



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, 23 November, 2023

1. The House met at 10.55 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 *First Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 22 November, 2023.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
 - (i) **Communal Crisis Between Nneyi-Umueri and Nsugbe Communities of Anambra East Local Government Area:**
Hon. Peter Aniekwe (*Anambra East/Anambra West 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 4 (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 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Communal Crisis Between Nneyi-Umueri and Nsugbe Communities of Anambra East Local Government Area of Anambra State:

The House:

Notes that the primary reason of governance is to protect lives and properties as enshrined in 1999 Constitution as amended;

Also notes that communal crisis caused by boundary dispute between Umueri and Nsugbe communities in Anambra East that started in the earlier hours of Wednesday, 22 November, 2023 has resulted in loss of lives and properties with several people displaced;

Regrets that the brutal crisis has left two people dead, those critically injured have been taken to the hospital;

Worried that escalation of the crisis is imminent if urgent step is not taken to nip it in the bud;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for others that lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency, provide relief materials to victims of the current crisis;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to manage the ongoing crisis and nip it in the bud to avoid further loss of lives and destruction of properties;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report within two (2) weeks (*Hon. Peter Udogalanya Aniekwe — Anambra East/Anambra West Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the primary reason of governance is to protect lives and properties as enshrined in 1999 Constitution as amended;

Also notes that communal crisis caused by boundary dispute between Umueri and Nsugbe communities in Anambra East that started in the earlier hours of Wednesday, 22 November, 2023 has resulted in loss of lives and properties with several people displaced;

Regretted that the brutal crisis has left two people dead, those critically injured have been taken to the hospital;

Worried that escalation of the crisis is imminent if urgent step is not taken to nip it in the bud;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for others that lost their lives;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to as a matter of urgency, provide relief materials to victims of the current crisis;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to manage the ongoing crisis and nip it in the bud to avoid further loss of lives and destruction of properties;
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report within two (2) weeks (**HR. 382/11/2023**).

(ii) ***Need for Federal Government to Grant Tax Incentives for Nigerian Companies to Invest***

into Public Schools and Hospitals' Infrastructural Development:

Hon. Nnolim John Nnaji (*Nkanu East/Nkanu West Federal Constituency and Eight Others*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Need for Federal Government to Grant Tax Incentives for Nigerian Companies to Invest Into Public Schools and Hospitals' Infrastructural Development:

The House:

Recalls that on January 25, 2019, the then Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, signed Presidential Executive Order for Road Infrastructure Development and Refurbishment Investment Tax Credit (RITC) Scheme;

Notes that the RITC Scheme is a form of tax incentive granted to Nigerian companies that engage in the construction and refurbishment of roads designated by the Federal Government as eligible road infrastructure projects;

Also notes that the main objective of the Scheme is to sensitize and promote private sector funding for road infrastructure projects in a manner that will generate value for money and guarantee participant's timely and full recovery of funds provided for the construction or repair;

Further notes that in 2021, the then Federal Inland Revenue Service Coordinating Director, Tax Operations Group, Femi Oluwaniyi, urged other corporate bodies across the country to join NLNG, MTN and others, to take advantage of government's tax credit facility and certificate for providing road infrastructures;

Aware that the burden of bridging the infrastructure gap is too heavy for the Federal Government to bear alone due to the global economic challenges, with our Public Schools and Hospitals being at the verge of collapse due to poor infrastructural funding and development;

Also aware that provision of good schools and hospitals are the bedrock of societal development and economic growth, leading to reduction in unemployment, social vices, moral decadence, drug abuse, youth restiveness, mortality rate, spread of diseases and unhealthy environment;

Worried that the current economic instability is impeding on government's intervention or adequate funding of our public schools and hospitals, which is cancerous to societal development and may be the fundamental causes of insecurity, medical tourism, school degradation and incessant migration abroad;

Observed that it behooves on government to replicate similar tax waivers and incentives granted to those companies engaged in RITC (road infrastructure) to more private companies for partnership in bridging the infrastructural gap in public schools and hospitals;

Cognizant that when the private companies embark on such infrastructural development of public schools and hospitals, it will boost their corporate image, especially in economically disadvantaged areas and will possibly reduce corporate income tax payable in a year of assessment where it has unutilized tax credit;

Encouraged that tax incentives for the aforementioned companies are appreciated by employers and employees, particularly in reducing costs and the bureaucratic bottlenecks associated with government procurement processes and thereby create enabling environment for ease of doing business;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to consider granting tax incentives to more companies for engagement in the infrastructural development of Public Schools and Hospitals under similar RITC Scheme, which can mitigate the fiscal responsibility of government and increase its revenue;
- (ii) also urge the Ministers of Finance, Education and Health, with FIRS, to activate the bureaucratic processes for the successful implementation of this tax incentives by outlining measures and rules of engagement with stakeholders input and thriving mode of operation;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Finance, Education, Healthcare Services, Health Institutions, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report within three (3) weeks (*Hon. Nnolim John Nnaji — Nkanu East/Nkanu West Federal Constituency and Eight Others*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Recalled that on January 25, 2019, the then Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, signed Presidential Executive Order for Road Infrastructure Development and Refurbishment Investment Tax Credit (RITC) Scheme;

Noted that the RITC Scheme is a form of tax incentive granted to Nigerian companies that engage in the construction and refurbishment of roads designated by the Federal Government as eligible road infrastructure projects;

Also noted that the main objective of the Scheme is to sensitize and promote private sector funding for road infrastructure projects in a manner that will generate value for money and guarantee participant's timely and full recovery of funds provided for the construction or repair;

Further noted that in 2021, the then Federal Inland Revenue Service Coordinating Director, Tax Operations Group, Femi Oluwaniyi, urged other corporate bodies across the country to join NLNG, MTN and others, to take advantage of government's tax credit facility and certificate for providing road infrastructures;

Aware that the burden of bridging the infrastructure gap is too heavy for the Federal Government to bear alone due to the global economic challenges, with our Public Schools and Hospitals being at the verge of collapse due to poor infrastructural funding and development;

Also aware that provision of good schools and hospitals are the bedrock of societal development and economic growth, leading to reduction in unemployment, social vices, moral decadence, drug abuse, youth restiveness, mortality rate, spread of diseases and unhealthy environment;

Worried that the current economic instability is impeding on government's intervention or adequate funding of our public schools and hospitals, which is cancerous to societal development and may be the fundamental causes of insecurity, medical tourism, school degradation and incessant migration abroad;

Observed that it behooves on government to replicate similar tax waivers and incentives granted to those companies engaged in RITC (road infrastructure) to more private companies for partnership in bridging the infrastructural gap in public schools and hospitals;

Cognizant that when the private companies embark on such infrastructural development of public schools and hospitals, it will boost their corporate image, especially in economically disadvantaged areas and will possibly reduce corporate income tax payable in a year of assessment where it has unutilized tax credit;

Encouraged that tax incentives for the aforementioned companies are appreciated by employers and employees, particularly in reducing costs and the bureaucratic bottlenecks associated with government procurement processes and thereby create enabling environment for ease of doing business;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to consider granting tax incentives to more companies for engagement in the infrastructural development of Public Schools and Hospitals under similar RITC Scheme, which can mitigate the fiscal responsibility of government and increase its revenue;
- (ii) also urge the Ministers of Finance, Education and Health, with FIRS, to activate the bureaucratic processes for the successful implementation of this tax incentives by outlining measures and rules of engagement with stakeholders input and thriving mode of operation;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Finance, Education, Healthcare Services, Health Institutions, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance and report within three (3) weeks (**HR. 383/11/2023**).

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (4) to enable it take more than two matters of urgent public importance” (*Hon. Ugonna Ozurigbo — Nkwere/IsuNjaba/Nwangele Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (iii) ***Petroleum Fire Disaster Incidence at Abajah in Nwangele Local Government Area, Imo State:***

Hon. Ugonna Ozurigbo (*Nkwere/IsuNjaba/Nwangele 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 4 (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 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Petroleum Fire Disaster Incident at Abajah in Nwangele Local Government Area of Imo State:

The House:

Notes that it is the core mandate of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to quickly respond to disasters of high Magnitude in Nigeria, including disasters that affect lives and livelihoods of Many Nigerians, especially disasters arising from unforeseen circumstances of flooding, conflict, fire outbreaks, etc.;

Also notes that on Tuesday, 21 November, 2023 a tanker conveying Petroleum Products along Abajah- Orlu road in Imo State felled on the road and caught fire, and burnt residential buildings, shops farmlands and destroyed sources of livelihood of residents and indigenes of Abajah community in Nwangele L.G.A of Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency;

Worried that many families in Abajah community are now homeless and devastated with no means of livelihood as a result of the fire disaster which magnitude of damages is better imagined than experienced;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately visit the sites of this Fire disaster at Abajah in Nwangele Local Government Area of Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency to determine the extent of the damages and provide urgent relief to the victims of the fire disaster;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report in two (2) weeks (*Hon. Ugonna Ozurigbo — Isu/Njaba/Nkwere/Nwangele Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that it is the core mandate of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to quickly respond to disasters of high Magnitude in Nigeria, including disasters that affect lives and livelihoods of Many Nigerians, especially disasters arising from unforeseen circumstances of flooding, conflict, fire outbreaks, etc.;

Also noted that on Tuesday, 21 November, 2023 a tanker conveying Petroleum Products along Abajah- Orlu road in Imo State felled on the road and caught fire, and burnt residential buildings, shops farmlands and destroyed sources of livelihood of residents and indigenes of Abajah community in Nwangele L.G.A of Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency;

Worried that many families in Abajah community are now homeless and devastated with no means of livelihood as a result of the fire disaster which magnitude of damages is better imagined than experienced;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to immediately visit the sites of this Fire disaster at Abajah in Nwangele Local Government Area of Nkwerre/Isu/Nwangele/Njaba Federal Constituency to determine the extent of the damages and provide urgent relief to the victims of the fire disaster;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance and report in two (2) weeks (**HR. 384/11/2023**).

5. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) National Youth Service Corps Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.967).
- (2) Universal Basic Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.968).
- (3) Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.969).
- (4) Federal Cancer Research and Treatment Centre, Bauchi, Bauchi State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.970).
- (5) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.971).
- (6) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.972).
- (7) Public Officers Protection Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.973).
- (8) Hire Purchase Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.974).
- (9) Army Colour (Prohibition of Use) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.975).
- (10) Elites Sheriffs Corps (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.976).
- (11) Compulsory Teaching of French Language in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria Bill, 2023 (HB.977).
- (12) National Flood Management (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.978).
- (13) Nigeria Police Force Pensions Board (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.979).
- (14) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.980).
- (15) Digital Television Services (Pay-Per-View) Subscription Bill, 2023 (HB.981).
- (16) Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.982).
- (17) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.983).
- (18) Chartered Institute of Public Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.984).
- (19) National Youth Service Corps Trust Fund (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.985).
- (20) Ministry of Finance incorporated Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB.986).
- (21) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.987).

- (22) Administration of Criminal Justice Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.988).
- (23) Examination Malpractices Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.989).
- (24) National Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.990).
- (25) Flag and Coats of Arms Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.991).
- (26) Regulatory Body for Organ Harvesting, Transplanting and Donation (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.992).
- (27) Peoples Bank of Nigeria Act (Repeal) Bill, 2023 (HB.993).
- (28) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2023 (HB.994).
- (29) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB.995).
- (30) Federal College of Agricultural Technology, Abak, Akwa Ibom State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.996).

6. Presentation of Report

Committee on Public Service Matters:

motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Public Service Matters on a Bill for an Act to make Provisions for the Retirement Age for Staff of National Assembly Service and for Related Matters (HB. 529)” (*Hon. Sani Umar Bala — Tsanyawa/Kunchi Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

7. A Bill for an Act to make Provision for Landscape Architects Registration Council of Nigeria charged with the Registration and Regulation of Landscape Architects in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 695) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to make Provision for Landscape Architects Registration Council of Nigeria charged with the Registration and Regulation of Landscape Architects in Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB. 695) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Kama Nkemkama Osi — Ivo/Ohaozara/Onicha Federal Constituency and Six Others*).

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.

8. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make provision for Establishment of Agricultural and Energy Technical Institute, Nasarawa Eggon, Nasarawa State (HB. 116) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make provision for Establishment of Agricultural and Energy Technical Institute, Nasarawa Eggon, Nasarawa State (HB. 116) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Jeremiah Umaru — Akwanga/Nasarawa/Eggon/Wamba 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 Agricultural Colleges and Institutions.

9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Ugwuaji Awkunanaw, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB. 489) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Medical Centres Act and Establish the Federal Medical Centre, Ugwuaji Awkunanaw, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB. 489) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Chimaobi Sam Atu — Enugu North/Enugu South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal College of Agriculture, Albasu, Kano State and for Related Matters (HB. 50) — Second Reading

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

11. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Ise, Ekiti State and for Related Matters (HB. 52) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Ise, Ekiti State and for Related Matters (HB. 52) be read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ojuawo Rufus Adeniyi — Ekiti South West/Ikere/Ise Orun 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 Agricultural Colleges and Institutions.

12. Reconsideration of Outstanding Bills from Preceding Assembly

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that pursuant to Order Twelve, Rule 16 of the Standing Orders of the House, Bills passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the Senate for concurrence for which no concurrence was made or negatived or passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for which no concurrence was made or negatived or which were passed by the National Assembly and forwarded to the President

for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the Assembly, the House may resolve that such Bill, upon being re-gazetted or clean copies circulated, be re-considered in the Committee of the Whole without being commenced *de-novo*;

Also notes that the under-listed Bills were passed by the preceding Assembly and forwarded to the President for assent but for which assent or withholding thereof was not communicated before the end of the tenure of the last Assembly;

- (i) Close Circuit Television (Compulsory Instalment etc.) Bill, 2023 (HB. 177),
- (ii) National Institute of Brackish Water Fishers research, Ngo - Andoni (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB.178),
- (iii) Sea Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 179),
- (iv) River Niger Transit Act (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 180),
- (v) South-South Development Commission (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 181),
- (vi) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 861),
- (vii) National Metallurgical Training Institute, Sagamu, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 109),
- (viii) Federal University Science and Technology, Remo, Ogun State (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 111),
- (ix) National Assembly Budget and Research Office (Establishment) Bill, (HB. 600),
- (x) National Film and Video Censors Board Act (Repeal and Enactment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 475),
- (xi) Food Vendors Registration Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB. 326),
- (xii) Pharmaceutical Technologist and Pharmaceutical Technicians Council of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (HB 345),
- (xiii) Federal Medical Centres Acts (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (HB 957), and
- (xiv) Federal University of Medicine and Health Science, Bida, Niger State (Establishment) Bill 2023 (HB. 880);

Aware that the Bills were read for the first time as HB.177, HB.178, HB.179, HB.180, HB.181, HB.861, HB.109, HB.111, HB.600, HB.475, HB.326, HB.345, HB.957 and HB.880 respectively;

Resolves to:

Re-commit the Bills to the Committee of the Whole for consideration (*Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

13. Abandoned Sagamu Independent Power Project
Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that in 2014, Honeywell Group and the United States Trade and Development Agency collaborated on a feasibility study for the Sagamu Independent Power Plant, which would be built in two parts, and for which they had signed an agreement in 2018, with plans to commence construction in 2020;

Also notes that phase one of the project was expected to deliver 250 Megawatts of power to the grid using an open cycle gas-fired turbine, while phase two would ramp it to 400 Megawatts by retro-fitting it to a combined cycle power plant;

Further notes that the numerous industries such as Nestle, Unilever, Indorama, PZ, and Dangote Industries among others at Sagamu in Ogun State provide job opportunities, boost local economies, and enhance industrialization, thus increasing Nigeria's GDP;

Concerned that the Sagamu Office of the Transmission Company has kept two 60mva transmitters in its custody for over twelve years, which have not been installed, thus deliberately depriving the surrounding communities who have been without electricity supply for over two years;

Informed that the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) insinuated that a 132mva transmitter was currently installed in the Sagamu area, but the area is currently experiencing a prolonged blackout;

Cognizant that the Sagamu-Agbara Industrial Complexes in Ogun State contribute 10% VAT annually to the Federal Government Revenue coffers, ranking fourth after Lagos, Oyo, and Rivers States;

Worried that the Federal Government is neglecting opportunities to provide stable electricity to a vital area despite its potential to boost revenue, increase production, and reduce costs, resulting in revenue loss and potential negative impacts on the local economy;

Resolves to:

- (i) mandate the Committee on Power to investigate:
 - (a) the abandonment of the Sagamu IPP Project and withholding of two 60mva transmitters by the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN),
 - (b) the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and the Ibadan Distribution Company for denying communities in Sagamu stable and constant electricity for two years and report back within four (4) weeks for further legislative action; and
- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Power, and Legislative Compliance to ensure implementation (*Hon. Adewunmi Oriyomi Onanuga — Ikenne/Shagamu/Remo North Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 385/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committee on Power, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

14. State of Refineries in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the States-owned refineries-Warri, Kaduna, Alesa-Elame and Port Harcourt have stopped refining fuel and by-products for local consumption for years;

Aware that successive governments, under the pretext of turn-around maintenance and rehabilitation, invested money in these refineries, and presently, none is producing fuel and other by-products sufficient for local use, resulting in billions of dollars spent on fuel exports;

Also aware that succeeding Ministers of Petroleum Resources and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Ltd (NNPCL) executives have pitched several unsuccessful initiatives to revamp or rehabilitate the refineries, and despite huge funding, they remain in a state of comatose;

Concerned that between 2010 to date the government has allocated N11.35 trillion for the renovation of refineries, yet these facilities remain idle;

Worried that the maintenance of refineries may be an economic waste considering that their maintenance has minimal value to the economy, given that the country currently relies on fuel importation;

Disturbed that over the past decade, an estimated N2,266,248,434.00 has been spent on rehabilitating Kaduna Refinery and Petro-chemical Company in Nigeria, but they remain inactive and unproductive, the current situation necessitates an investigation into the contract awards for the rehabilitation of the refineries;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Petroleum Resources (Downstream) to conduct an investigation into the different contracts awarded between 2010 and to date on the rehabilitation of refineries in Nigeria, the reasons behind their inability to refine fuel and by-products, and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Matthew Nwogu — Abo-Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Debate deferred for further consultation.

15. Need to Construct the Second Lane of Ngurore Bridge in Adamawa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the Ngurore bridge is a single-lane bridge built in the mid-1970s on the Gombe - Yola Federal Highway, about 29 kilometres to Yola, the Adamawa State Capital;

Also notes that the Bridge connects Borno, Gombe, and Taraba States, serving as a vital link to the Adamawa State Capital and for commuters from various regions;

Aware that the single-lane bridge has been operational for many decades. Due to the growing human and vehicle population, heavy equipment usage, and environmental factors, the bridge is experiencing wear and tear, necessitating maintenance;

Also aware that without an alternative route for commuters, the required comprehensive maintenance of the bridge cannot be achieved without closing the bridge for weeks and months.

Concerned that the overstretched bridge may suffer further damage or collapse due to excessive utilization by vehicles, heavy-duty machines, and equipment, potentially limiting its full life span.

Observes that sometimes back, a military hardware truck accident caused a six-hour gridlock on the bridge, leaving commuters stuck and frustrated. This is one of several incidents causing significant losses to businesses and livestock dealers commuting on the bridge;

Worried that the bridge serves as the sole connection between the nine local government areas of Adamawa, connecting the Southern Senatorial District to the State Capital. Patients with critical medical conditions from the Demsa/Numan/Lamurde Federal Constituency seeking emergency medical attention in Yola often get stuck on the bridge for hours, leading to delays, complications, and a lack of access to the hospital caused by the absence of an alternative bridge lane;

Disturbed that a delay in the construction of the second lane of the Ngurore Bridge could potentially cause disaster for people in Adamawa State, Northeast Nigeria, and those relying on the bridge for medical services, agricultural transportation, and socio-economic pursuits;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to assess and make provision for the construction of a bridge in Ngurore to serve as an alternative to the existing single-lane bridge;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to regularly assess and maintain the single-lane Ngurore Bridge to ensure its safety and functionality; and
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Works, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to ensure compliance (*Hon. Kwamoti Bitrus Laori — Demsa/Lamurde/Numan Federal Constituency and Two Others*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 386/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

16. Reconnection of Electricity Supply to Shinkafi and Zurmi Federal Local Government Areas of Zamfara State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the provision of roads, water, electricity and other social economic activities are fundamental responsibilities of any Government be it at the Local, State or Federal Level;

Also notes that their responsibilities include education, security and all physical infrastructure and facilities that must be available to all parts of the Federation to harness economic potentials and increase the prosperity of the people and that of the Nation;

Aware that the Electricity Transmission and Distribution Companies are expected to provide infrastructural facilities as well as integrate all parts of Nigeria including Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency to the National Grid for an effective electricity supply network through functional sun-stations, transformers and other electrical appliances;

Observes that in the last seven years, the people of Shinkafi/Zurmi Federal Constituency have been off the National Electricity Grid and have not witnessed or experienced electricity supply, thereby living in perpetual darkness, discomfort and lack of means to ease economic productivity;

Also observes that the economic activities of the people and by extension their livelihood and prosperity have been continuously hampered in the last seven years whose eventual impact is progressively pushing them down the poverty ladder;

Worried that due to the high rate of insecurity in Zamfara State and Shinkafi/Zurmi Constituency

specifically, the absence of electricity supply from the National Grid will continue to impact negatively on the social and economic lives of the people;

Concerned that the absence of electricity supply in the Constituency alienated them which made the people perceive that they have been neglected and marginalised by the Federal Government, thereby creating disillusion and restiveness among the people. This negates the Principles of Governance as enshrined in Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended);

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Ministry of Power to direct the Electricity Transmission and Distribution Company responsible for Zamfara State to restore electricity in the Constituency; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Power to investigate the persistent absence of Power supply and liaise with the appropriate Ministries, Departments Agencies and Regulatory Authority to facilitate economic activities and improve the quality of livelihood of the people of the area (*Hon. Bello Hassan Shinkafi — Demsa/Lamurde/Numan Federal Constituency and Two Others*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 387/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committee on Power, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

17. Need to Formulate Policies that will Boost Yam Production and Exportation in Benue State and Other Parts of Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that yam is one of the most widely consumed food crops in Nigeria and a major cash crop cultivated in Benue State and other parts of Nigeria;

Aware that the producers of yam are heavily reliant on its consumers due to the lack of a proper storage system in place that guarantees its availability and freshness over a long period;

Also aware that the exportation of yam is highly recommended to boost Nigeria's earning capacity, its external reserves, and its value chain. Unfortunately, exportation is not a thriving business option in Nigeria due to bottlenecks created by regulatory agencies;

Worried that those engaged in the business of exportation do so outside the purview of the agencies responsible for promoting the trade by employing the services of local packaging producers or moving their operations to more business-friendly economies like Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, and Benin Republic;

Also worried that the Nigerian farmers are the primary suppliers of raw materials for the "Fresh Yam Produce in Ghana";

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to boost yam tubers production through targeted incentives to the farmers from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Nigerian Agriculture Insurance Corporation (NAIC), Bank of Agriculture (BOA) and Commercial Banks;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to carry out policy reviews

to regulate and supervise agencies responsible for exportation in Nigeria to boost exportation; and

- (iii) mandate the Committee on Commerce to invite the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC), National Agency for Food and Drug Administration Control (NAFDAC), and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to give an update on promoting Nigeria's export business (*Hon. Akume Regina — Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency and One Other*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

(HR. 388/11/2023).

18. Need to Strengthen the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to Enhance Speedy Response to Emergencies and Disaster Occurrences in Nigeria:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) was established to manage disasters in Nigeria;

Also notes that the Act mandates the Agency to coordinate and facilitate the provision of resources for disaster curtailment activities in response to distress calls;

Aware that amongst other mandates, the National Emergency Management Agency is to formulate policy on activities relating to disaster management, and coordinate programmes for efficient and effective response to disasters at the national level;

Also aware that besides the other sources of funds accruing to the National Emergency Management Agency, the Agency receives 20% of funds for Ecological Funds Accounts, amounting to hundreds of billions of Naira from its inception to date;

Concerned about various complaints against NEMA by victims of disasters and stakeholders for its delayed and ineffective interventions, causing concern among stakeholders and victims of disasters.

Also concerns that NEMA has consigned its function mainly to providing relief materials and does not respond promptly to distress and disaster emergencies;

Worried that if NEMA's current conduct is left unchecked, Nigerians will lose confidence which would lead to its eventual transformation into a bureaucratic institution and a cash cow for unscrupulous individuals;

Determined to strengthen NEMA to live up to the expectations of its Establishment Act particularly in the area of prompt and proactive response to disaster emergencies and distress calls;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to:

- (a) review NEMA activities to conform with its mandates from inception to date;
- (b) evaluate NEMA's disaster response capabilities in terms of personnel competencies and response/management infrastructures;

- (c) determine if funds disbursed to NEMA are utilized in conformity with extant financial regulations and tandem with the agency's mandates; and
- (d) proffer recommendations on how to improve the Agency's efficiency and effectiveness and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Philip Agbese — Ado/Ogbadigbo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

(HR. 389/11/2023).

19. Need to Complete the Construction of the Skill Acquisition Centre at Iwuo Achang, Ibeno Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the contract for the construction of a Skill Acquisition Centre in Iwuo-Achang, Ibeno Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State was awarded on March 15, 2010 by the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to Stegis International Agency Nigeria Limited (Civil Construction Building), Enorabol Nigeria Limited (Landscaping and Perimeter Fencing) and Y.S. Associate (Electrical and Mechanical), respectively;

Concerned that the purpose for the construction of the Skill Acquisition Centre, is even more prevalent in the state today particularly to curb evil vices of idleness in our teeming youth, seeing the present economic state of the country, even though the project contract was awarded in 2010;

Also concerned that the project, which had reached about 85% completion 11 years ago, had to be abandoned due to an unexpected increase in the prices of goods, leaving the property vandalised and in deplorable condition;

Informed that the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs has been approached severally by both the Contractors and the indigenes of the state, to take the necessary action to ensure completion of the project, but to no avail;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to ensure completion of the project within the 2024 fiscal year; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry to ensure compliance (*Hon. Okpolupm Etteh Ikpong — Eket/Esit Eket/Ibeno/Onna Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 390/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committee on Niger Delta Ministry, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

20. Prevention and Management of the Devastating Effect of Flooding in Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Flooding is a devastating natural disaster caused by heavy rainfall, river overflow, human activities like illegal structures and refuse, and periodic release of water from overfilled dams;

Also notes that in 2022, the Federal Government established a Presidential Committee to develop a comprehensive flood prevention plan, allocating 19.2 billion Naira to mitigate the devastating impact of flooding on farmlands;

Aware that in the same year, the Ministry of Water Resources released the General Flood Outlook Report for the year, indicating that 223 Local Governments Areas in 32 States and the Federal Capital Territory constituted the highly probable flood risk areas; 212 Local Government Areas in 35 States of the Federation, as well as the Federal Capital Territory, were classified as the moderately probable flood risk areas; and the remainder of 329 Local Government Areas comprised the probable flood risk areas;

Also aware that in the same year, the Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation (PCFRR) and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) partnered to distribute relief materials to flood victims across Nigeria, allocating 1.5 billion Naira for the procurement and supply of the same;

Recognises that the flooding of towns and villages across the country was attributed to heavy rain and the impact of climate change, which deserve urgent, proper planning and proactive actions to prevent damages caused by flooding;

Concerned that the prevalence of floods in Nigeria requires urgent attention as delays could result in the destruction of houses and farms, food shortages, and a humanitarian crisis;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to expedite action on the prevention of flood disasters in Nigeria; intervene to provide relief to flood victims; monitor the management and prevention of flooding, and educate Nigerians on ways to prevent flooding;
- (ii) also urge the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA), Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), and other stakeholders to work in synergy on the best possible ways to alleviate flooding in Nigeria;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to investigate the distribution of food and non-food materials to affected citizens by the Presidential Committee on Flood Relief and Rehabilitation (PCFRR); and
- (iv) also mandate the Committee on Water Resources to investigate the release of the ₦19.2 billion allocated for the devastating impact of flooding on farmlands across the nation (*Hon. Sekav Dzua Iyortyom — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 391/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committees on Water Resources, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

21. Need for Construction of Pedestrians Bridge in Kaga, Benisheikh Local Government Area of Borno State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Kaga Local Government Area headquarters is along the Maiduguri-Kano expressway;

Also notes that the dualization of the expressway divides Benisheikh town into two segments, making it difficult for pedestrians to cross the road safely;

Worried that the lack of pedestrian bridge infrastructure in the community poses a significant risk to residents in Kaga Benisheikh Local Government Area, particularly to school children and elderly individuals, which equally hinders social -economic activities and social interactions in the area;

Also worried at the high rates of accidents on the dualized expressway resulting in scores of deaths;

Cognizant of the need to construct a pedestrian bridge in the Kaga, Benisheikh Local Government Area to ease the movement of residents and facilitate the transportation of goods and services in Kaga, Benisheikh Local Government Area;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works to prioritize the construction of pedestrian bridges on the dualised expressway in Benisheikh town, Borno State and make budgetary provisions for the project in the 2024 Budget estimates; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works and Appropriations to ensure compliance (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 392/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committees on Works, and Appropriations, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

22. Need to Curb the Excessive Behaviour of the Officers of FCT Directorate of Road Traffic Service (DRTS) on Abuja Major Highways

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

23. Call on the Central Bank of Nigeria to create Awareness on the use of the Redesigned Naira Notes and the Terminal date of the Old Naira Notes

Order read; Motion withdrawn by leave of the House.

24. Need to Declare State of Emergency on Federal Infrastructure in Bassa and Dekina Local Government Areas of Kogi State

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that Dekina and Bassa Local Government Areas in Kogi State are significant economic centres with a large population and immense potential for growth in dire need of Federal Infrastructure to promote economic development and enhance the well-being of the people;

Aware that the absence of adequate infrastructure in Dekina and Bassa Local Government Area hindered the growth and progress of the communities, thus disrupting economic activities and overall standard of living in Dekina and Bassa Local Government Area;

Also aware that the deficiency in Federal Infrastructure in the Dekina/Bassa Federal Constituency hinders residents' access to basic social amenities and services, hindering their Social economy development potential;

Concerned that apart from the dilapidated federal roads passing through Dekina and Basa Local Government Areas, which serve as major transportation routes connecting other parts of the country, there is no federal road infrastructure in Dekina and Bassa Local Government Areas of Kogi State;

Informed that it is the responsibility of the legislature to address the developmental needs of constituents and foster equitable distribution of resources throughout the country;

Cognizant that the establishment of Federal Infrastructure such as roads, Tertiary Institutions, Health Care Facilities, and electricity in Dekina and Bassa Local Government Areas will create employment opportunities, improve access to quality education and health care, and enhance the overall socio-economic development of the region;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to declare a state of emergency on Federal Infrastructure in the Dekina/Bassa Federal Constituency;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Government to take immediate action in establishing the necessary infrastructure to meet the needs and aspirations of the people of the Dekina/Bassa federal constituency;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to make provision for the construction and maintenance of federal roads, establishment of federal tertiary institutions, healthcare facilities and electricity in the 2024 budget estimate to address the region's existing infrastructure deficit; and
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Appropriations, Works, and Health Institutions to ensure compliance (*Hon. Haruna Paul Gowon — Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(HR. 393/11/2023).

Motion referred to the Committees on Appropriations, Works, and Health Institutions, pursuant to Order Eight, Rule 9 (5).

25. Extension of Rail Lines to Cover the South-South, South-East, North Central and Northwest Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that rail transportation offers huge benefits to Socio-Economic growth due to its capacity to convey a large number of people and huge volumes of goods from one place to another;

Also notes that as a result of the low-risk factor of the Rail Transportation System, the immediate past administration of General Muhammadu Buhari designed a blueprint to ensure the completion of abandoned rail projects as well as commence new ones;

Aware that further to the blueprint, the 168-kilometre Abuja-Kaduna rail track was completed and put to use, and the 157-kilometre Lagos-Ibadan as well as the Warri-Ajaokuta rail of 327 kilometres were completed;

Also aware that Section 15 (1) (a) of the Nigerian Railway Corporation Act mandates the Nigerian Railway Corporation to carry out any expansions or extension thereof and any new railway and to provide all reasonable facilities for carriage by the corporation of passengers and goods;

Concerned that as a result of the lack of non-provision of rail lines linking the South-South to the South-East to the North-Central and North-West Geopolitical Zones, transportation of huge volumes of goods and passengers are hampered, creating avoidable and unnecessary pressure on the already failing road infrastructure, with the attendant gridlocks, and waste of human and economic resources;

Cognizant that the construction of a 269.12km Abuja-Baro-Itakpe rail, with branch lines of Jakura-Lokoja and Agbador-Warri City will not only bring ease of movement for people and goods but will also enhance socio-economic growth of the country as a whole;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to extend the rail lines to link the South-South, the South-East, the North-Central and the North-West Geopolitical Zones of Nigeria; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to ensure compliance (*Hon. Marcus Onobun — Esan Central/Esan West/Igbeben Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “North-Central”, *insert* the words “North East” (*Hon. Sada Soli Jibia/Kaita Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that rail transportation offers huge benefits to Socio-Economic growth due to its capacity to convey a large number of people and huge volumes of goods from one place to another;

Also noted that as a result of the low-risk factor of the Rail Transportation System, the immediate past administration of General Muhammadu Buhari designed a blueprint to ensure the completion of abandoned rail projects as well as commence new ones;

Aware that further to the blueprint, the 168-kilometre Abuja-Kaduna rail track was completed and put to use, and the 157-kilometre Lagos-Ibadan as well as the Warri-Ajaokuta rail of 327 kilometres were completed;

Also aware that Section 15 (1) (a) of the Nigerian Railway Corporation Act mandates the Nigerian Railway Corporation to carry out any expansions or extension thereof and any new railway and to provide all reasonable facilities for carriage by the corporation of passengers and goods;

Concerned that as a result of the lack of non-provision of rail lines linking the South-South to the South-East to the North-Central and North-West Geopolitical Zones, transportation of huge volumes of goods and passengers are hampered, creating avoidable and unnecessary pressure on the already failing road infrastructure, with the attendant gridlocks, and waste of human and economic resources;

Cognizant that the construction of a 269.12km Abuja-Baro-Itakpe rail, with branch lines of Jakura-Lokoja and Agbador-Warri City will not only bring ease of movement for people and goods but will also enhance socio-economic growth of the country as a whole;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to extend the rail lines to link the South-South, the South-East, the North-Central, North East, and the North-West Geopolitical Zones of Nigeria; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Land Transport to ensure compliance (**HR. 394/11/2023**).

26. Consideration of Reports

- (i) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB.528) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB.528)” (*Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy 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 AGENCY
FOR NATIONAL ETHICS AND VALUES COMPLIANCE
TO CONTROL UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR AND ENFORCE
COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF THE NATIONAL
ETHICS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 528)

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGENCY FOR
NATIONAL ETHICS AND VALUES COMPLIANCE

Clause 1: Establishment of the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance.

- (1) There is established the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance (in this Bill referred to as "the Agency").
- (2) The Agency —
 - (a) is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal;
 - (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name;
 - (c) may acquire, hold or dispose of any movable or immovable property, subject to the provisions of the Land Use Act for the purpose of performing any of its functions under this Bill; and
 - (d) is an independent Agency in the Presidency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Objectives of the Agency.

The objective of the Agency is to enforce and institutionalise the principles of the National Ethics as enshrined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Functions of the Agency.

The Agency shall —

- (a) monitor unethical practices of all establishments operating in Nigeria and enforce compliance with laws enacted to build ethically compliant society as provided for under this Bill and any other enactment;
- (b) research and identify all ethical issues that negatively impact on the political and socio-economic development of Nigeria and make recommendations to the President and secure their revision;
- (c) develop and implement ethics compliance professional licensure programmes and create interactive forum for the Certified National Ethics Compliance Professionals (CNEP) to have continuous training and update on ethics global best practices; and
- (d) provide consultancy services to establishments that request ethics-compliance technical assistance (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Powers of the Agency.

(1) The Agency has powers to —

- (a) do things necessary or expedient for the effective and efficient performance of its functions under this Bill or any other law;
- (b) make subsidiary instruments, give notices, and prescribe forms for the effective and efficient performance of its functions under this Bill or any other law;
- (c) determine what standards of knowledge and skills are to be attained by persons who seek to work as ethics compliance professional and raise those standards as circumstances may permit;
- (d) charge and retain fees for services rendered in the course of its operations;
- (e) carry out joint operations with the Nigeria Police Force and establish a special unit under the Nigeria Police Force, charged with responsibility to monitor and arrest persons in breach of National Ethics; and
- (f) hire experts, consulting firms, Non-Governmental Organisations or civil society organisations to perform on its behalf any of the functions of the Agency or to execute activities under the power of the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Roles of statutory bodies and citizens in controlling unethical behaviours.

- (1) Ministries, Departments and Agencies of governments in Nigeria and every establishment operating in Nigeria with turnover in excess of ₦20,000,000 per annum shall develop programmes to control unethical behaviours.

- (2) The programmes include —
 - (a) establishment of National Ethics Compliance Unit in a workplace to ensure compliance with workplace ethics under this Bill;
 - (b) designation of National Ethics Compliance Officer at its management level; and
 - (c) regular ethics training for its employees.
- (3) A person shall not practise the profession of ethics compliance in Nigeria unless the person is licensed in accordance with the provisions of this Bill.
- (4) Every citizen shall behave in manners consistent with the principles of National Ethics, help to enhance the power, prestige and good name of Nigeria, respect the dignity of other citizens and live in unity (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART II — MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE AGENCY

Clause 6: Governing Board of the Agency.

- (1) There is established for the Agency, a Governing Board (in this Bill referred to as "the Board").
- (2) The composition of the Board is —
 - (a) the Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as Chairman;
 - (b) Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice;
 - (c) Minister of Information and Culture;
 - (d) Inspector-General of Police; and
 - (e) the Director-General of the Agency.
- (3) The Board shall appoint other persons of proven integrity and with considerable experience to serve as members of the Board for a tenure of two years to represent State and Local Governments, civil society organisations, traditional rulers, security and intelligence communities, academia, professional and business communities and religious organisations.
- (4) The members of the Board, other than the Director-General shall —
 - (a) be part-time members of the Agency;
 - (b) not exceed 15 persons.
- (5) The supplementary provisions set out in First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board and other related matters (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Functions of the Board.

The Board shall —

- (a) direct the Agency in policy formulation;
- (b) give strategic direction to the Agency in the performance of its functions as set out in the Act;
- (c) deal with reports, complaint of abuse of power, impropriety and other forms of misconduct on the part of the Agency or its staff; and
- (d) review and approve the financial statements, annual estimates and budget of the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Composition of the Agency.

The Agency shall consist of —

- (a) the Office of the Director-General;
- (b) departments of —
 - (i) Investigation and Compliance,
 - (ii) Finance and Administration,
 - (iii) Training and Licensure; and
- (c) any other unit as may be required to assist the Director-General in the performance of the functions of the Agency under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Secretariats of the Agency.

- (1) There shall be National, State and Local Government Secretariats of the Agency (in this Bill referred to as "the Secretariats").
- (2) The Secretariats shall consist of —
 - (a) professional and technical personnel, administrative officers and support staff, as may be recruited or appointed by the Agency in the performance of its functions under this Bill;
 - (b) civil servants as may be seconded to the Agency by the Federal, State or Local Governments Civil Service Commission upon request by the Agency; and
 - (c) police officers as may be posted by the Inspector-General of Police upon request by the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Office of Director-General, departments and units.

- (1) The Agency is headed by the Director-General appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Board.
- (2) A person is qualified for appointment as the Director-General of the Agency if the person —
 - (a) is a citizen of Nigeria;
 - (b) possesses a degree or professional certificate of a degree equivalent; and
 - (c) has had at least 15 years proven experience and demonstrated ability and a distinguished career in a field of study that is relevant to ethics, governance, law, auditing, investigation, security or social studies.
- (3) A person is not qualified for appointment as Director-General if the person —
 - (a) is a member of a governing body of a political party;
 - (b) is an un-discharged bankrupt;
 - (c) has been convicted of a felony, or breach of public trust; or
 - (d) has been removed from public office for contravening the provisions of the Nigeria Constitution, this Bill or any other law.
- (4) The Director-General of the Agency shall take and subscribe to an oath of office.
- (5) The Director-General shall hold office for a term of five years and is eligible for reappointment for another five years and no more.
- (6) The Director-General is —
 - (a) the Chief Compliance Officer of the Federation;
 - (b) the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Agency; and
 - (c) responsible for —
 - (i) carrying out the decisions of the Agency,
 - (ii) the supervision of other staff, and
 - (iii) the administration and management of the affairs of the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Staff of the Agency.

- (1) The Director-General is assisted by directors and staff who shall work in the departments and units of the Agency.

- (2) The Agency shall —
 - (a) through an open, transparent and competitive recruitment process, appoint suitably qualified persons as staff to perform the functions of the Agency;
 - (b) in the appointment of the staff, ensure that at least one-third of the staff are of either gender; and
 - (c) ensure that the appointments reflect ethnic and regional diversity of the people of Nigeria.
- (3) A staff is qualified to hold the position of a director if the staff holds an educational qualification not below a degree (or professional certificate of a degree equivalent) and has at least 10 years of relevant work experience.
- (4) The position of the Director of Investigation and Compliance Department shall be held by a serving police officer of not lower than the rank of Commissioner of Police, as may be posted to the Agency by the Inspector General of Police, upon request.
- (5) The Agency shall contract professional firms to provide technical support to the Agency and may recruit contract staff to support the Agency in the areas of specialised job schedules.
- (6) A police officer who is posted by the Inspector-General of Police or civil servant seconded by the Civil Service Commission shall have the same benefits in the same manner as an employee recruited directly by the Agency and is required to execute any instruction, orders and directives of the Agency.
- (7) The Agency may establish committees and appoint persons outside the Agency whose knowledge and skills are found necessary for the functions of the Agency to serve on the committees.
- (8) Employees of the Agency and members of committees shall sign a confidentiality agreement, subscribe to the code of ethics as set out by the Agency in its Best Practice Manual, sign a conflict of interest declaration form and be guided by the standard operating procedures of the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Seal of the Agency.

- (1) The seal of the Agency is a device determined by the Board and shall be kept by the Director-General.
- (2) The affixing of the seal of the Agency shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director-General or any other member of the Board authorised in that behalf by a resolution of the Board.
- (3) A document purporting to be under the seal of the Agency or issued on behalf of the Agency shall be received in evidence and is deemed to be so executed or issued, unless the contrary is proved (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Offences and penalties.

- (1) An establishment or a person that contravenes any provision of this Bill commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of ₦100,000 in case of establishment and ₦10,000 in the case of individual, for each day the offence continues.
- (2) A contravention of ethical standards shall lead to an offence of disciplinary nature and the Agency shall prosecute it for the purpose of —
 - (a) protecting the rights of citizens and residents of Nigeria or visitors to Nigeria;
 - (b) freezing or confiscation of proceeds of the contravention or proceeds related to the contravention;
 - (c) payment of compensation;
 - (d) recovery or protection of public property; and
 - (e) other punitive and disciplinary measures.
- (3) An individual or establishment who, upon request by the Agency, could not provide within 30 days of the request documentary evidence of proof that he or she has not acquired property through unethical means commits an offence and shall be prosecuted by the Agency for the purpose of confiscation of the property and other punitive measures.
- (4) A statement in any declaration that is found to be false by an authority or person authorised in that behalf to verify it, is deemed to be a contravention of this Bill and the person who verified it, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of ₦200,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least six months or both.
- (5) If a person required to furnish information under this Bill fails to do so or in purported compliance with the requirement to furnish information, knowingly or recklessly makes a statement which is false, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of ₦200,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least six months or both.
- (6) Any person who willfully obstructs, interferes with, assaults or resists an officer of the Agency in the discharge of his duty under this Bill or who aids, invites, induces or abets any other person to obstruct, interfere with, assault or resist the officer of the Agency, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of ₦200,000 or imprisonment for a term of at least six months or both.
- (7) Where an offence under this Bill which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the connivance of or attributable to a neglect on the part of a director, manager or similar officer of the establishment, the body corporate shall be fined and the person, prosecuted and sentenced or fined or both.
- (8) Where a body corporate is liable for breach and found culpable four consecutive times of an offence under this Bill, the court may order that the

body corporate shall thereupon be wound up and its license revoked and all its assets forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria.

- (9) A person who, in respect of any complaint lodged by him, knowingly makes to the Agency any statement, whether or not in writing, which is false in any material particular, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to be sentenced to an option of fine or imprisonment for at least six months or both (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART III — FINANCIAL PROVISION

Clause 14: Fund of the Agency.

- (1) The Agency shall establish and maintain a fund (in this Bill referred to as "the Fund").
- (2) There shall be paid and credited into the Fund —
- (a) money as may vest in, or accrue to the Agency in the performance of its functions under this Bill or under any other law;
 - (b) grants, gifts, donations or other endowments given to the Agency, provided the grants are not intended for any purpose contrary to the objectives and functions of the Agency; and
 - (c) money that may be appropriated by the National Assembly for the Agency.
- (3) On commencement of this Bill, the supplementary provisions set out in Second Schedule to this Bill has effect with respect to the fees payable to the Agency for its services, and the fees shall be revised annually.
- (4) The annual estimates as approved by the Board shall make provision for all the estimated expenditure of the Agency for the financial year concerned and in particular, shall provide for the —
- (a) payment of remuneration in respect of the members and staff of the Agency;
 - (b) payment of pensions, gratuities and other charges in respect of benefits which are payable out of the funds of the Agency;
 - (c) maintenance of the buildings, and assets of the Agency;
 - (d) funding of training, research and development of activities of the Agency; and
 - (e) creation of any fund to meet contingent liabilities in respect of benefits, insurance or replacement of buildings or installations, equipment and in respect of any other matter as the Agency may deems fit.
- (5) Staff and members of the Agency are paid such remuneration or allowances as the National Salaries Incomes and Wages Commission shall approve (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Annual report of the Agency.

The Agency shall —

- (a) keep all proper books and records of account of the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the Agency;
- (b) prepare, audit and keep report of the annual report of the Agency in accordance with the Public Audit Act;
- (c) prepare an annual report at the end of each financial year;
- (d) submit the annual report to the President and the National Assembly three months after the end of the year to which it relates, and the annual report shall contain, in respect of the year to which it relates —
 - (i) the financial statements of the Agency and any other statistical information as the Agency may consider appropriate relating to the Agency's Fund,
 - (ii) a description of the activities of the Agency including any recommendations made by the Agency to any establishment or any person and the action taken,
 - (iii) the impact of the exercise or performance of any of its functions,
 - (iv) any impediment to the achievements of the objects and functions under this Bill or any written law, and
 - (v) any other information relating to its functions that the Agency considers necessary; and
- (e) publish the annual report and publicise it in any manner as the Agency may determine (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART IV — ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ETHICS COMPLIANCE UNIT

Clause 16: Establishment of National Ethics Compliance Unit.

- (1) The Agency shall direct all arms of government and every establishment with annual turnover in excess of ₦20,000,000 to establish National Ethics Compliance Unit as provided for in section 5 of this Bill.
- (2) The National Ethics Compliance Unit in the establishments shall —
 - (a) provide coordination for control measures designed by the Agency to promote ethically cultured workplace;
 - (b) investigate complaints or information concerning possible existence of practices constituting a violation of National Ethics within their establishments;
 - (c) provide a means to keep the head of the establishment informed about problems and deficiencies relating to compliance with National Ethics and the necessity for and progress of corrective action;

- (d) provide the Agency, not later than 30 April, and 31 October, of each year, a semi-annual report that summarises the activities of the National Ethics Compliance Unit during the immediate preceding six-month periods ending 31 March and 30 September and the report shall include —
 - (i) description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of ethics control measures during the reporting period,
 - (ii) description of the recommendations for corrective action made by the National Ethics Compliance Unit during the reporting period,
 - (iii) identification of each significant recommendation described in their previous semi-annual reports on which corrective action has not been taken or completed, and
 - (iv) summary of matters the establishment referred to prosecution authorities and the prosecutions and convictions which have resulted.
- (3) The National Ethics Compliance Unit is headed by personnel certified by the Agency and shall report to the chief executive officer of the establishment but cannot be prevented by anybody from initiating, carrying out, or completing any investigation (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART VI — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Clause 17: Request for information.

- (1) The Agency shall publish and publicise important information within its mandate that affects the nation and any request for such information by a citizen —
 - (a) shall be addressed to the Director General or any other person as the Agency may designate for that purpose;
 - (b) may be subject to the payment of a reasonable fee; and
 - (c) may be subject to confidentiality requirements of the Agency.
- (2) Subject to this Bill, the Agency may decline to give information to an applicant on the grounds that the —
 - (a) request is unreasonable in the circumstances;
 - (b) information requested is at a deliberative stage by the Agency;
 - (c) applicant has failed to pay a prescribed fee; or
 - (d) applicant has failed to satisfy confidentiality requirements by the Agency (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Transitional provisions.

- (1) All property, assets, rights, liabilities, obligations, agreements and other arrangements existing at the commencement of this Bill and vested in, acquired, incurred or entered into by or on behalf of the Special Adviser to the President on Ethics and Values, shall upon the commencement of this Bill, be deemed to have vested in or to have been acquired, incurred or entered into by or on behalf of the Agency to the same extent as they were enforceable by or against the Agency before the commencement of the Act.
- (2) Where the transfer of any property transferred to or vested in the Agency under this section is required by an written law to be registered, the Agency shall, within three months from the commencement of this Bill or within any other period as the written law may prescribe, apply to the appropriate registering authority for the registration of the transfer and the registering authority shall, at no cost to the Agency or any person by way of registration fees, stamp or other duties —
 - (a) make the entries in the appropriate register as shall give effect to the transfer;
 - (b) where appropriate, issue to the Agency a certificate of title or other statutory evidence of ownership of the property or make such amendments on the certificate or in the appropriate register as may be necessary; and
 - (c) make any necessary endorsements on any deed or other documents as may be presented to the registering authority relating to the title, right or obligation concerned.
- (3) A person who immediately before the coming into effect of this Bill is a principal office holder in the National Ethics and Values Compliance Office, existing before commencement of this Bill, shall continue in office and be deemed to have been appointed to the office by the Agency established by this Bill, unless the office occupied by the person becomes non-existent under the new organisational structure of the Agency and this Bill shall be the basis for the regularisations of the appointment of such principal officer holders.
- (4) On the commencement of this Bill —
 - (a) the National Ethics and Values Compliance Office shall cease to exist and its rights and obligations shall reside in the Agency and the appointment of its Director General appointed by the former Special Adviser to the President on Ethics and Values shall terminate;
 - (b) the Director of Finance and Accounts of the National Ethics and Values Compliance Office, existing before commencement of this Bill, shall act as the Director-General of the Agency until any time that the President appoints the first Director-General (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Interpretation.
In this Bill —

"Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance" means the Agency established under section 1 of this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Special Adviser to the President" means the Special Adviser to the President responsible for matters relating to ethics and values (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Special Adviser to the President" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Director-General" means the Director-General appointed by the Agency in accordance with the procedure set out in this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Director-General" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"Director of Finance and Accounts of the National Ethics and Values Compliance Office" means the person listed as the Director of Finance and Accounts on the list of principal staff in the letter sent to the Vice-President of Nigeria in response to the letter from the State House dated September 9, 2015 ref: SH/OVP/DCOS/NEVC/Vol.1/01 (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "Director of Finance and Accounts of the National Ethics and Values Compliance Office" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"salaries and remuneration" means the salaries and remuneration of the Agency stipulated under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Question that the meaning of the words "salaries and remuneration" be as defined in the interpretation to this Bill — Agreed to.

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

Clause 20: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance (Establishment) Bill, 2023 (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 6 (4)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

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, the Director-General and one third of other members of the Board.
- (3) The Board shall meet at least four times a year, one meeting in each quarter.
- (4) 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 at least four 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.
- (5) 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 them to preside at the meeting.

Committees

2. (1) The Board may set up one or more committees to perform, on its behalf, the functions as the Board may determine.
- (2) The quorum of any committee of the Agency shall be as determined by the Board.
- (3) 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.
- (4) A decision of a committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.

Validity

3. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or a committee is not 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. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 14 (3)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO FEES
PAYABLE TO THE AGENCY FOR ITS SERVICES

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Description of Services</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Reference Section</i>
1.	Consultancy fee for assisting willing organisation to develop or revise its Code of Ethics	₦100,000	2c
2.	Consultancy fee for providing willing organisation with Ethics Compliance Technical Assistance	₦5,000,000	2c
3.	Examination fee for award of National Ethics Compliance Professional (NECP)	₦10,000	2b
4.	Application for license to practice as National Ethics Compliance Professional (NECP)	₦25,000	2b
5.	Participation in seminar and conferences organised by the Agency	₦75,000	2b
6.	National Ethics and Values Compliance Unit semi-annual report filing fee		7a (iv)
	Establishment with less than 20 staff	₦2,000	
	Establishment with 20 staff or more	₦7,500 (Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader).	

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

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB. 528) (Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB. 528) and approved Clauses 1 - 20, 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.

- (ii) *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its*

Complementary Role in the Maintenance of Public Law and Order and for Related Matters (HB. 312) (Committee of the Whole):

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its Complementary Role in the Maintenance of Public Law and Order; and for Related Matters (HB. 312)" (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS ACT, 2007 TO INSTITUTIONALISE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CORPS AND RELEVANT SECURITY AGENCIES TO STRENGTHEN ITS COMPLEMENTARY ROLE IN THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC LAW AND ORDER; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 312)

Clause 1: Amendment of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act.
The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out in this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of Section 1 of the Principal Act.
Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended, by inserting after the existing subsection (2), new subsection "(3)" —

"(3) In the exercise of its functions under this Act, the Corps shall collaborate and share intelligence with relevant security and intelligence agencies" (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Citation.
This Bill is cited as the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act of 2003 to institutionalise collaboration between the Corps and relevant security agencies to strengthen its complementary role in the maintenance of public law and order (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration Between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its Complementary Role in the

Maintenance of Public Law and Order; and for Related Matters (HB. 312) (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its Complementary Role in the Maintenance of Public Law and Order; and for Related Matters (HB. 312) and approved Clauses 1 - 3, 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 Amend the Nigeria Police Act, 2020 to Regulate the Powers of the Police; to Promote Effective Collaboration between the Police and other Security Agencies and to Provide for the Operational Framework for Community Policing in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 313) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigeria Police Act, 2020 to Regulate the Powers of the Police; to Promote Effective Collaboration between the Police and other Security Agencies and to Provide for the Operational Framework for Community Policing in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 313)" (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIA POLICE ACT, 2020 TO
REGULATE THE POWERS OF THE POLICE; TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE
COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE POLICE AND OTHER SECURITY
AGENCIES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATIONAL
FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY POLICING IN NIGERIA;
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 313)

Clause 1: Amendment of the Nigeria Police Act, 2020.

The Nigeria Police Act, 2020 (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as set out under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of section 4 of the Principal Act.

Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by —

(a) deleting paragraph (d);

(b) deleting the words "within and outside Nigeria" in paragraph (e);

- (c) inserting, after the existing paragraph (f), new paragraphs "(f) and (g)" as follows —
- "(f) share intelligence with relevant security agencies, on matters related to national security;
- (g) be the lead agency in matters relating to its functions under this Bill, except where the Armed Forces are invited, in which case the Armed Forces shall be the lead agency;"
- (d) renumbering existing paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) as paragraphs (d), (e), (h), (i) and (j) respectively;
- (e) renumbering the existing provisions of section 4 as subsection (1) thereof; and
- (f) inserting thereafter, new sub-sections "(2) and (3)" as follow —
- "(2) Any intelligence obtained and shared under this section shall not be divulged to any unauthorised person.
- (3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ₦2,000,000.00 or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year or both" (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Amendment of section 8 of the Principal Act.

Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the words "but for the purposes of internal security shall remain under the control of a senior police officer" after the word "Nigeria" (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Amendment of section 60 of the Principal Act.

Section 60 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) by inserting new subsection "(1) (a)" after the existing subsection (1) as follows —
- "(1) (a) any statement taken pursuant to subsection (1), shall be recorded on camera"; and
- (b) in subsection (2), by substituting for the word "may", the word "shall" after the word "statement" in line one (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Chairman to report progress.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigeria Police Act, 2020 to Regulate the Powers of the

Police; to Promote Effective Collaboration between the Police and other Security Agencies and to Provide for the Operational Framework for Community Policing in Nigeria; and for Related Matters (HB. 313) and approved Clause 1 - 4, and deferred further consideration of the Report.

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

27. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB.528) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Agency for National Ethics and Values Compliance to Control Unethical Behaviour and Enforce Compliance with Principles of the National Ethics; and for Related Matters (HB.528) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

28. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its Complementary Role in the Maintenance of Public Law and Order; and for Related Matters (HB. 312) — Third Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Defence Corps Act, 2007 to Institutionalise Collaboration between the Corps and Relevant Security Agencies to Strengthen its Complementary Role in the Maintenance of Public Law; and Order and for Related Matters (HB. 312) be now read the Third Time” (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

Agreed to.

Bill read the Third Time and passed.

29. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 28 November, 2023 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.55 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker