



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 7 May, 2024

1. The House met at 11.00 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 30 April, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Announcement**
Ad-hoc Committee on the Restructuring of Federal Agencies and Commissions:
Mr Speaker announced the replacement of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the *Ad-hoc* Committee as follows:

Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka	—	<i>Chairman</i>
Hon. Amos Magaji Gwamna	—	<i>Deputy Chairman</i>

5. **Petition**
 - (i) A petition from F. O. Uriomo (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Gwede Harrison on his dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) A petition from Wole Olanipekun & Co., (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of 3000 disengaged casual/temporary staff of Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL), Warri Zone, on the non-compliance with House of Representatives Resolutions of 18 July, 2018 and 19 March, 2019, was presented and laid by Hon. Hassaini Muhammed Jallo (*Igabi Federal Constituency*);
 - (iii) A petition from the Centre for Social Justice Equity and Transparency (CESJET), on behalf of Decoon Services Limited on alleged fraudulent diversion of funds in the sum of Seven Million US Dollars (\$7,000,000) owed the company by Nigerian Agip Oil Company Limited

and one other, was presented and laid by Hon. Philip Agbese (*Ado/Ogbadigbo/Okpokwu Federal Constituency*);

- (iv) A petition from Ado Adamu of Mallam Madalla Global Concept Limited, on alleged non-payment of their outstanding balance of the sum of Four Billion, Forty Three Million, Three Hundred and Ninety Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty Naira only (₦4,043,390,250) by the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning, was presented and laid by Hon. Terseer Ugbor (*Kwande/Ushongo Federal Constituency*).

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) ***Need to Beef Up Security At Nimbo, Opanda and Ogbou Development Centre of Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area, Enugu State Following Persistent Serial Kidnappings and Killings in the Area:***

Hon. Martin Oke (*Igbo-Etiti/Uzo-Uwani Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
(b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Need to Beef up Security at Nimbo, Opanda and Ogboli Development Centre of Uzo-Uwani LGA, Enugu State Following Persistent Serial Kidnappings and Killings in the Area:

The House:

Notes that section 14 (b) of 1999 Constitution provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Also notes that Nimbo, Opanda and Ogboli Development Centre constitute a group of towns in Uzo-Uwani LGA of Enugu State;

Further notes that on Sunday, 28 April, 2024 by 5.00 a.m. that Ugwuijoro Village of Nimbo town was attacked by a group of gunmen who sprayed bullets on the sleeping village, killing many persons including women and children;

Concerned that on Sunday, 14 April, 2024, a group of gunmen attacked farmers in Adani in Ogboli Development Centre, killing three persons;

Also concerned that on 25 April, 2016, a similar attack occurred at Nimbo leading to the gruesome murder of 46 persons;

Further concerned that this criminal elements have continued those serial kidnappings and killings despite presence of three Police Divisions in the LGA which have obviously been overstretched;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased persons;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to come to the aid of the indigenes of Ugwuijoro Village, Nimbo, Uzo-Uwani LGA of Enugu State, who are internally displaced following the recent attacks and killings;
- (iii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), the Director-General, Department of State Services (DSS) and the National Security Adviser (NSA) to deploy more security personnel to Uzo-Uwani LGA for increased security surveillance and support;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Police, Army, National Security and Intelligence, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Martins Oke — Igbo-Etiti/Uzo-Uwani Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that section 14 (b) of 1999 Constitution provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government;

Also noted that Nimbo, Opanda and Ogboli Development Centre constitute a group of towns in Uzo-Uwani LGA of Enugu State;

Further noted that on Sunday, 28 April, 2024 by 5.00 a.m. that Ugwuijoro Village of Nimbo town was attacked by a group of gunmen who sprayed bullets on the sleeping village, killing many persons including women and children;

Concerned that on Sunday, 14 April, 2024, a group of gunmen attacked farmers in Adani in Ogboli Development Centre, killing three persons;

Also concerned that on 25 April, 2016, a similar attack occurred at Nimbo leading to the gruesome murder of 46 persons;

Further concerned that this criminal elements have continued those serial kidnappings and killings despite presence of three Police Divisions in the LGA which have obviously been overstretched;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased persons;
- (ii) urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to come to the aid of the indigenes of Ugwuijoro Village, Nimbo, Uzo-Uwani LGA of Enugu State, who are internally displaced following the recent attacks and killings;
- (iii) also urge the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), the Director-General, Department of State Services (DSS) and the National Security Adviser (NSA) to deploy more security personnel to Uzo-Uwani LGA for increased security surveillance and support;
- (iv) mandate the Committees on Police, Army, National Security and Intelligence,

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 168/05/2024**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) *Tragic Explosion of Petroleum Tanker in Eleme-Akpajo, Along East/West Road in Eleme Local Government Area of River State:*

Hon. Nweke Felix Uche (*Eleme/Oyigbo/Tai Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Tragic Explosion of Petroleum Tanker in Eleme-Akpajo, Along East/West Road in Eleme Local Government Area of River State:

The House:

Notes on Friday, 26 April, 2024, at about 8pm, the tragic explosion of a petrol tanker along Eleme-Akpajo axis of East/West road killing several number of people including pregnant women and children, with over Eighty (80) vehicles burnt and several other properties destroyed;

Also notes that the Eleme axis, of the road has remained under construction by Messers. Reynolds Construction Company (RCC) for quite a long time without evidence of completion thereby making it a death trap for motorists and residents alike;

Regrets that despite the huge traffic along the road, the Construction Company has refused to expedite action on the construction nor provide alternative road thereby resulting in gridlock and attendant road mishaps;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the departed;
- (ii) urge the Messers Reynolds Construction Company (RCC) Ltd to provide a smooth alternative lane for the movement of commuters while construction;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and RCC to ensure that there are traffic Marshalls on the road to direct traffic; ensure free flow of traffic and avoid gridlock of cars on the long stretch of the road under construction;
- (iv) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to ensure that RCC steps up the pace of the road construction to ensure completion in record time;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance (*Hon. Felix Uche Nwaeke — Eleme/Oyigbo/Tai Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted on Friday, 26 April, 2024, at about 8pm, the tragic explosion of a petrol tanker along Eleme-Akpajo axis of East/West road killing several number of people including pregnant women and children, with over Eighty (80) vehicles burnt and several other properties destroyed;

Also noted that the Eleme axis, of the road has remained under construction by Messers. Reynolds Construction Company (RCC) for quite a long time without evidence of completion thereby making it a death trap for motorists and residents alike;

Regretted that despite the huge traffic along the road, the Construction Company has refused to expedite action on the construction nor provide alternative road thereby resulting in gridlock and attendant road mishaps;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence for the departed;
- (ii) urge the Messers Reynolds Construction Company (RCC) Ltd to provide a smooth alternative lane for the movement of commuters while construction;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Works and RCC to ensure that there are traffic Marshalls on the road to direct traffic; ensure free flow of traffic and avoid gridlock of cars on the long stretch of the road under construction;
- (iv) further urge the Federal Ministry of Works to ensure that RCC steps up the pace of the road construction to ensure completion in record time;
- (v) mandate the Committee on Works to ensure compliance (**HR. 169/05/2024**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

(iii) ***Killing of Innocent Nigerians in Ambe, the Outskirts of Gwantu, Sanga Local Government Area, Kaduna State:***

Hon. Daniel Amos (Jama'á/Sanga Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Killing of Innocent Nigerians in Ambe, the Outskirts of Gwantu, Sanga Local Government Area, Kaduna State:

The House:

Notes that Section 33 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as

amended) provides that every person has the right to life and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his or her life;

Also notes that Section 41 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria, and to reside in any part therein;

Further notes that about 7pm on Sunday, May 5, 2024, in Ambe an outskirts of Gwantu, Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State, 2 unknown gunmen arrived on 2 Motorcycles at a birthday celebration venue of an aged father, killing 6 people and injured many;

Informed that the youths of the area summoned courage apprehended one of the gunmen with a Motorcycle and gun, and handed him over to the soldiers on special duty at Gwantu;

Also informed that some of the victims of the attack are currently receiving treatment at the University Teaching Hospital, Jos;

Concerned that the residents of the community are still traumatized over the losses and level of insecurity due to the attack:

Aware that the primary duty and obligation of government is to ensure the protection of the lives and properties of every Nigerian;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to urgently deploy more Police officers to the area;
- (iii) also urge the Nigeria Police Force and the Nigerian Army as well as the Department of State Services to collaborate and ensure the culprits involved are brought to book;
- (iv) further urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and non-food item to the affected victims; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police, Army and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Daniel Amos — Jama'a/Sanga Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 33 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that every person has the right to life and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his or her life;

Also noted that Section 41 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) provides that every citizen of Nigeria is entitled to move freely throughout Nigeria, and to reside in any part therein;

Further noted that about 7pm on Sunday, May 5, 2024, in Ambe an outskirts of Gwantu, Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State, 2 unknown gunmen arrived on 2 Motorcycles at a birthday celebration venue of an aged father, killing 6 people and injured many;

Informed that the youths of the area summoned courage apprehended one of the gunmen with a Motorcycle and gun, and handed him over to the soldiers on special duty at Gwantu;

Also informed that some of the victims of the attack are currently receiving treatment at the University Teaching Hospital, Jos;

Concerned that the residents of the community are still traumatized over the losses and level of insecurity due to the attack:

Aware that the primary duty and obligation of government is to ensure the protection of the lives and properties of every Nigerian;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased victims;
- (ii) urge the Inspector-General of Police to urgently deploy more Police officers to the area;
- (iii) also urge the Nigeria Police Force and the Nigerian Army as well as the Department of State Services to collaborate and ensure the culprits involved are brought to book;
- (iv) further urge the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to provide food and non-food item to the affected victims; and
- (v) mandate the Committees on Police, Army and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (**HR. 170/05/2024**).

A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (4) to enable it take more than 3 matters of urgent public importance” (*Hon. Ginger Obinna Onwusibe — Isiala Ngwa North/Isiala Ngwa South Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

- (iv) ***Need to Address the Tragic Death of Onumaegbu Richard Iheanyi:***
Hon. Ginger Obinna Onwusibe (*Isiala Ngwa North/Isiala Ngwa South Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

Need to Address the Tragic Death of Onumaegbu Richard Iheanyi:

The House:

Notes the tragic death of Onumaegbu Richard Iheanyi, who hailed from Umuawo, Amaogwugwu in Ihie Auto Community in Isiala Ngwa North of Abia State. He was a dedicated civil servant who tragically lost his life due to torture inflicted by members of the Nigerian Navy. Mr Onumaegbu, a loyal employee of the Nigerian Navy Reference Hospital Ojo in Lagos, served diligently for 15 years and was on Grade Level 8, demonstrating unwavering commitment to his duties;

Disturbed that on the fateful night of March 26th, 2024, Mr Onumaegbu was subjected to brutal torture for a horrifying duration of 5 hours, from 8 pm to 1 am, by five Naval officers reportedly summoned by an aggrieved lady who had issues with the deceased. This barbaric act not only robbed Mr Onumaegbu of his life but also tarnished the reputation of the Nigerian Navy and violated fundamental human rights;

Worried that measures are needed to forestall the possible break down of law and order by aggrieved youths protesting the tragic and untimely death of their colleague and brother whose life was cut down at its prime, realizing that this is the second time my constituent is being killed unconditionally by the Nigerian Navy in the past three months;

Concerned that the circumstances surrounding Mr Onumaegbu's death demand immediate attention and justice, and it is therefore incumbent upon this honorable assembly to take decisive action to ensure justice, accountability, prevent further atrocities, and uphold the rule of law;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Navy to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation into the events leading to Mr Onumaegbu's death, with a focus on identifying all individuals involved and holding them accountable under the law;
- (ii) also urge the authorities of the Nigerian Navy to implement measures to prevent similar incidents of torture and abuse within the Nigerian Navy, including enhanced training on human rights and adherence to legal protocols;
- (iii) further urge the authorities to provide adequate support and compensation to the family of the deceased, acknowledging the irreparable loss they have suffered (*Hon. Ginger Obinna Onwusibe — Isiala Ngwa North/South Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendment Proposed:

Leave out Prayer (i), and *insert* as follows:

“mandate the Committee on Navy to conduct a thorough investigation into the killing and report within three (3) weeks” (*Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka Ayokunle — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the tragic death of Onumaegbu Richard Iheanyi, who hailed from Umuawo, Amaogwugwu in Ihie Auto Community in Isiala Ngwa North of Abia State. He was a

dedicated civil servant who tragically lost his life due to torture inflicted by members of the Nigerian Navy. Mr Onumaegbu, a loyal employee of the Nigerian Navy Reference Hospital Ojo in Lagos, served diligently for 15 years and was on Grade Level 8, demonstrating unwavering commitment to his duties;

Disturbed that on the fateful night of March 26th, 2024, Mr Onumaegbu was subjected to brutal torture for a horrifying duration of 5 hours, from 8 pm to 1 am, by five Naval officers reportedly summoned by an aggrieved lady who had issues with the deceased. This barbaric act not only robbed Mr Onumaegbu of his life but also tarnished the reputation of the Nigerian Navy and violated fundamental human rights;

Worried that measures are needed to forestall the possible break down of law and order by aggrieved youths protesting the tragic and untimely death of their colleague and brother whose life was cut down at its prime, realizing that this is the second time my constituent is being killed unconditionally by the Nigerian Navy in the past three months;

Concerned that the circumstances surrounding Mr Onumaegbu's death demand immediate attention and justice, and it is therefore incumbent upon this honorable assembly to take decisive action to ensure justice, accountability, prevent further atrocities, and uphold the rule of law;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the authorities of the Nigerian Navy to implement measures to prevent similar incidents of torture and abuse within the Nigerian Navy, including enhanced training on human rights and adherence to legal protocols;
- (ii) also urge the authorities to provide adequate support and compensation to the family of the deceased, acknowledging the irreparable loss they have suffered;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Navy to conduct a thorough investigation into the killing and report within three (3) weeks (**HR. 171/05/2024**).

7. **Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1218).
- (2) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1219).
- (3) Federal Medical Centres Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1220).
- (4) Insurance Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1221).
- (5) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1222).
- (6) Nigerian Education Research and Development Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1224).
- (7) Nigerian Shippers Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1225).
- (8) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1226).
- (9) Federal Colleges of Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1228).
- (10) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1229).

- (11) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1230).
- (12) Border Communities Development Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1232).
- (13) Child' Rights Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1294).
- (14) Federal Polytechnics Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1295).
- (15) Fiscal Responsibility Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1304).
- (16) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1305).
- (17) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1306).
- (18) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Abigbirodo, Delta State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1307).
- (19) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1308).
- (20) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1309).
- (21) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1312).
- (22) Federal Universities of Technology Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1313).
- (23) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1314).
- (24) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1315).
- (25) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1316).
- (26) Federal College of Nursing and Midwifery, Awo, Osun State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1317).
- (27) National Agency for Job Creation and Human Capital Development, Owode-Ede, Osun State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1319).
- (28) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) Bill, 2024 (HB.1320).

8. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 8 May, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 12.03 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker