and pay the prescribed fees.
- (3) Regulations shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a register for the purpose of this paragraph and subject to paragraph (4) of this article 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 the Convocation by virtue of paragraph (1) (a) or (b) of this article 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 times 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 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 or the whole number of members of Convocation whichever is less.
- (8) Subject to section 4 of the Act, 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 or regulations.

Division of Colleges

7. Each College shall be divided into such number of branches as may be prescribed.

College Boards

8. (1) There shall be established in respect of each College, a Board of Studies which, subject to the provisions of this Statute, 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 college;
 - (b) deal with any other matter assigned to it by statute or by the Vice-Chancellor or by the Senate; and
 - (c) advise the Vice-Chancellor or the Senate on any matter referred to it by the Vice-Chancellor or the Senate.
- (2) Each College Board of Studies shall consist of —
 - (a) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (b) the Dean;
 - (c) the persons severally in charge of the branches of the school;
 - (d) the College Examination Officer;
 - (e) such of the teachers assigned to the college and having the prescribed qualifications as the Board may determine; and

- (f) such persons, whether or not members of the University, as the Board may determine with the general or special approval of the Senate.
- (3) The quorum of the Board shall be eight members or one quarter, whichever is greater, of the members for the time being of the board; and subject to the provisions of this statute and to any provision made by regulations in that behalf, the Board may regulate its own procedure.

Deans of the Colleges

- 9. (1) The Board of each College shall, at a meeting in the last term of any academic year which the term of office of the Dean expires, nominate one of its members, being one of the Professors assigned to that teaching unit, for appointment by the Senate as Dean of the College
- (2) The person appointed under paragraph 1 of this Article shall act as Dean of the College and Chairman of all meetings of the College Board when he is present and shall be a member of all committees and other boards appointed by the College.
- (3) The Dean shall hold office for two years and shall be eligible for re-appointment one further period of two years. Thereafter he shall not be eligible for re-appointment until two years have elapsed.
- (4) The Dean of a College shall exercise general superintendence over the academic and administrative affairs of the College.
- (5) It shall be the function of the Dean to present to Convocation for the conferment of degrees to persons who have qualified for the Degrees of the University at examination held in the branches of learning for which responsibility is allocated to that College.
- (6) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee of Deans consisting of all the Deans of the several Colleges and that Committee shall advise the Vice-Chancellor on all academic matters and on particular matters referred to the University by the Senate.
- (7) The Dean of a College may be removed from office for good cause by the College 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 a Dean, an Acting Dean may be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor:

Provided that at the next College Board meeting an election shall be held for a new Dean.

- (8) In this article "good cause" has the same meaning as in section 15 (3) of the Act.

Departmental Board of Studies

- 10. (1) There shall be a Departmental Board of Studies whose membership shall be made of all academic staff of the Department;
- (2) It shall be headed by a Professor who shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor and in the absence of a Professor, a senior academic staff shall be appointed in acting capacity;
- (3) For a Professor the term is for 3 years while 1 year is for acting capacity.

- (4) The Board shall superintend over all teachings and examinations in the Department;
- (5) The Board shall handle all disciplinary matters in the Department and make recommendations to the College where necessary;
- (6) Allocation of courses in the department shall be done by the Departmental Board on recommendation of the Head of Department.

*Selection of Directors of Physical Planning and
Development, Works and Services and Health*

- 11. (1) When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Directors of Physical Planning and Development, Works and Services and Health, a Selection Board shall be constituted by the Council which shall consist of:
 - (a) the Pro-Chancellor;
 - (b) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (c) two members appointed by the Council, not being members of the Senate;
 - (d) two members appointed by the Senate.
- (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.

Tenure of Directors

- 12. A Director shall hold office on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment subject to the extant Regulations.

Creation of Academic Posts

- 13. Recommendations for the creation of academic posts other than principal officers shall be made by the Senate to the Council through the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Appointment of Academic Staff

- 14. (1) Subject to the Act and statutes, the filling of vacancies in academic posts (including newly created ones) shall be the responsibility of the Council through the Departments and Colleges.
- (2) For the purpose of filling such vacancies, suitable selection boards to select and make appointments on behalf of the Council shall be set up.
- (3) For appointment to Professorships, Associate Professorship or Readerships or equivalent posts, a Board of Selection, with power to appoint, shall consist of:
 - (a) the Vice-Chancellor — Chairman;
 - (b) Deputy Vice-Chancellor — Member;
 - (c) the Dean of the College — Member;

- (d) Head of Department — Member;
 - (e) such other person(s), not exceeding two in number, deemed capable of helping the Board in assessing both the professional and academic suitability of a candidate under consideration, as the Senate may from time to time appoint; and
 - (f) Registrar — Secretary.
- (4) For other academic posts, a Selection Board, with power to appoint, shall consist of:
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor or his representative — Chairman;
 - (b) the Dean of the College — Member;
 - (c) Head of the Department concerned — Member;
 - (d) an internal member of Council (not below the Rank of Senior Lecturer from the sister college in the Candidate's subject-area) — Member;
 - (e) Registrar or his representative — Secretary
- (5) All appointments to senior library posts shall be made in the same way as equivalent appointments in the academic cadre; and for all such posts other than that of the Librarian, the Librarian shall be a member of the Selection Board.
- (6) Boards of Selection may interview candidates directly or consider the reports of specialist interviewing panels and shall in addition, in the case of Professorships, Associate Professorship, Readerships or equivalent posts, consider the reports of External Assessors relevant to the area in which the appointment is being considered. Quorum shall be three (3) including the Chairman.

Appointment of Administrative and Professional Staff

15. (1) The administrative and professional staff of the University other than principal officers shall be appointed by the Council or on its behalf by the Vice-Chancellor in accordance with delegation of powers made by the Council on its behalf.
- (2) A Selection Board, with power to appoint, shall consist of:
- (i) Vice Chancellor;
 - (ii) Deputy Vice Chancellor;
 - (iii) Registrar;
 - (iv) Bursar;
 - (v) University Librarian;
 - (vi) the Head of Department concerned;
 - (vii) Establishment and Human Resources Officer who shall serve as Secretary. Quorum shall be three (3) including the Chairman.

Interpretation

16. In this Statute, the expression "the Bill" means the Federal University of Environmental Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni Bill and any word or expression defined in the Bill has the same meaning in this Statute.

Short Title

17. This Statute may be cited as the Federal University of Environmental Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni Statute No.1 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal University of Environment and Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni to be statutorily charged with the responsibilities of providing the requisite knowledge and skills in the field of environmental studies, technological manpower; and related matters (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Provide for Establishment of Federal University of Environment Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni; and for Related Matters (HB.1040) (*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 provide for Establishment of Federal University of Environment Technology, Koroma/Saakpenwa, Tai Ogoni and for Related Matters (HB.1040) and approved Clauses 1 - 28, 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.

- (v) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish South-South Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility to Receive and Manage Funds from the Federation Account Allocation and Other Sources, Donations, Grants, Aids for the Integration, Development, Resolution of Infrastructural Deficit, Militancy, Communal Crises as well as Tackle Ecological, Environmental Problems and for Related Matters (HB.181) (Committee of the Whole):***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That this House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish South-South Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility to Receive and Manage Funds from the Federation Account Allocation and Other Sources, Donations, Grants, Aids for the Integration, Development, Resolution of Infrastructural Deficit, Militancy, Communal Crises as well as Tackle Ecological, Environmental Problems and for Related Matters (HB.181)" (*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 THE SOUTH SOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO RECEIVE AND MANAGE FUNDS FROM THE FEDERATION ACCOUNT ALLOCATION AND OTHER SOURCES, DONATIONS, GRANTS, AIDS FOR THE INTEGRATION, DEVELOPMENT, RESOLUTION OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEFICIT, MILITANCY, COMMUNAL CRISES AS WELL AS TACKLE ECOLOGICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS (HB.181)

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOUTH - SOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND THE GOVERNING BOARD

Clause 1: Establishment of the South South Development Commission.

- (1) There is established a Commission to be known as South South Development Commission (in this Bill referred to as "the Commission").
- (2) The Commission shall be a body corporate with perpetual success and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Establishment of the Governing Board.

- (1) There is established for the Commission, a body to be known as the Governing Board (in this Bill referred to as 'the Board') which shall consist of —
 - (a) Chairman;
 - (b) one person who shall be an indigene to represent the following member States, that is —
 - (1) Akwa Ibom,
 - (2) Bayelsa,
 - (3) Cross River,
 - (4) Delta,
 - (5) Edo, and
 - (6) Rivers;
 - (c) three persons to represent the following Security Organizations —
 - (i) the Army who shall not be below the rank of a Colonel,
 - (ii) the Police who shall not be below the rank of Superintendent of Police, and
 - (iii) the Civil Defence Corp who shall not be below the rank of Deputy Commandant;

- (d) one representative of Solid Minerals extracting and Mining producing Companies in the South South States nominated by those companies;
 - (e) one person to represent the Federal Ministry of Finance;
 - (f) one person to represent the Federal Ministry of Environment;
 - (g) the Managing Director of the Commission; and
 - (h) two executive Directors.
- (2) The Chairman and other members of the Board shall —
- (a) be appointed by the President, subject to the confirmation of the Senate; in consultation with the House of Representatives; and
 - (b) must be persons of proven integrity and ability.
- (3) The members of the Board referred to in Section 2[1](c-f) of this Bill shall be part-time members.
- (4) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters contained therein (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 2 stands part of the Bill — 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 South-South Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility to Receive and Manage Funds from the Federation Account Allocation and Other Sources, Donations, Grants, Aids for the Integration, Development, Resolution of Infrastructural Deficit, Militancy, Communal Crises as well as Tackle Ecological, Environmental Problems and for Related Matters (HB.181) and approved Clauses 1 - 2 of the Bill

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

- (vi) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90)” (Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase Federal Constituency).

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 NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CHARGE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO RECEIVE AND MANAGE FUND FROM ALLOCATION OF THE FEDERATION ACCOUNT AND INTERNATIONAL DONORS FOR THE SETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, HOUSES AND BUSINESS PREMISES DESTROYED BY MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CRISIS AS WELL AS TACKLING MENACE OF POVERTY, LITERACY LEVEL, ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AND ANY OTHER RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL OR DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IN THE NORTH WEST STATES; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF NORTH WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Clause 1: Establishment of the North West Development Commission.

- (1) There is established a commission to be known as North West Development Commission (in this Bill referred to as "the Commission").
- (2) The commission shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name.
- (3) The Headquarters of the Commission shall be located in Kano State with operational offices established in the Member States of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Establishment of the Commission Board.

- (1) There is established for the Commission, a body to be known as the Commission governing board (in this Bill referred to as "the Board").
- (2) The Board shall consist of —
 - (a) Chairman;
 - (b) one person each who each shall be an indigene to represent the State listed below —
 - (i) Jigawa,
 - (ii) Kaduna,
 - (iii) Kano,
 - (iv) Katsina,
 - (v) Kebbi,
 - (vi) Sokoto,
 - (vii) Zamfara;

- (c) three persons to represent the following Security Organisations —
 - (i) the Army who shall not be below the rank of a Colonel,
 - (ii) the Police who shall not be below the rank of Superintendent of Police,
 - (iii) the Civil Defence Corp who shall not be below the rank of Deputy Commandant;
 - (d) one representative of Solid Minerals extracting and Mining producing companies in the North West States nominated by those companies;
 - (e) one person not below the rank of a Director to represent the —
 - (i) Federal Ministry of Finance,
 - (ii) Federal Ministry of Education,
 - (iii) Federal Ministry of Environment; and
 - (f) the Managing Director of the Commission.
- (3) The Chairman and other members of the Board shall —
- (a) be appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Senate, in consultation with the House of Representatives; and
 - (b) be person of proven integrity and ability.
- (4) The members of the Board referred to in paragraphs (a) - (d) of subsection (2) of this section shall be part-time members.
- (5) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters contained therein (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Tenure of office.

Subject to the provisions of Clause 4 of this Bill, a member of the Board, other than an ex-officio member, shall hold office for a term of 4 years at the first instance and may be re-appointed for a further term of 4 years and no more (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Rotation of office of Chairman.

The office of the Chairman established in Section 2 (2) shall rotate amongst the member states of the Commission in an alphabetical order (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Resignation, cessation or removal from membership of the Board.

- (1) A member of the Board mentioned under Section 2 (2) (a) and (b) may resign his appointment by notice in writing addressed to the President.

- (2) A member of the Board may cease membership if the member —
 - (a) becomes of unsound mind;
 - (b) becomes bankrupt;
 - (c) is convicted of a felony or of any offence involving dishonesty; and
 - (d) is guilty of serious misconduct in relation to the office.
- (3) A member of the Board other than *ex-officio* member may resign his or her appointment by notice, in writing to the President which resignation shall take effect upon receipt and approval by the President.
- (4) Where vacancy exists in the membership of the Board, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment of a person representing the area where the vacancy exists, to complete the remainder of the term of office of the predecessor (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Remunerations and Allowances.

There shall be paid to every member of the Board such remunerations, allowances and expenses as the Federal Government may, from time to time direct (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART II — FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Clause 7: Functions and Powers of the Commission.

- (1) The Commission shall —
 - (a) formulate policies and guidelines for the development of the Northern West States;
 - (b) conceive, plan and implement, in accordance with set rules and regulations, projects and programmes for the sustainable development of the North West States in the field of transportation including roads, health, education, employment, agriculture, industrialization, housing and urban development, water supply, electricity and telecommunications;
 - (c) cause the North West States to be surveyed in order to ascertain measures which are necessary to promote its physical and socio-economic development;
 - (d) prepare master plans and schemes designed to promote the physical development of the North West States and the estimates of the costs of implementing such master plans and schemes;
 - (e) implement all the measures approved for the development of the North West States by the Federal Government and the member States of the Commission;
 - (f) identify factors inhibiting the development of the North West States

and assist the member States in the formulation and implementation of policies to ensure sound and efficient management of the resources of the North West States;

- (g) assess and report on any project being funded or carried out in the North West States by Solid mineral extracting and mining companies, agricultural processing and any other company including Non-governmental organizations and ensure that funds released for such projects are properly utilised;
 - (h) tackle ecological and environmental problems that arise from the extraction and mining of solid mineral in the North West States and advise the Federal Government and the member States on the prevention and control of water and environmental pollution;
 - (i) liaise with the various Solid mineral extraction and mining companies on all matters of pollution prevention and control; and
 - (j) execute such other works and perform such other functions which in the opinion of the Commission, are required for the sustainable development of the North West States and its peoples.
- (2) In excising its functions and powers under this Clause, the Commission shall have regard to the varied and specific contributions of each member State of the Commission.
- (3) The Commission shall be subject to the direction, control or supervision in the performance of its functions under this Bill by the President the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Powers of the Commission.

The Board shall have power to —

- (a) manage and supervise affairs of the Commission;
- (b) make rules and regulations for carrying out the functions of the Commission;
- (c) enter and inspect premises, projects and such places as may be necessary for the purposes of carrying out its functions under this Bill;
- (d) pay the staff of the Commission such remuneration and allowances as appropriate;
- (e) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedient for the discharge of its functions and ensure the efficient performance of the functions of the Commission;
- (f) employ either directly or on secondment from any civil or public service in the Federation or a State such number of employees as may in the opinion of the Board, be required to assist the Board in the discharge of any of its functions under this Bill;
- (g) pay to persons so employed such remuneration, including allowances, as the Board may determine; and

- (h) do such other things as are necessary and expedient for the efficient performance of the functions of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART III — STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSION

Clause 9: Structure of the Commission.

- (1) There shall be established in the head office of the Commission the following Departments —
- (a) Administration and Human Resources;
 - (b) Planning, Research, Statistics and Management Information System;
 - (c) Community and Rural Development;
 - (d) Environmental Protection and Control, Utilities Infrastructural Development;
 - (e) Finance and Supply; and
 - (f) Legal Services.
- (2) There shall be following Units which shall be under relevant department:
- (a) Solid Minerals and Agriculture;
 - (b) Education, Health and Social Services;
 - (c) Commercial and Industrial Development; and
 - (d) Projects Monitoring and Supervision.
- (3) The Board may increase the number of Department and Unit as it may deem necessary and expedient to facilitate the realisation of the objectives of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Management Committee.

- (1) There shall be for the Commission a Management Committee which shall consist of —
- (a) a Managing Director; and
 - (b) the Directors responsible for the Department established under Clause 9 of this Bill and such number of other members as may be determined from time to time by the Board.
- (2) The Management Committee shall be responsible to the Board for the general administration of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Advisory Committee of the Commission.

- (1) There is established for the Commission a North West Development Advisory Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Advisory Committee") which shall consist of —
 - (a) the Governors of the member States of the Commission; and
 - (b) two other persons as may be determined, from time to time, by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- (2) The Advisory Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of advising the Board and monitoring the activities of the Commission, with a view to achieving the objective of the Commission.
- (3) The Advisory Committee may make rules regulating its own affairs (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV —STAFF OF THE COMMISSION**Clause 12: Staff of the Commission.**

- (1) There shall be for the Commission, a Managing Director who shall be indigenes of North West State and shall rotate amongst member states in alphabetical order, and who shall:
 - (a) have such qualification and experience as are appropriate for a person required to perform the functions of the offices under this Bill; and
 - (b) be the chief executive and accounting officer of the Commission;
 - (c) be appointed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and confirmed by the Senate in consultation with House of Representatives;
 - (d) hold office on such terms and conditions as to emolument, conditions of service as may be specified in his letter of appointment and subject to the provision of Clause 3 of this Bill.
- (2) The Managing Director shall, subject to the general direction of the Board, be responsible —
 - (a) for the day to day administration of the Commission;
 - (b) for keeping the books and Proper records of the proceedings of the Board, and
 - (c) for the —
 - (i) administration of the secretariat of the Board, and
 - (ii) general direction and control of all other employees of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Pension Reform Act, No. 2 of 2004.

- (1) Service in the Commission shall be approved service for the purposes of the Pensions Reform Act.
- (2) Nothing in sub-clause (1) of this Clause shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of pension and gratuity in respect of that office.
- (3) For the purposes of the application of the provisions of the Pensions Act, any power exercisable there under by the Minister or other authority of the Government of the Federation, other than the power to make regulations under Clause 23 thereof is vested in and shall be exercisable by the Commission, and not by any other person or authority (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonybere — House Leader*).

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

PART V — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 14: Funds of the Commission.

- (1) The Commission shall establish and maintain a fund from which shall be defrayed all expenditure incurred by the Commission.
- (2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to sub-clause (1) of this Clause —
 - (a) from the Federal Government, the equivalent of 15 percent of the total monthly statutory allocations due to member States of the Commission from the Federation Account; this being the contribution of the Federal Government to the Commission;
 - (b) 3 percent of the total annual budget of any Solid mineral extracting mining company operating in the North West States, including Agricultural processing companies;
 - (c) 50 percent of monies due to member States of the Commission from the Ecological Fund;
 - (d) such monies as may from time to time, be granted or lent to or deposited with the Commission by the Federal or a State Government, any other body or institution whether local or foreign;
 - (e) all moneys raised for the purposes of the Commission by way of gifts, loan, grants-in-aid, testamentary disposition or otherwise; and
 - (f) proceeds from all other assets that may, from time to time, accrue to the Commission.
- (3) The fund shall be managed in accordance with the rules made by the Board, and without prejudice to the generality of the power to make rules under this sub-clause, the rules shall in particular contain provisions —
 - (a) specifying the manner in which the assets or the fund of the Commission are to be held, and regulating the making of payments' into and out of the fund; and

- (b) requiring the keeping of proper accounts and records for the purpose of the fund in such form as may be specified in the rules (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Application of the Commission Funds.

- (1) The Commission shall apply the proceeds of the fund established pursuant to Clause 14 of this Bill to —
 - (a) the cost of administration of the Commission;
 - (b) the payment of salaries, fees, remuneration, allowances, pensions and gratuities payable to the members of the Board specified in Clause 6 of this Bill or any committee of the Board and the employees of the Commission;
 - (c) the payment for all contracts, including mobilisation, fluctuations, variations, legal fees and cost on contract administration;
 - (d) the payment for all purchases; and
 - (e) undertaking such other activities as are connected with all or any of the Functions of the Commission under this Bill.
- (2) The Commission may accept gifts of land, money, or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- (3) The Commission shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with, the functions of the Commission under this Bill
- (4) The Commission may, with the consent of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, borrow, on such terms and conditions as the Commission may determine, such sums of money as the Commission may require in the exercise of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Annual Estimate and Expenditure.

- (1) The Board shall, not later than 30th September in each year, submit to the National Assembly through the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Commission during the next succeeding year for approval.
- (2) The Board shall cause to be kept proper accounts of the Commission in respect of each year and proper records in relation thereto and shall cause the accounts to be audited not later than 6 months after the end of each year by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Submission of Report.

- (1) The Commission shall, at the end of every quarter in each year, submit to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria report on the activities and administration of the Commission.
- (2) The Board shall prepare and submit to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, not later than 30th June in each year, a report in such form as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria may direct on the activities of the Commission during the immediately preceding year, and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the Commission for that year and the auditor's report thereon.
- (3) The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall, upon receipt of the report referred to in sub-clause (1) of this Clause, cause a copy of the report and the audited accounts of the Commission and the auditor's report thereon to be submitted to each House of the National Assembly (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART VI — MISCELLANEOUS

(Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader).

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

Clause 18: Monitoring Committee.

- (1) There is established for the Commission a Monitoring Committee which shall consist of such number of persons as the President of Federal Republic of Nigeria may deem fit to appoint from the public or Civil Service of the Federation.
- (2) The Monitoring Committee shall —
 - (a) monitor the management of the funds of the Commission and the implementation of the projects of the Commission; and
 - (b) have access to the books of account and other records of the Commission at all times, and submit periodical reports to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Offices and premises of the Commission.

- (1) For the purposes of providing offices and premises necessary for the performance of its functions under this Bill, the Commission may, subject to the Land Use Act —
 - (a) purchase or take on lease any interest in land, or other property; and
 - (b) construct offices and premises and equip and maintain same.
- (2) The Commission may, subject to the Land Use Act, sell or lease out any office or premises held by it, which office or premises is no longer required for the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: President Directives.

Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, may give to the Commission directives of a general nature or relating generally to matters of Policy with regard to the performance by the Commission of its functions and it shall be the duty of the Commission to comply with the directives (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Public Officer Protection Act, Cap. P4, LFN, 2004.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provisions of the Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against any officer or employee of the Commission.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law or enactment, no suit shall lie against any member of the Board, the Managing Director or any other officer or employee of the Commission for any act done in pursuance or execution of this Bill or any other law or enactment, or of any public duty or authority or in respect of any alleged neglect or default in the execution of this Bill or such law or enactment, duty or authority, shall lie or be instituted in any court unless —
 - (a) it is commenced within three months next after the act, neglect or default complained of; or
 - (b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury, within six months next after the ceasing thereof (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Services of Notice, Summons and other Documents.

A notice, summons or other document required or authorised to be served upon the Commission under the provisions of this Bill or any other law or enactment may be served by delivering it to the Managing Director or by sending it by registered post and addressed to the Managing Director at the principal office of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Payment of Judgment debts.

- (1) In any action or suit against the Commission, no execution or attachment of process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Commission.
- (2) Any sum of money which may by the judgment of any court be awarded against the Commission shall, subject to any direction given by court where notice of appeal of the said judgment has been given, be paid from the general reserve fund of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Indemnity of staff.

A member of the Board, the Managing Director, any officer or employee of the Commission shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Commission against any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted, if any such proceeding is brought against him in his capacity as a member of the Board, the Managing Director, officer or employee of the Commission (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 25: Regulations.

The Commission may, with the approval of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, make regulations, generally for the purposes of giving full effect to this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Interpretation.

In this Bill —

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Board (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Commission" means the North West Development Commission established by Clause 1 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Board" means the governing Board established for the Commission under Clause 2 (1) of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Management Committee" includes the Chairman, Managing Director, Executive Directors and Directors; and (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Member States" include Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

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

Clause 27: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the North West Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD, ETC.

1. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, the Board may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or those of any of its committees.
(2) The quorum of the Board shall be the Chairman or the person presiding at the meeting, Managing Director or one Executive Director and one third of other members of the Board. The quorum of any Committee of the Commission shall be as determined by the Board.
2. (1) The Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by not less than 4 other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within 14 days from the date on which the Notice is given.
(2) At any meeting of the Board the Chairman shall preside but if he is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their member to preside at the meeting.
3. (1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out, on behalf of the Board such functions as the Board may determine.
(2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Board and a person shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
(3) A decision of a committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.
4. (1) The fixing of the seal of the Commission shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Chairman or any other member of the Board generally or specifically authorized by the Board to act for that purpose and the Managing Director.
(2) A document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Commission shall be received in evidence and shall, unless and until the contrary is proved be presumed to be so executed.
5. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or of a committee shall not be adversely affected by —
 - (a) a vacancy in the membership of the Board or committee;
 - (b) a defect in the appointment of a member of the Board or committee; or
 - (c) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings of the Board or committee (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the North West Development Commission charged with the responsibility

among other things to receive and manage fund from allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the settlement, rehabilitation and reconstruction of roads, houses and business premises destroyed by multi-dimensional crisis as well as tackling menace of poverty, literacy level, ecological problems and any other related environmental or developmental challenges in the North West States (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among Other Things, to Receive and Manage Fund from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as Well as Tackling Menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and Any Other Related Environmental or Development Challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) (*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 North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) and approved Clauses 1 - 27, 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.

(vii) Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements on a Bill for an Act to Domesticated and Enforce in Nigeria the International Convention against Doping in Sport, Establish Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre to Implement Nigeria's obligations to World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and for Related Matters (HB.1441)” (*Hon. Yusuf Rabi'u — Sumaila/Takai Federal Constituency*).

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 DOMESTICATE AND ENFORCE IN NIGERIA
THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT,
ESTABLISH THE NIGERIA ANTI-DOPING CENTRE TO IMPLEMENT
NIGERIA'S OBLIGATIONS TO THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE,
INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PART I — OBJECTIVES AND APPLICATION

Clause 1: Objectives.

The objectives of this Bill are to —

- (a) domesticate the International Convention against Doping in Sports, establish an independent body charged with the responsibility for the implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code (lithe Code"), and International Standards subscribed to by Nigeria;
- (b) protect the rights of an athlete to participate in doping-free sporting activities;
- (c) promote fair and equal treatment of all athletes and their health;
- (d) co-ordinate and harmonise effective sports anti-doping programme at the national and international levels, with regard to detection, deterrence and prevention of doping; and
- (e) provide measures for the prevention and control of doping in sports (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Application.

(1) This Bill apply to —

- (a) Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre established under this Bill;
- (b) National Sport Federations in Nigeria; and
- (c) a person, athlete and athlete support personnel, including a protected person (as defined in the Code), who is a Nigerian or resides in Nigeria, and who —
 - (i) is a member or licensee of any of the National Sports Federations in Nigeria or any of its affiliate organisations, including clubs, teams, associations or leagues,
 - (ii) participates in any capacity in any sporting event, competition and any other activity organised, convened, authorised or recognised by any National Federation in Nigeria or any of its affiliate organisations, including clubs, teams, associations or leagues, wherever it is held,
 - (iii) by virtue of an accreditation, a license or contractual arrangement or otherwise, is subject to the jurisdiction of the National Federation in Nigeria or any of its affiliate organisations, including clubs, teams, associations or leagues, for purposes of anti- doping,
 - (iv) participates in any capacity in any activity organised by an organiser of a national event or national league that is not affiliated to the National Federation, or
 - (v) is subject to the application of the Code, International

Standards or any Anti-Doping Rules and is present in Nigeria to compete, train or perform other sporting activities.

- (2) A person, including the National Sports Federation, within the application of the Convention is deemed to have accepted to be bound by the Code and Anti-Doping Rules made pursuant to this Bill, and shall submit to the —
- (a) authority of the Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre to enforce the Code and Anti-Doping Rules; and
- (b) jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Tribunal established under this Bill, to hear and determine cases and appeals brought before the Panel or Tribunal in accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules, as a condition of membership, accreditation or participation in the chosen sport (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART II — INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST DOPING IN SPORTS

Clause 3: Domestication and enforcement.

As from the commencement of this Bill, the provisions of the International Convention Against Doping in Sport, which was done at Paris on the 19th day of October, 2005 and signed by Nigeria on the 29th day of December, 2005 (lithe Convention"), shall —

- (a) have the force of law in Nigeria;
- (b) be given full recognition and effect; and
- (c) be applied by all authorities and persons exercising legislative, executive and judicial powers (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Reservations and notifications.

Where there is any reservation or notification to the Anti-Doping Convention or any of its protocol made before or after the commencement of this Bill, the reservation or notification shall be taken into consideration in the application and enforcement of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART III — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIA ANTI-DOPING CENTRE

Clause 5: Establishment of Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre.

- (1) There is established in Nigeria, a Centre known as Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre (lithe Centre").
- (2) The Centre —
- (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal;

- (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold or dispose of any movable or immovable property and enter into a contract or any other transaction for the purpose of its functions under this Bill.
- (3) The Centre and any Committee established under it shall be independent in its operational decisions and activities from sports authorities and government, including any person who is at the same time involved in the management or operations of any national and International Sports Federations, National Sports Federations, Major Event Organisation, National Olympic Committee, National Paralympic Committee, or Ministry or other government department with responsibility for sports or anti-doping (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Functions of the Centre.

- (1) The functions of the Centre are, to —
 - (a) develop and implement internal policies, Anti-Doping Rules, systems and procedures against doping in sports;
 - (b) plan, implement, promote and monitor programmes aimed at educating athletes and their parents or guardians, athlete support personnel, the media and the general public on doping in sports;
 - (c) take measures to prevent doping in sporting activities;
 - (d) establish a national Registered Testing Pool (RTP) of national-level athletes;
 - (e) co-ordinate doping tests, collect test samples and manage test results in keeping with the international standards;
 - (f) test any athlete in Nigeria participating in any sporting activity;
 - (g) carry out investigations into anti-doping rule violations in respect of any athlete, athlete support personnel and any other related person;
 - (h) notify any tested athlete and relevant anti-doping organisations of the result of tests and investigations conducted in pursuance of this Bill;
 - (i) enforce the Code, International Standards and regulations made pursuant to this Bill;
 - (j) provide direction for anti-doping programme of the Authority in charge of sporting activities;
 - (k) implement the Anti-Doping Convention, its protocols ratified by Nigeria and rules made pursuant to the Convention and its protocols;
 - (l) do all things as are necessary to ensure its compliance with the implementation of the Code, International Standards and the Anti-Doping Rules; and

- (m) carry out such other function as is necessary or expedient for the implementation of this Bill or the Code.
- (2) The Centre shall, in the performance of its functions under this Bill -
 - (a) be operationally independent, as required by the Code, impartial, fair and act in the public interest; and
 - (b) develop appropriate procedures to —
 - (i) reflect the needs of athletes and protected persons,
 - (ii) accommodate the challenges of persons with disabilities or other special concerns of athletes,
 - (iii) accommodate gender sensitivity, and
 - (iv) protect the right to privacy of athletes (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Powers of the Centre.

The Centre shall have power to —

- (a) formulate and implement guidelines made pursuant to the provisions of this Bill;
- (b) establish a Registered Testing Pool for national-level athletes;
- (c) enter into reciprocal testing agreements with Anti-Doping Organisations on behalf of Nigeria;
- (d) liaise and collaborate with relevant establishments within and outside Nigeria in the implementation of its functions under this Bill; and
- (e) exercise such other powers as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Establishment of the Technical Board of the Centre.

- (1) There is established for the Centre, a Technical Board ("the Board").
- (2) The Chairperson of the Board and other members shall be appointed by the President on recommendation of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.
- (3) The Board shall consist of —
 - (a) the Chairperson, with not less than 12 years' experience in anti-doping and sports matters;
 - (b) a legal practitioner with post call experience of not less than ten years;

- (c) a representative of the Authority in charge of sports;
 - (d) a retired athlete; and
 - (e) three other members of not less than ten years post qualification experience appointed by virtue of their knowledge and experience in anti-doping or sports matters.
- (4) A person shall not be appointed as a member of the Board, where the person —
- (a) is a member of or an official in a National Sport Federation, sport organisation or sport club;
 - (b) is associated in any way with any person who supplies goods or services to the Centre;
 - (c) is a practicing athlete or athlete support personnel;
 - (d) has been convicted or served a sentence of imprisonment for any offence;
 - (e) has served a sanction for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation within the previous five years or is serving life ban; or
 - (f) is bankrupt or insolvent.
- (5) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and the other matters in the Schedule (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Tenure of office of members of the Board.

A member of the Board shall hold office —

- (a) for a term of four years on a part time basis in the first instance and may be eligible for re-appointment on satisfactory performance for a further term of four years and no more; and
- (b) on such other terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Honorarium, allowances and benefits of the members of the Board.

A member of the Board shall be paid such honorarium, allowances and benefits, as the Federal Government may, from time to time, approve (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Cessation of membership of the Board.

A member of the Board shall cease to hold office where —

- (a) the term of office expires;

- (b) the member resigns from office by a notice in writing to the President;
- (c) in case of an ex-officio member, he ceases to hold the office on the basis of which he became a member;
- (d) the member is removed from office;
- (e) the member dies; or
- (f) becomes ineligible pursuant to section 8(4) of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Removal from the Board.

A person shall be removed as a member of the Board, where the person —

- (a) becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors;
- (b) is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud;
- (c) becomes of unsound mind or is incapable of carrying out his duties;
- (d) is guilty of a serious misconduct in relation to his duties;
- (e) possesses professional qualification and he is disqualified or suspended from practicing his profession in Nigeria by an order of a competent authority;
- (f) the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Centre or of the public for the person appointed to continue in office; or
- (g) becomes ineligible pursuant to section 8 (4) of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Filling of vacancies.

Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board due to the operations of the provisions of sections 11 and 12, or any other provision of this Bill, the President shall appoint a successor on the recommendation of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, who shall represent the same interest for the remainder of the term of office of the predecessor (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 14: Functions and Powers of the Board.

- (1) The Board shall —
 - (a) formulate and provide general policy and strategic direction for the Centre;
 - (b) advise the Authority in charge of sports on any matter relating to doping in sport;
 - (c) ensure that the Executive Secretary, officers and employees of the Centre comply with the Anti-Doping Rules, the Code and International Standards on anti-doping;

- (d) approve Anti-Doping Rules developed by the Centre;
 - (e) monitor and ensure the implementation of the policies and programmes of the Centre; and
 - (f) perform such other functions as may be necessary and expedient to give effect to the provisions of this Bill.
- (2) The Board shall have power to —
 - (a) approve policies, ensure compliance with the Code, International Standards, Rules, regulations and procedures relating to the functions of the Centre;
 - (b) monitor and ensure the implementation of the policies and programmes of the Centre;
 - (c) in addition to the provisions of the Schedule to this Bill, regulate its proceedings and make standing orders with respect to the holding of its meetings, notices to be given, the keeping of minutes of its proceedings and such other matters as it may, from time to time, determine; and
 - (d) exercise such other powers as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART IV — APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY AND OTHER EMPLOYEES OF THE CENTRE

Clause 15: Appointment of the Executive Secretary of the Centre.

- (1) There shall be for the Centre an Executive Secretary who shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, subject to the confirmation of the Senate.
- (2) The Executive Secretary shall be the Accounting Officer of the Centre and shall be responsible for the —
 - (a) day-to-day administration of the Centre;
 - (b) direction, supervision and control of employees of the Centre;
 - (c) implementation of the functions of the Centre and the attainment of its goals; and
 - (d) execution of the policies and decisions of the Board.
- (3) The Executive Secretary shall, in addition to relevant professional qualification, possess relevant working, management and anti-doping experience of not less than 15 years.
- (4) The Executive Secretary shall be the Secretary to the Board and in this regards shall —

- (a) keep and secure corporate records of the Board and the Centre;
 - (b) provide secretariat for the Board meetings;
 - (c) be in custody of and exercise control over the seal of the Centre; and
 - (d) perform such other duties as the Board may, from time to time, direct.
- (5) A person shall not be appointed as an Executive Secretary where the person —
 - (a) is a member or official of a sports organisation, sports club or Sports Federation;
 - (b) is associated in any way with any person who supplies goods or services to the Centre or whose spouse or family member is so associated;
 - (c) is a practicing athlete or athlete support personnel; or
 - (d) has served a sanction for the violation of Anti-Doping Rule within the previous 10 years or is serving a life ban.
- (6) The Executive Secretary shall hold office for a term of four years in the first instance, and may be eligible for re-appointment on satisfactory performance for a further term of four years and no more (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Removal or resignation of the Executive Secretary.

- (1) A person appointed as the Executive Secretary may be removed from office by the President, where the person —
 - (a) becomes of unsound mind or is incapable of discharging the functions of the office, whether arising from infirmity of body, mind or any other cause;
 - (b) is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud;
 - (c) is disqualified or suspended by an order of a competent authority from practicing the profession on the basis of which the person was appointed;
 - (d) engaging in acts that are prejudicial to the interest of the Centre or in conflict with the duties of the office;
 - (e) becomes a bankrupt; or
 - (f) is guilty of a serious misconduct in relation to the duties of the office.
- (2) The Executive Secretary may resign from the appointment by giving at least one month's notice of intention to resign in writing to the President through

the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Appointment of other employees of the Centre.

- (1) The Centre may appoint such competent professional, technical officers and administrative support employees, as may be necessary for the proper and efficient performance of its functions under this Bill.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Centre may appoint an employee either directly or on secondment from the Public Service of the Federation to assist the Centre in the discharge of any of its functions under this Bill.
- (3) The terms and conditions of service, including remuneration, allowances and benefits of the employee of the Centre shall be as determined by the Board, in consultation with the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission, subject to relevant existent laws.
- (4) The employment, promotion and discipline of employees of the Centre shall be subject to such terms and conditions, as contained in the letters of appointment and prescribed under the Public Service Rules (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Service in the Centre.

- (1) Service in the Centre shall be Public Service within the meaning of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- (2) Service in the Centre shall be an approved Service under the Pension Reform Act, and an employee of the Centre shall, in respect of the service be entitled to pension and other retirement benefits as are prescribed in the Pension Reform Act.
- (3) Nothing in this Bill shall prevent the appointment of a person to an office on terms which precludes the grant of pension and other retirement benefits in respect of that office.
- (4) For the purpose of the application of the provisions of the Pension Reform Act, any power exercisable by a Minister or other authority of the Government of the Federation, not being the power to make regulations, is hereby vested in and shall be exercisable by the Board (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Creation of departments, units, etc.

The Centre, with the approval of the Board, may create additional departments or units as are necessary for the effective and efficient operationalisation and management of the Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART V — INDEPENDENT ANTI-DOPING DISCIPLINARY PANEL

Clause 20: Establishment of Independent Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel.

- (1) There is established for the purposes of this Bill, an Independent Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel ("the Panel"), which shall comply with the operational independence requirements prescribed in the Code.
- (2) The Panel shall comprise of membership as contained in the Anti-Doping Rules.
- (3) Members shall be appointed taking into consideration their requisite anti-doping experience including legal, sports, medical or scientific expertise, with not less than 10 years post qualification experience.
- (4) The Panel shall —
 - (a) receive and examine evidence relating to violations of the anti-doping rule;
 - (b) conduct disciplinary hearings relating to violations of the anti-doping rule referred to it by the Centre in accordance with the Code and relevant international standards;
 - (c) determine whether any violation of the anti-doping rule has occurred;
 - (d) impose appropriate sanctions, in accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules; and
 - (e) perform any other function, as may be conferred on it by this Bill, the Code, international standards, rules or any regulations made under this Bill.
- (5) Appeals against the decision of the Panel shall lie to the Anti-doping Appeal Tribunal established under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Power of the Panel to regulate its proceedings.

Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Panel may make rules to regulate its proceedings (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART VI — ANTI-DOPING APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Clause 22: Establishment of Anti-Doping Appeal Tribunal.

- (1) There is established for the purposes of this Bill, the Anti-Doping Appeal Tribunal (the Tribunal"), which shall comply with the operational and institutional independence requirements prescribed in the Code.
- (2) The Tribunal shall comprise membership as contained in the Anti-Doping Rules.
- (3) The Tribunal shall receive and determine appeals arising from the decisions of the Panel (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Appeals from the Panel to Anti-Doping Appeal Tribunal.

- (1) A person who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Panel, may appeal to the Tribunal in accordance with the provisions of the Anti-Doping Rules.
- (2) A person to whom subsection (1) of this section apply may include —
 - (a) an athlete or a person, who is the subject of the decision being appealed;
 - (b) the organisation or the National Anti-Doping Organisation of the person's country of residence or the country where the person is a national or license holder;
 - (c) relevant National Federation or International Federation;
 - (d) International Olympic Committee or the International Paralympic Committee;
 - (e) the Nigeria Olympic Committee or the Nigeria Paralympic Committee; or
 - (f) World Anti-Doping Agency.
- (3) Subject to the relevant Articles of the Code, appeals against the decision of the Tribunal shall lie to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Power of the Tribunal to regulate its proceedings.

Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Tribunal may make rules to regulate its proceedings (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART VII — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 25: The Fund of the Centre.

The Centre shall establish and maintain a Fund ("the Fund") into which shall be paid —

- (a) take off grants by the Federal Government;
- (b) subventions and budgetary allocation from the Federal Government;
- (c) sums provided by a State Government for payment into the Fund;
- (d) fees charged for services rendered by the Centre;
- (e) all sums accruing to the Centre by way of gifts, testamentary dispositions, endowments or contributions from philanthropic persons or organisations;
- (f) foreign aid or assistance from bilateral and multilateral Agencies; and

- (g) any other source of fund as may accrue to the Centre, from time to time (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Expenditure of the Centre.

The Centre shall from time to time apply the Funds under this Bill to —

- (a) meet the administrative and operating costs of the Centre;
- (b) pay for the salaries, wages, fees, allowances, retirement benefits, and any other remuneration payable as appropriate to members of staff or agents of the Centre;
- (c) purchase or acquire property and make other approved capital expenditure, and to maintain any property acquired or purchased by the Centre;
- (d) pay for other overhead allowances and benefits, charges and expenses of the Centre; and
- (e) undertake any other activity in connection with any of the functions of the Centre or objectives of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 27: Annual estimates.

- (1) The Centre shall not later than 30th September of each financial year, or any such time, as may be required under the Financial Regulations, prepare and submit to the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, an estimate of its income and expenditure for the next financial year for consideration and submission to the National Assembly.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Centre may, in a financial year, submit supplementary or adjusted statements of estimated income and expenditure through the Secretary to the Government of the Federation to the National Assembly (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 28: Accounts and audit.

- (1) The Centre shall keep proper accounts in respect of each year and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall cause its accounts to be audited within six months after the end of each year by auditors appointed in accordance with the guidelines by the Auditor-General of the Federation.
- (2) The accounts of the Centre shall be audited not later than six months after the end of the year to which it relates by auditors appointed by the Centre from the list and in accordance with the guidelines by the Auditor-General of the Federation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 29: Annual Report.

- (1) The Centre shall prepare and submit to the Secretary to the Government of

the Federation, not later than 30th June in each year, a report on the activities of the Centre during the immediately preceding year, and shall include in such report a copy of the audited accounts of the Centre for that year and the auditor's report on it.

- (2) The report referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall include —
- (a) information on the activities of the Centre under review;
 - (b) a copy of the audited accounts of the Centre for the year together with the Auditor- General's report on the accounts of the Centre; and
 - (c) such other information as the Board may request.
- (3) The Executive Secretary shall provide such information on the affairs of the Centre as the Secretary to the Government of the Federation may, from time to time, request (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 30: Power to accept gifts.

The Centre may accept gift of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift, provided that the terms and conditions attached are not inconsistent with the functions and objectives of the Centre under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Clause 31: Financial year.

The financial year of the Centre shall commence from [st January of each year and end on 31st of December of the same year (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

PART VIII — MISCELLANEOUS

Clause 32: Anti-Doping Rules.

- (1) The Centre may make Anti-Doping Rules, which shall be in accordance with the Code, to provide for —
- (a) initiating, implementing or enforcing Doping Control;
 - (b) collection and analysis of samples;
 - (c) results management;
 - (d) therapeutic use exemptions;
 - (e) definition of anti-doping rule violations;
 - (f) collection and dissemination of information;
 - (g) conducting investigations;

- (h) conducting hearing;
 - (i) proof of doping;
 - (j) application and implementation of decisions;
 - (k) confidentiality and reporting;
 - (l) punishment for Anti-doping Rule violations;
 - (m) the assessment of costs in disciplinary hearings;
 - (n) roles and responsibilities of athletes and other persons;
 - (o) any other process, procedure or requirement to give effect to the provisions of this Bill and the Code.
- (2) The Centre shall gazette and publish Anti-Doping Rules.
- (3) Where expressions defined for the purposes of this Bill or used in the Code are in the Anti- Doping Rules or in any other Regulations made under this Bill, including, without limitation, the International Standards, the expressions shall have the same meaning assigned to it in the Code or the International Standards, as applicable.
- (4) The Anti-Doping Rules shall be made pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Code or International Standards, as applicable, and interpreted in .a manner that is consistent with applicable provisions of the Code and this Bill, and in the event of a discrepancy between the Code or International Standard and this Bill, the Code or International Standard shall prevail.
- (5) All comments explaining various provisions of the Code may, where applicable, assist in the understanding and interpretation of the Anti-Doping Rules.
- (6) The Anti-Doping Rules shall apply to all persons and National Federations as described in section 2 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 32 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 33: Offences and penalties.

- (1) A person or organisation who —
- (a) disobeys a summon by the Centre;
 - (b) fails to comply with a lawful order or direction of the Centre;
 - (c) presents to the Centre a false document or makes a false statement with the intention to deceive or mislead an investigation;
 - (d) intentionally hinders any person acting in the performance of any function or exercise of powers conferred by this Bill;
 - (e) in any way interferes with the functioning or operations of the Centre; or

- (f) violates the guidelines relating to confidentiality, public disclosure and privacy, commits an offence and liable on conviction, to a fine of ₦500,000 or imprisonment for a term of three months or both.
- (2) A person or organization who —
 - (a) unlawfully transports or transfers prohibited substances or prohibited methods;
 - (b) buys, sells, stocks or transports substances in an unlawful manner; or
 - (c) administers, attempts to administer or causes an athlete to use prohibited substances or methods, commits an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦1,000,000 or imprisonment for a term of three years or both.
- (3) A medical practitioner or any other health related professional who —
 - (a) prescribes or dispenses prohibited substances or methods to an athlete with the intent of doping and without a therapeutic use exemption;
 - (b) unlawfully administers prohibited substances or methods to an athlete without a therapeutic use exemption; or
 - (c) aids, abets or in any way encourages the unlawful use of prohibited substances or prohibited methods in sport, commits an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦500,000 or to imprisonment for a term of one year or to both such fine and imprisonment, and may have his or her professional license revoked for a period of not less than one year.
- (4) A body corporate which commits an offence under this section shall, in addition to the fine —
 - (a) be liable to be de-registered by the Corporate Affairs Commission;
 - (b) prohibited from its reconstitution or incorporation under any form or guise; and
 - (c) its Directors shall be liable to prosecution.
- (5) The imposition of any penalty provided for in this section shall not have any impact on the application of consequences provided for in the Code and Anti-Doping Rules for any anti-doping rule violation and shall not be considered as a justification to reduce or not impose any sanction provided for in the Code and Anti-Doping Rules (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 33 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 34: Limitation of suit against the Centre.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provisions of the Public Officers Protection Act shall apply to any suit instituted against the Centre, an officer or employee of the Centre.

- (2) A suit shall not lie or be instituted in any court against the Centre, a member of the Board or any principal officer or employee of the Centre for an action carried out in pursuance to the execution of this Bill, any enactment or of any public duty in respect of any alleged neglect or default in the execution of this Bill, any other enactment or law, duty or authority, unless it is commenced —
- (a) within three months of such act, neglect or default complained thereof; or
- (b) in the case of a continuation of damages or injury, within six months after the cessation of the act, neglect or default.
- (3) A suit shall not be commenced against the Centre, any principal officer or employee of the Centre before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of the intention to commence the suit has been served on the Centre by the intending plaintiff or the plaintiff's agent.
- (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall clearly state the cause of action, particulars of the claim, the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff and the relief sought (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 34 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 35: Service of court process.

A notice, summons or other document required or authorized to be served on the Centre under the provisions of this Bill or any other law may be served by delivering it to the Executive Secretary or by sending it by registered post and addressed to the Executive Secretary at the principal office of the Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 35 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 36: Restriction of execution against the property of the Centre.

- (1) In any action against the Centre, no execution or attachment process in any nature thereof shall be issued against the Centre —
- (a) without the consent of the Attorney - General of the Federation and Minister of Justice; and
- (b) unless at least three months' notice of the intention to execute or attach has been given to the Centre.
- (2) Any sums of money which by the judgment of any court is awarded against the Centre shall, subject to any direction given by the court where notice of appeal against the judgment has not been given, be paid from the Fund of the Centre established under Part VII of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 36 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 37: Indemnity of officials of the Centre.

The Executive Secretary, a member of the Board or any officer or employee of the Centre shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Centre against any liability incurred in defending any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, where —

- (a) the proceeding is brought against him in his capacity as Executive Secretary, member of the Board, officer or employee of the Centre; and
- (b) the act complained of is not ultra vires his powers (*Hon. Julius Omozuanvbo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 37 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 38: Obligation of secrecy.

- (1) Every —
 - (a) member of the Board;
 - (b) officer, employee and agent of the Centre;
 - (c) expert or professional retained by the Centre to assist in its investigations and deliberations; and
 - (d) person having to perform a duty or is engaged in the administrations of this Bill, the Anti-Doping Rules or any other Regulations made under this Bill, shall have regard and deal with all matters within their knowledge in the course of carrying out their duties as secret and confidential, subject to the provisions of this Bill.
- (2) Except as provided in the Anti-Doping Rules or any other Regulations made under this Bill, every member of the Panel, and Appeal Tribunal, shall have regard and deal with information, books, records or other document coming to his knowledge in the performance of his functions as confidential.
- (3) A member of the Panel or Appeal Tribunal shall not serve on any hearing, where there is a conflict of interest or personal interest in the outcome of the decision.
- (4) A person who was previously engaged for an official duty under this Bill, the Anti-Doping Rules or any Regulations made under this Bill, shall maintain, after the termination of such duty, the secrecy and confidentiality of all information, books, records or other documents relating to the functions of the Centre.
- (5) A Person to whom information is communicated under this Bill, the Anti-Doping Rules or any Regulations made under this Bill, shall have regard and deal with such information as secret and confidential, save as and to the extent otherwise provided in this Bill or any other law.
- (6) A person referred to under subsections (1) to (5) of this section, having possession of or control over any information, book, record or other document, who at any time communicates or attempts to communicate any of the information or anything contained in such book, record or document to a person, other than —
 - (a) an investigative authority, in accordance with applicable law; or
 - (b) pursuant to a court order, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction by a Magistrate Court to a fine not exceeding ₦500,000.

- (7) Obligation as to secrecy or other restriction on the disclosure of information imposed by any law or otherwise, shall not prevent the Centre or its officers, who are duly authorised, from disclosing information to any Anti-Doping Organisation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 38 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 39: The seal of the Centre.

- (1) The seal of the Centre shall be administered and signed by the Executive Secretary and the Legal Adviser of the Centre or any person delegated in such capacity to do so.
- (2) A 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 Centre by the person authorised by the Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 39 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 40: Transitional and Savings Provisions.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Executive Secretary of the existing Centre or Committee prior to the coming into effect of this Bill is deemed to have been transferred to the Centre established under this Bill under the same conditions as Executive Secretary.
- (2) Any person who immediately before the commencement of this Bill was a staff of the Centre or Committee shall continue in office and be deemed to have been appointed under this Bill for the purpose of pension.
- (3) Properties held immediately before the commencement of this Bill on behalf of the Centre by any person shall, by virtue of this Bill, be vested in the Centre established under this Bill.
- (4) The Centre established under this Bill shall be subject to all the obligations and liabilities to which the Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre or National Anti-Doping Committee was subject to immediately before the commencement of this Bill and all other persons shall have the same rights, powers and remedies against the Centre established by this Bill as they had against the Centre or Committee immediately before the commencement of this Bill.
- (5) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill by or against the Centre or Committee in respect of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Centre or the Committee may be continued or commenced, as the case may be, and any determination of a court of law, tribunal or other commission, authority or person may be enforced by or against the Centre established under this Bill to the same extent that such proceeding, cause of action or determination might have been continued, commenced or enforced by or against the Centre or Committee as if this Bill had not been made.
- (6) As from the commencement of this Bill, any disciplinary proceeding pending or existing against any employee of the Centre or Committee shall be continued and completed by the Centre established under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 40 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 41: Power to give directives.

- (1) The Board may, from time to time, give general policy guidelines provided that such guidelines is not inconsistent with provisions of the Anti-Doping Rules or Code.
- (2) The Executive Secretary shall ensure compliance with any policy guidelines or directive given to it by the Board pursuant to subsection (1) of this section where such does not pose any conflict to international regulations (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 41 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 42: Regulations.

- (1) The Board may make Regulations for the purpose of giving full effect to the provisions of this Bill.
- (2) The contravention of any regulation issued in accordance with the provisions of this Bill shall constitute an offence punishable as prescribed in that regulation (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 42 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 43: Interpretation.

In this Bill —

"Authority in charge of Sports" means the body responsible for sports administration at the Federal level in Nigeria (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Authority in charge of Sports" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Board" means the Technical Board of the Centre established under section 8 of this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Centre" means Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre established under section 5 of this Bill as the National Anti-Doping Organisation of Nigeria ("NADO") and responsible for carrying out the functions of NADO as enshrined in the World Anti-Doping Code ("Code") in accordance with the various international standards set up by the World Anti-Doping Agency (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Code" means the World Anti-Doping Code and any amendments to the Code adopted by the World Anti-Doping Agency from time to time (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Convention" means the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organisation International Convention Against Doping in Sport (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Disciplinary Panel" means the independent Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel established under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Executive Secretary" means the Executive Secretary of the Centre appointed under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Panel" means the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel established under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

“President” means the President and Commander-in Chief of the Armed Forces 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.

"RTP" means Registered Testing Pool; and (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

"Tribunal" means the Anti-Doping Appeal Tribunal established under this Bill (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Question that Clause 43 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Clause 44: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Anti-Doping Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Question that Clause 44 stands part of the Bill — Agreed to.

SCHEDULE

[Section 8(5)]

Meetings of the Technical Board

1.
 - (1) Subject to the provisions of section 27 of the Interpretation Act (which provides for the decisions of a statutory body to be taken by a majority of the members of the body and for the person presiding to have a second or casting vote), the Board may make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Board and of its committee.
 - (2) The Board shall meet at least once a quarter at such times and places as the Chairman may determine.
 - (3) The quorum for a meeting of the Board five, which shall include the Chairman and the Executive Secretary, and the quorum of a committee of the Board shall be determined by the Board.
 - (4) The Chairman shall, at any time, where five members request in writing, convene an emergency meeting of the Board, provided that not less than forty-eight hours' notice is given to members for the meeting.
 - (5) Where the Chairman is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of the members to preside.
 - (6) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Board may co-opt the person to the Board for such period as it deems fit, but the person who is in attendance by virtue of this paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards the required quorum as contemplated by paragraph (2) of this Schedule.
 - (7) The minutes of the meeting of the Board shall be recorded and signed by the Chairman or the person who presided at the meeting, after confirmation by the Board.
 - (8) The validity of a proceeding of the Board shall not be affected by —
 - (a) a vacancy in its membership;
 - (b) a defect in the appointment or qualification of a member; or
 - (c) reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in proceedings of the Board.

Disclosure of interest by members

2.
 - (1) A member who has a direct or an indirect personal interest in the outcome of the deliberations of a meeting of the Board in relation to a matter shall —
 - (a) disclose the nature of the interest at that meeting;
 - (b) withdraw from the deliberations of the Board in respect of the matter; and
 - (c) not vote on the matter.
 - (2) The disclosure of the interest shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
 - (3) A member who contravenes the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph may be removed from office.

Seal of the Centre

3. (1) The application of the common seal of the Centre shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman or the Executive Secretary on behalf of the Center.
- (2) A document bearing the imprint of the seal of the Center is deemed to be properly sealed unless the contrary is proved.

Committees

4. (1) Without prejudice to other provisions of this Bill, the Board may appoint such number of committees as it considers necessary to carry out, on its behalf, such of its functions as the Board may determine.
- (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons as the Board may determine, and not more than one-third of those persons may be appointed, who are not members of the Board.
- (3) A person who is not a member of the Board shall hold office on the committee in accordance with his letter of appointment.
- (4) A decision of a committee appointed under this paragraph shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

(This Memorandum does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purport).

This Bill seeks to domesticate and enforce the International Convention Against Doping in Sport and establish the Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre (*Hon. Julius Omozuanybo Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Domesticate and Enforce in Nigeria the International Convention Against Doping in Sport, Establish the Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre to Implement Nigeria's Obligations to the World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and for Related Matters (HB. 1441) (*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 of the Committee on Treaties, Protocols and Agreements on a Bill for an Act to Domesticate and Enforce in Nigeria the International Convention against Doping in Sport, Establish Nigeria Anti-Doping Centre to Implement Nigeria's obligations to World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and for Related Matters (HB.1441) and approved Clauses 1 - 44, 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.

23. A Bill for an Act to Establish South-South Development Commission Charged with the

Responsibility to Receive and Manage Funds from the Federation Account Allocation and Other Sources, Donations, Grants, Aids for the Integration, Development, Resolution of Infrastructural Deficit, Militancy, Communal Crises as well as Tackle Ecological, Environmental Problems and for Related Matters (HB.181) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish South-South Development Commission Charged with the Responsibility to Receive and Manage Funds from the Federation Account Allocation and Other Sources, Donations, Grants, Aids for the Integration, Development, Resolution of Infrastructural Deficit, Militancy, Communal Crises as well as Tackle Ecological, Environmental Problems and for Related Matters (HB.181) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Twevle, Rule 4 to enable it take the Third Reading on a Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90)” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

24. **A Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) — Third Reading**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish North-West Development Commission Charge with the Responsibility, among other things, Receive and Manage Funds from Allocation of the Federation Account and International Donors for the Settlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Roads, Houses and Business Premises Destroyed by Multi-Dimensional Crisis as well as tackling menace of Poverty, Literacy Level, Ecological Problems and any other Related Environmental or Development challenges in the North West States and for Related Matters (SB. 90) be now read the Third Time” (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

25. **Adjournment of First Sitting**

That the House do adjourn the First Sitting till 3.00 p.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 2.50 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker