



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 8 October, 2024

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

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.
 4. **Announcement**
Visitor in the Gallery:
Mr Speaker announced the presence of Staff and Students of Anglican Comprehensive Secondary School, Kubwa, Abuja.
 5. **Petitions**
 - (i) A petition from Bonny Ekong & Associates (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of the people of Ukana West I, Essien Udim Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State, on alleged extortion and inhuman treatment by the Joint Task Force (JTF), deployed to Ukana West, was presented and laid by Hon. Patrick Umoh (*Ikot Ekpene/Essien Udim/Obot Akara Federal Constituency*);
 - (ii) A petition from Hope Ede and one other, on behalf of Umu-Ezubeke Development Union, on alleged unauthorised sale of community land and promotion of inter-communal war by Igwe Benneth Ikenna and 2 others, was presented and laid by Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (*NdokwaEast/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*);
 - (iii) A petition from V. I. Modekwe and 1 other, on behalf of Medical and Dental Consultants' Association of Nigeria (MDCAN) on alleged plot to exclude qualified Clinical Lecturers from contesting for the position of Vice-Chancellor of Nnamdi Azikwe University, was presented and laid by Hon. Peter Uzokwe Ifeanyi (*Nnewi North/Nnewi South/Ekwusigo Federal Constituency*).
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Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) *Need to Assist Victims of Boat Mishap at Gbajibo Mudi, Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:*

Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio (*Baruten/Kaiama 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 Assist Victims of Boat Mishap at Gbajibo Mudi, Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:

The House:

Notes that Gbajibo Mudi in Adena Ward of Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State comprises people with different religion and ethnic background;

Also notes that among those in the boat were the Tijanniyas who were going for Maulud Celebration in Gbajibo Mudi;

Cognizant that on 1 October, 2024, those that boarded the boat for annual collaboration of Maulud Celebration were approximately 285;

Also cognizant that unfortunately the boat capsized leaving more than half of the number dead and only few number survived and several passengers missing while rescue efforts are still ongoing;

Disturbed that the dead persons, Survivors and the Missing ones with their families need urgent and adequate interventions from Government in terms of relief materials and adequate means of transportation in the water ways of the State;

Also disturbed that if adequate Intervention is not provided, this may lead to more disaster of this nature;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently come to the aid of the victims of this boat mishap by providing relief materials to them;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy and National Inland Waterways Authority to provide Ferries for easy transportation in that Axis of Kwara State;
- (iii) mandate Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Inland Waterways, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon Mohammed Omar Bio — Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Gbajibo Mudi in Adena Ward of Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State comprises people with different religion and ethnic background;

Also noted that among those in the boat were the Tijanniyas who were going for Maulud Celebration in Gbajibo Mudi;

Cognizant that on 1 October, 2024, those that boarded the boat for annual collaboration of Maulud Celebration were approximately 285;

Also cognizant that unfortunately the boat capsized leaving more than half of the number dead and only few number survived and several passengers missing while rescue efforts are still ongoing;

Disturbed that the dead persons, Survivors and the Missing ones with their families need urgent and adequate interventions from Government in terms of relief materials and adequate means of transportation in the water ways of the State;

Also disturbed that if adequate Intervention is not provided, this may lead to more disaster of this nature;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to urgently come to the aid of the victims of this boat mishap by providing relief materials to them;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy and National Inland Waterways Authority to provide Ferries for easy transportation in that Axis of Kwara State;
- (iii) mandate Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Inland Waterways, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (**HR. 82/10/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) ***Need for Government Intervention to Address Escalating Bandits Attacks in Faskari and Kankara Sabuwa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:***

Hon. Dalhatu Shehu (*Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa 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 for Government Intervention to Address Escalating Bandits Attacks in Faskari and Kankara Sabuwa Local Government Areas of Katsina State:

The House:

Notes with deep concern that in the past 4 months, there has not been persistent bandit attack in Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa Federal Constituency of Katsina State;

Worried that on Friday, 4 October, 2024, armed bandits ambushed members of the Katsina State Community Watch Corps, an initiative put in place by His Excellency, Governor Dikko Umar Radda, and along the Yankara-Faskari road, killing six members, wounding two others, and seized their weapons;

Disturbed that on Sunday, 6 October, 2024, the bandits targeted innocent people at Balan Dawa village, killing three and kidnapped some women, which continued till Monday, 7 October, 2024, when bandits attacked the Funtua-Gusau road, killing one person and kidnapped an unspecified number of commuters;

Concerned that the situation has deteriorated to the point where bandits now openly provide bank account for ransom payments to be made for kidnapped victims, which is curious;

Recognized that despite the deployment of security personnel by the government to these areas, banditry has persisted, indicating that the current strategies are inadequate;

Appreciates the effort of the Nigerian Army and the Nigeria Police Force in the region, while urging that they should further redouble their efforts of restoring lasting peace in the area;

Acknowledges that the efforts of the communities at securing themselves through the initiative such as the Vigilante, who were outmatched by the heavily armed bandits;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the departed souls;
- (ii) call on the security agencies to:
 - (a) urgently intensify efforts towards rescuing those kidnapped by the criminals,
 - (b) work closely with local security agencies to improve intelligence gathering, enhance response times, and ensure first responsive effectiveness;
- (iii) also call on the Nigerian Army and Nigerian Police Force to immediately beef up security measures in Faskari/Kankara Sabuwa Federal Constituency, by deploying additional personnel to ensuring the protection of lives and property;
- (iv) urge the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy to investigate the use of telecommunications networks and financial systems by bandits to facilitate ransom payments, and to work closely with law enforcement to block such channels of communication and financial transactions used by criminals (*Hon. Dalhatu Shehu — Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted with deep concern that in the past 4 months, there has not been persistent bandit attack in Faskari/Kankara/Sabuwa Federal Constituency of Katsina State;

Worried that on Friday, 4 October, 2024, armed bandits ambushed members of the Katsina State Community Watch Corps, an initiative put in place by His Excellency, Governor Dikko Umar Radda, and along the Yankara-Faskari road, killing six members, wounding two others, and seized their weapons;

Disturbed that on Sunday, 6 October, 2024, the bandits targeted innocent people at Balan Dawa village, killing three and kidnapped some women, which continued till Monday, 7 October, 2024, when bandits attacked the Funtua-Gusau road, killing one person and kidnapped an unspecified number of commuters;

Concerned that the situation has deteriorated to the point where bandits now openly provide bank account for ransom payments to be made for kidnapped victims, which is curious;

Recognized that despite the deployment of security personnel by the government to these areas, banditry has persisted, indicating that the current strategies are inadequate;

Appreciated the effort of the Nigerian Army and the Nigeria Police Force in the region, while urging that they should further redouble their efforts of restoring lasting peace in the area;

Acknowledged that the efforts of the communities at securing themselves through the initiative such as the Vigilante, who were outmatched by the heavily armed bandits;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the departed souls;
- (ii) call on the security agencies to:
 - (a) urgently intensify efforts towards rescuing those kidnapped by the criminals,
 - (b) work closely with local security agencies to improve intelligence gathering, enhance response times, and ensure first responsive effectiveness;
- (iii) also call on the Nigerian Army and Nigerian Police Force to immediately beef up security measures in Faskari/Kankara Sabuwa Federal Constituency, by deploying additional personnel to ensuring the protection of lives and property;
- (iv) urge the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy to investigate the use of telecommunications networks and financial systems by bandits to facilitate ransom payments, and to work closely with law enforcement to block such channels of communication and financial transactions used by criminals (**HR. 83/10/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

- (iii) ***Need to Commend the Nigerian Military and Other Law Enforcement Agencies on Rescue Mission during the Flood Disaster in Maiduguri and its Environment:***
Hon. Ahmadu Usman Jaha (Chibok/Dambo/Gwoza 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 Commend the Nigerian Military and Other Law Enforcement Agencies on Rescue Mission during the Flood Disaster in Maiduguri and its Environment:

The House:

Notes the swift response of the Military and other Law Enforcement Agencies during the flood disaster in Maiduguri and its environs by deploying rescue operations that saved numerous lives and also provided necessary aid and support to affected families such as food, medical assistance and shelter;

Recognizes the risks taken by these brave men and women who put their lives on the line to ensure the safety of others during the floods;

Acknowledges that the military's immediate response to the disaster showcased their readiness and commitment to humanitarian efforts, demonstrating that they are not only defenders of the nation but also protectors of the citizens in times of crisis;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silent in honor of the departed souls;
- (ii) commend the Nigerian military and all law enforcement agencies involved in the rescue missions during the Maiduguri flood disaster;
- (iii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to support the military and other law enforcement agencies by ensuring that they have the resources necessary to continue their vital work in protecting and serving the communities;
- (iv) also urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to do the needful to avoid or prevent the reoccurrence of the same disaster in the future;
- (v) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the North East Development Commission (NEDC) as well as all relevant agencies and organizations to provide relief materials to the affected victims to alleviate their suffering (*Hon. Ahmadu Usman Jaha — Chibok/Damboa/Gwoza Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the swift response of the Military and other Law Enforcement Agencies during the flood disaster in Maiduguri and its environs by deploying rescue operations that saved numerous lives and also provided necessary aid and support to affected families such as food, medical assistance and shelter;

Recognized the risks taken by these brave men and women who put their lives on the line to ensure the safety of others during the floods;

Acknowledged that the military's immediate response to the disaster showcased their readiness and commitment to humanitarian efforts, demonstrating that they are not only defenders of the nation but also protectors of the citizens in times of crisis;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silent in honor of the departed souls;
- (ii) commend the Nigerian military and all law enforcement agencies involved in the rescue missions during the Maiduguri flood disaster;
- (iii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to support the military and other law enforcement agencies by ensuring that they have the resources necessary to continue their vital work in protecting and serving the communities;
- (iv) also urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to do the needful to avoid or prevent the reoccurrence of the same disaster in the future;
- (v) further urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the North East Development Commission (NEDC) as well as all relevant agencies and organizations to provide relief materials to the affected victims to alleviate their suffering (**HR. 84/10/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

7. **Presentation of Bills**

The following Bills were read the *First Time*:

- (1) Nigeria Tax Administration Bill, 2024 (HB.1756).
- (2) Nigeria Revenue Service (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1757).
- (3) Joint Revenue Board of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1758).
- (4) Nigeria Tax Bill, 2024 (HB.1759).
- (5) Bola Ahmed Tinubu Federal University of Nigerian Languages, Aba (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2024 (HB.1753).
- (6) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) (State INEC Powers to Conduct Local Government Elections) Bill, 2024 (HB.1761).
- (7) Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024(HB.1762).
- (8) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (Alteration) (Eliminate Discrimination against Women in the Nationality Law) Bill, 2024 (HB.1763).
- (9) Criminal Code Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024(HB.1764).
- (10) Federal Road Safety Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1771).

8. Presentation of Reports**(i) Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:**

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2024 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical) Otan Ayegbaju, Osun State and for Related Matters (HB. 1072)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(ii) Committee on Federal Colleges of Education:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2024 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education (Technical), Fufore, Adamawa State and for Related Matters (HB. 1018)” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

(iii) Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to Unravel the Cause of Miguel Ovoke's Death:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do receive the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Need to Unravel the Cause of the death of Miguel Ovoke, a four year old pupil at Brickhall School in Abuja” (*Hon. Adamu Tanko — Gurara/Suleja/Tafa Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

9. Consolidation of Bills:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act for the Mandatory Procurement (First Option) of Locally made Products, Goods and Services by Government, Ministries, Departments and Agencies and for Related Matters (HB. 85); a Bill for an Act to make it Mandatory for Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies to give priority to Local Manufacturers and Indigenous Companies in the Procurement of Goods, Works and Services and to Prohibit the Exclusion of Locally Produced Goods in the Procurement Process and for Related Matters (HB. 1007); and a Bill for an Act to Repeal the Local Content Act of 2010 and Enact an Act to make it Mandatory for Ministries, Departments and Agencies to give priority to Local Manufacturers and Indigenous Companies in the Procurement of Goods and Services and to Prohibit the Exclusion of Locally Produced Goods in the Procurement Process and for Related Matters (HB. 1330) be now consolidated (*Hon. Waive Ejiroghene Francis — Ughelli North/Ughelli South/Udu Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education Oyin Akoko, Ondo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1600) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Colleges of Education Act, Cap. F8, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Provide for Establishment of Federal College of Education Oyin Akoko, Ondo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1600) be read

a Second Time” (Hon. Ifeoluwa Ehindero — Akoko North East/Akoko North West Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Colleges of Education.

11 A Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Institute of Vision and Optical Research, Erema, Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni Local Government Area, Rivers State, to Provide for Scientific Research, Development of New Technologies and Products in Vision and Optical Health, and for Related Matters (HB. 586) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal Institute of Vision and Optical Research, Erema, Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni Local Government Area, Rivers State, to Provide for Scientific Research, Development of New Technologies and Products in Vision and Optical Health, and for Related Matters (HB. 586) be read a Second Time” (Hon. Victor Obuzor Chukwuemele — Ahoada West/Ogba Egbemi Ndoni Federal Constituency).

Debate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Speciality Healthcare.

12. Need to Review the Budgetary Allocation of the National Orientation Agency for Improved Citizens Orientation

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes the need for a comprehensive re-orientation of citizens on national values, encouraging a growth mindset, and promoting the spirit of unity and patriotism;

Also notes that the National Orientation Agency was established in 1993 with a clear mandate to promote civic responsibility and orient Nigerians on national values;

Further notes that the Agency is empowered to, among other things, propagate the need to eschew all vices in public life, promote dignity of labour and consumption of local products and establish social institutions for fostering national integration;

Again notes that the Agency has an elaborate grassroots structure and extensive reach to the majority of Nigerians in the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation, the Federal Capital Territory and 774 Local Government Areas, it serves as a veritable tool for citizen mobilization and engagement;

Aware that the budgetary allocation for the Agency in the Appropriation Act, 2024 is N8, 819, 470, 967 (Eight billion, eight hundred and nineteen million, four hundred and seventy thousand, nine hundred and sixty-seven naira) only;

Concerned that the existing funding provided for the Agency is grossly inadequate to meet the extensive responsibilities of the agency and its offices across the nation;

Also concerned that given the prevailing trend of youth restiveness and social vices in the nation, there is definitely an urgent need to implement measures for effective reorientation of citizens to curb vices, re-orient the people and encourage growth within our society;

Cognizant that the current youth restiveness and social vices in the nation necessitate urgent measures for effective reorientation to curb these vices and promote societal growth.

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to review the budgetary allocation of the National Orientation Agency in line with current realities in subsequent budget estimates to enable successful re-orientation of citizens;
- (ii) also urge the National Orientation Agency to:
 - (a) increase visibility across all media platforms and put out more engaging content that will project Federal Government policies to the people and also expose the citizens to government initiatives that can be beneficial to them,
 - (b) collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Traditional Institutions, Religious Bodies, Community Leaders, Civil Society Organizations, and the Fourth Estate of the Realm to amplify outreach efforts and enhance the effectiveness of public enlightenment campaigns for the holistic development of our beloved country;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to conduct a thorough oversight and recommend appropriate measures that will enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agency for improved service delivery and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Adewale Hammed Waheed — Agege Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the need for a comprehensive re-orientation of citizens on national values, encouraging a growth mindset, and promoting the spirit of unity and patriotism;

Also noted that the National Orientation Agency was established in 1993 with a clear mandate to promote civic responsibility and orient Nigerians on national values;

Further noted that the Agency is empowered to, among other things, propagate the need to eschew all vices in public life, promote dignity of labour and consumption of local products and establish social institutions for fostering national integration;

Again noted that the Agency has an elaborate grassroots structure and extensive reach to the majority of Nigerians in the thirty-six (36) States of the Federation, the Federal Capital Territory and 774 Local Government Areas, it serves as a veritable tool for citizen mobilization and engagement;

Aware that the budgetary allocation for the Agency in the Appropriation Act, 2024 is N8, 819, 470, 967 (Eight billion, eight hundred and nineteen million, four hundred and seventy thousand, nine hundred and sixty-seven naira) only;

Concerned that the existing funding provided for the Agency is grossly inadequate to meet the extensive responsibilities of the agency and its offices across the nation;

Also concerned that given the prevailing trend of youth restiveness and social vices in the nation,

there is definitely an urgent need to implement measures for effective reorientation of citizens to curb vices, re-orient the people and encourage growth within our society;

Cognizant that the current youth restiveness and social vices in the nation necessitate urgent measures for effective reorientation to curb these vices and promote societal growth.

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to review the budgetary allocation of the National Orientation Agency in line with current realities in subsequent budget estimates to enable successful re-orientation of citizens;
- (ii) also urge the National Orientation Agency to:
 - (a) increase visibility across all media platforms and put out more engaging content that will project Federal Government policies to the people and also expose the citizens to government initiatives that can be beneficial to them;
 - (b) collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Traditional Institutions, Religious Bodies, Community Leaders, Civil Society Organizations, and the Fourth Estate of the Realm to amplify outreach efforts and enhance the effectiveness of public enlightenment campaigns for the holistic development of our beloved country;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Information, National Orientation, Ethics and Values to conduct a thorough oversight and recommend appropriate measures that will enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Agency for improved service delivery and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 85/10/2024**).

13. Need to Complete the Construction of Umuchu Transmission Substation and Agu Awka-Umuchu Double CCT Lines:

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the construction of 2x60mva, 132/33kv substation at Umuchu with 2x132kv lines bays extension at Agu Awka substation and Agu Awka-Umuchu 132kV double circuit overhead transmission line was awarded to Cartlark International Limited in 2021;

Also notes that the 2021 Contract award sparked hope among residents and business owners, as it was expected to ameliorate hardship caused by darkness and epileptic power supply;

Aware that over (\$455,241,205.70), four hundred and fifty-five million Dollars, was disbursed to Cartlark International Limited for the extension of Umuchu substation with line bay extension at Agu Awka Transmission Station and the sum of three hundred and fifty-seven million, five hundred and twelve thousand, seven hundred and seventy-nine dollars, sixty-four cents (\$357,512,779.64) was equally disbursed for the Agu Awka-Umuchu Double CCT lines;

Worried that since Cartlark International Limited was awarded the contract and humongous funds paid, the company only mobilized to site and thereafter abandoned the project with no sign of resumption;

Also worried that abandonment of a crucial project, heavily funded by taxpayer's money, is capable of declining the growth of economic activities, thus dashing the hopes of residents and business owners;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge Cartlark International Limited to return to site with immediate effect and complete the abandoned project;
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Power to invite the MD/CEO of Cartlark International Limited to explain:
 - (a) the immediate and remote causes of abandoning the Construction of Umuchu Transmission Substation and Agu Awka-Umuchu Double CCT Lines;
 - (b) the utilization of the huge funds provided for the execution of the project;
- (iii) also mandate the Committees on Power, Anti-Corruption and Public Accounts to ensure compliance and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Dominic Ifeanyi Okafor — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (iii), immediately after the words “Public Accounts to”, *leave out* the words “ensure compliance” and *insert* the words “investigate the matter” (*Hon. Inuwa Garba — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Leave out* Prayer (ii) (*Hon. Unyime Idem Josiah — Ukanafun/Oruk Anam Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the construction of 2x60mva, 132/33kv substation at Umuchu with 2x132kv lines bays extension at Agu Awka substation and Agu Awka-Umuchu 132kV double circuit overhead transmission line was awarded to Cartlark International Limited in 2021;

Also noted that the 2021 Contract award sparked hope among residents and business owners, as it was expected to ameliorate hardship caused by darkness and epileptic power supply;

Aware that over (\$455,241,205.70), four hundred and fifty-five million Dollars, was disbursed to Cartlark International Limited for the extension of Umuchu substation with line bay extension at Agu Awka Transmission Station and the sum of three hundred and fifty-seven million, five hundred and twelve thousand, seven hundred and seventy-nine dollars, sixty-four cents (\$357,512,779.64) was equally disbursed for the Agu Awka-Umuchu Double CCT lines;

Worried that since Cartlark International Limited was awarded the contract and humongous funds paid, the company only mobilized to site and thereafter abandoned the project with no sign of resumption;

Also worried that abandonment of a crucial project, heavily funded by taxpayer's money, is capable of declining the growth of economic activities, thus dashing the hopes of residents and business owners;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge Cartlark International Limited to return to site with immediate effect and complete the abandoned project;

- (ii) also mandate the Committees on Power, Anti-Corruption and Public Accounts to investigate the matter and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 86/10/2024**).

14. Need to Promote Sustainable Practices and Green Projects in Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)

Motion made and Question proposed:

The House:

Notes that the major environmental concerns in Nigeria include population, flood, desertification, soil erosion and loss of biodiversity affecting Nigeria's ecosystems and communities;

Also notes that Nigerian stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), consumers, and organizations, play a crucial role in shaping sustainable practices as their actions directly impact the environment and future well-being of citizens;

Further notes that the Sustainable Practices and Green Projects Initiative focus on conservation, afforestation drives, renewable energy adoption, waste reduction, ecosystem restoration, and waste recycling programs tailored to the country's local context;

Aware that Nigeria is a signatory to the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) Paris Agreement, which was ratified in 2017 and formulated its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), announced its net-zero commitment by 2060 in 2021, following the enactment of the Climate Change Act;

Also aware that carbon credits represent one metric ton of carbon dioxide (Co2) or greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions removed from the atmosphere; the global value of the voluntary carbon market was estimated at about \$2 billion in 2022 and is widely expected to grow by a factor of at least 15 by 2030, as governments and companies seek to use offsets to help achieve net-zero emissions targets;

Further aware that these credits motivate companies and organizations to engage in activities that benefit the climate by either reducing emissions or preventing them;

Informed that the African Carbon Market Initiative predicts Nigeria could generate over \$500m annually by 2030, supporting over 3 million Nigerian jobs through this industry:

Also informed that investments in sustainable green projects will create jobs, stimulate innovation, and contribute to Nigeria's economic development, an estimate of resources pledged to major climate change advocacy organizations such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation, and the Climate Investment Funds puts the total value of Green Funds at \$23bn for 2024. This excludes other sources of finance, such as bilateral and multilateral aid, private sector investment, and domestic resources;

Cognizant that encouraging green practices is crucial for a sustainable future for Nigerians and fulfilling domestic and international climate obligations;

Also cognizant that integrating green projects into government operations can contribute to global goals and reap economic and environmental benefits through commitment, coordination, and a long-term vision;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Climate Council to enforce the requirement for all Ministries, Departments, Agencies, and Companies with 50 staff and above to have a sustainability plan and effectively implement it;

- (ii) mandate the Committees on Climate Change, Renewable Energy, Environment, and Ecological Fund to work with the Executive to educate citizens, companies, and MDAs to embrace sustainable practices in the design and execution of its projects and programs;
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Appropriations to work with the Ministry of Budget and Planning to sensitise MDAs to adopt sustainable practices to ensure that:
 - (a) Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) with sustainable practices and carbon credit potentials given additional funding above their budget envelopes with effect from 2025 budget estimates, with carbon credit potentials and programs established at conception and submitted to the Federal Executive Council (FEC), and
 - (b) create a separate budget envelope annually based on green funds secured from DFIs, development partners, and multilateral agencies and distribute to the aforementioned MDAs (*Hon. Daniel Amos — Jemaá/Sanga Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) In Prayer (i), immediately after the words “Companies ”, *leave out* the words and figure “with 50 staff and above” (*Hon. Abiante Awaji-Inombek Dagomie — Andoni/Opobo Nkoro Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) In the Heading, immediately after the word “Agencies (MDAs)”, *insert* the words “Private Institutions and Residential Areas” (*Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka — Anka/Talata Mafara Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) In Prayer (iii) (b), immediately after the words “development partners”, *insert* the words “National Agency for Great Green Wall” (*Hon. Lawan Shettima — Busari/Geidam/Yunusari Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

Need to Promote Sustainable Practices and Green Projects in Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Private Institutions and Residential Areas:

The House:

Noted that the major environmental concerns in Nigeria include population, flood, desertification, soil erosion and loss of biodiversity affecting Nigeria's ecosystems and communities;

Also noted that Nigerian stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), consumers, and organizations, play a crucial role in shaping sustainable practices as their actions directly impact the environment and future well-being of citizens;

Further noted that the Sustainable Practices and Green Projects Initiative focus on conservation, afforestation drives, renewable energy adoption, waste reduction, ecosystem restoration, and waste recycling programs tailored to the country's local context;

Aware that Nigeria is a signatory to the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) Paris

Agreement, which was ratified in 2017 and formulated its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), announced its net-zero commitment by 2060 in 2021, following the enactment of the Climate Change Act;

Also aware that carbon credits represent one metric ton of carbon dioxide (Co2) or greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions removed from the atmosphere; the global value of the voluntary carbon market was estimated at about \$2 billion in 2022 and is widely expected to grow by a factor of at least 15 by 2030, as governments and companies seek to use offsets to help achieve net-zero emissions targets;

Further aware that these credits motivate companies and organizations to engage in activities that benefit the climate by either reducing emissions or preventing them;

Informed that the African Carbon Market Initiative predicts Nigeria could generate over \$500m annually by 2030, supporting over 3 million Nigerian jobs through this industry:

Also informed that investments in sustainable green projects will create jobs, stimulate innovation, and contribute to Nigeria's economic development, an estimate of resources pledged to major climate change advocacy organizations such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation, and the Climate Investment Funds puts the total value of Green Funds at \$23bn for 2024. This excludes other sources of finance, such as bilateral and multilateral aid, private sector investment, and domestic resources;

Cognizant that encouraging green practices is crucial for a sustainable future for Nigerians and fulfilling domestic and international climate obligations;

Also cognizant that integrating green projects into government operations can contribute to global goals and reap economic and environmental benefits through commitment, coordination, and a long-term vision;

Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Climate Council to enforce the requirement for all Ministries, Departments, Agencies, and Companies to have a sustainability plan and effectively implement it;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Climate Change, Renewable Energy, Environment, and Ecological Fund to work with the Executive to educate citizens, companies, and MDAs to embrace sustainable practices in the design and execution of its projects and programs;
- (iii) also mandate the Committee on Appropriation to work with the Ministry of Budget and Planning to sensitise MDAs to adopt sustainable practices to ensure that:
 - (a) Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) with sustainable practices and carbon credit potentials given additional funding above their budget envelopes with effect from 2025 budget estimates, with carbon credit potentials and programs established at conception and submitted to the Federal Executive Council (FEC), and
 - (b) create a separate budget envelope annually based on green funds secured from DFIs, development partners, National Agency for Great Green Wall, and multilateral agencies and distribute to the aforementioned MDAs (**HR. 87/10/2024**).

15. Consideration of Report

- (i) ***A Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1260) (Committee of the Whole):***
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an Act to Establish Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1260)" (*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 CHARTERED INSTITUTE
OF HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT OF NIGERIA TO MAKE PROVISIONS,
AMONGST OTHER THINGS, FOR MEMBERSHIP AND CONTROL OF
THE PROFESSION OF HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT;
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB.1260)

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF
HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT OF NIGERIA

Clause 1: Establishment of the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria.

- (1) There is established the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria (in this Bill referred to as "the Institute") which —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession, and a common seal which shall be kept in such custody as the Council may direct;
 - (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold and dispose of any property, moveable or immovable.
- (2) The Institute shall —
 - (a) determine the level of knowledge and skills to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the profession and review such standards as may be required;
 - (b) establish and maintain a register of members and publish the register in line with the provisions of this Bill;
 - (c) regulate the practice of Health Care Management in Nigeria in all its ramifications; and
 - (d) perform all other functions conferred on the Council under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Membership of the Institute.

- (1) Subject to section 12 of this Bill, a person admitted to membership of the Institute shall be registered as a member of the profession in the category of —
 - (a) Fellows;

- (b) Full Members;
 - (c) Associate Members;
 - (d) Graduate Members;
 - (e) Student Members; or
 - (f) Corporate or Institutional Members.
- (2) Every member of the Institute in all the categories listed in subsection (1) shall attend Mandatory Continuous Professional Training Programme (MCPTP) as specified by the Council for reorientation and development processes (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Membership privileges.

- (1) A member of the Institute is entitled to receive from the Council, a certificate in such form as the Council may approve for that purpose.
- (2) A member is entitled to use such letters after his name as may be authorised by the Council and, if registered into the category of —
- (a) Fellows, he shall use the initials, "FCIHCM";
 - (b) Full Members, he shall use the initials, "MCIHCM"; and
 - (c) Associate Members, he shall use the initials, "ACIHCM" (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Principal officers of the Institute and their responsibilities.

- (1) The principal officers of the Institute are the —
- (a) President;
 - (b) Deputy President; and
 - (c) National Treasurer.
- (2) The principal officers shall —
- (a) be members of the Institute;
 - (b) be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Institute; and
 - (c) hold office each for a term of two years and may be eligible for re-election for one further term of two year and no more.
- (3) The President shall be the Chairman at the meetings of the Institute and, in the event of the death, incapacitation or inability for any reason of the President to perform the functions of his office, the Deputy President shall act in his place for the unexpired period of the term of office or as the case

may require, and any reference in this Bill to the President shall be construed accordingly.

- (4) The President, Deputy President, and the National Treasurer shall be the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and the Treasurer of Council respectively.
- (5) If the President, the Deputy President, or the National Treasurer ceases to be a member of the Institute, he shall cease to hold any office designated under this section (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Establishment of the Governing Council.

- (1) There is established for the Institute a Governing Council (in this Bill referred to as "the Council") charged with responsibility for the administration and general management of the Institute.
- (2) The Council shall consist of —
 - (a) the President of the Institute as Chairman;
 - (b) the Deputy President of the Institute as Vice-Chairman;
 - (c) the Treasurer;
 - (d) the Registrar as Secretary;
 - (e) one person, representing the Federal Ministry of Education;
 - (f) five members who are Heads of Service of States and nominated by the Council for two years;
 - (g) three educational and training institutions nominated by the Council;
 - (h) Chairman, Board of Fellows; and
 - (i) the immediate past President of the Institute and Chairman of the Council.
- (3) The provisions of the First Schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the qualifications and tenure of office of members of the Council and other matters mentioned in the First Schedule (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Board of Fellows.

- (1) There shall be appointed annually by the Council a Board of Fellows to coordinate the activities of Fellows of the Institute and to recommend to the Council on a yearly basis admission of members to the membership category of Fellows.
- (2) The Board of Fellows shall consist of persons who have been duly elected as Fellows of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART II — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 7: Fund of the Institute.

- (1) There is established a fund of the Institute (in this Bill referred to as "the Fund") into which shall be paid all —
 - (a) fees and other money payable to the Institute under this Bill; and
 - (b) revenue from other sources both local and international.
- (2) There shall be paid out of the Fund —
 - (a) all expenditure incurred by the Council in the discharge of its functions under the Act;
 - (b) the remuneration and other allowances of the Registrar and other staff of the Institute; and
 - (c) such reasonable traveling and subsistence allowances of members of the Council in respect of the time spent on the duties of the Council as the Council may determine.
- (3) The Council may invest money in any bond or other security created, issued by, or guaranteed on behalf of the Federal Government or in any other securities in Nigeria approved by the Council (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 8: Power to borrow.

The Council may borrow money for the purpose of the Institute and any interest payable on the money borrowed shall be paid out of the Fund of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Accounts and audit.

- (1) The Council shall —
 - (a) keep proper accounts on behalf of the Institute in respect of each year and proper records in relation to those accounts; and
 - (b) cause the accounts to be audited by an auditor appointed from the list and in accordance with the guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General for the Federation.
- (2) The report of the audited accounts shall be submitted to the members of the Institute for their approval at a meeting of the Institute.
- (3) The auditor appointed for the purpose of this section shall not be a member of the Council (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART III — REGISTRAR AND THE REGISTER

Clause 10: Appointment, duties and responsibility of the Registrar.

- (1) The Council shall appoint a fit and proper person as the Registrar of the Institute for the purpose of this Bill.
- (2) The Registrar shall be a —
 - (a) financial member of the Institute; and
 - (b) Fellow of the Institute.
- (3) The Registrar shall be the Chief Executive of the Institute and Secretary to the Council.
- (4) The Registrar shall prepare and maintain, in accordance with the rules made by the Council under subsection (5), a register of names, addresses, approved qualifications and other relevant requirements as may be specified, for all persons who are enrolled as Fellows, Full Members, Associate Members, Graduate Members and Student Member of the Institute.
- (5) The Council shall make rules as to the form and keeping of the register and the making of entries, in particular for —
 - (a) application for enrolment;
 - (b) determining the qualification which is relevant to the profession and accepted for the purpose of this Bill; and
 - (c) specifying the fees and subscription to be paid to the Institute in respect of the entry of names into the register and authorising the Registrar to refuse to enter any name until a specified fee is paid (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 11: Publication of register and list of corrections.

- (1) The Registrar shall —
 - (a) correct in accordance with the Council's direction, any entry in the register which the Council directs him to correct as being in the Council's opinion an entry which is incorrectly made;
 - (b) make any alterations in the registered particulars of registered members;
 - (c) remove from the register, the name of a registered member who has died or a person whose name is directed to be struck off as a result of disciplinary action;
 - (d) record the names of members of the Institute who are in default for more than four years in the payment of annual subscription and to take such actions as may be deemed fit under this Bill;
 - (e) cause the register to be printed, published and put on sale to members of the public not later than two months from the commencement of this Bill;

- (f) subsequently, in each year after the year in which the register is first published under paragraph (e), cause to be printed, published and put on sale either a corrected edition of the register or a list of corrections made to the register since it was last printed;
 - (g) cause a print of each edition of the register and of its list of corrections to be deposited at the principal office of the Institute; and
 - (h) keep the register and list so deposited and make the register and list available, at all reasonable times, for inspection by members of the public, either physically or virtually through an internet portal.
- (2) A document purporting to be a print of an edition of the register published under this section by authority of the Registrar, or document purporting to be print of an edition so published, shall without prejudice to any other mode of proof, be admissible in any proceeding as evidence that any person specified in the documents read together, as being registered was so registered at the date of the edition or of the list of corrections as the case may be, and that any person not so specified was not so registered.
- (3) Where a person is, in any proceeding, shown to have been or not to have been registered at a particular date, he shall, unless the contrary is proved, be taken for the purpose of those proceedings as having at all material times thereafter continued to be, or not to be, so registered (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Qualification for membership.

- (1) Subject to this Bill, an individual is eligible to be registered as a public administrator if he —
- (a) passes the qualifying examination accepted by the Council;
 - (b) completes the practical training prescribed by the Institute under this Bill;
 - (c) holds any other qualification accepted by the Institute; or
 - (d) qualifies for enrolment as a member in any of the categories specified for the purpose of this Bill.
- (2) An applicant shall, in addition to evidence of qualification, satisfy the Council that he —
- (a) is of good character;
 - (b) has attained the age of 21 years; and
 - (c) has not been convicted by any court of law in Nigeria or elsewhere for an offence involving fraud or dishonesty (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 13: Approval of qualification.

- (1) The Council shall publish particulars of qualifications accepted by the Council for registration.

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- (2) The Council shall approve any institution for the purpose of this Bill, and may for such purpose approve —
- (a) any course of training at an approved institution which is intended for persons seeking to become or are already public administrators of Nigeria practitioners and which the Council considers as designed to confer on persons relevant and sufficient knowledge and skills for admission into the Institute; or
 - (b) any qualification which, as a result of an examination taken in conjunction with a course of training approved by the Council under this section, is granted to candidates reaching a standard at the examination indicating in the opinion of the members of the Council, that the candidates have sufficient knowledge and skill to practice the profession.
- (3) The Council may, if it deems fit, withdraw any approval given under this section in respect of any course, qualification or institution, but before withdrawing the approval, the Council shall —
- (a) give notice that it proposes to withdraw the approval to each person in Nigeria appearing to the Council to be a person by whom the course is conducted or the qualification is granted or the institution is controlled, as the case may be;
 - (b) give the person an opportunity of making representation to the Council with regard to the proposal; and
 - (c) take into consideration any representation made in respect of the proposal.
- (4) Any period during which the approval of the Council under this section for a course, qualification or institution is withdrawn, the course, qualification or institution shall not be treated as approved under this section, but the withdrawal of such an approval shall not prejudice the registration or eligibility for registration of any person who by virtue of the approval was registered or eligible for registration immediately before the approval was withdrawn.
- (5) The giving or withdrawal of an approval under this section shall have effect from such date, either before or after the execution of the instrument signifying the giving or withdrawal of the approval, as the Council may specify in that instrument, and the Council shall —
- (a) publish, as soon as possible, a copy of every such instrument in the print media; and
 - (b) not later than seven days before its publication, send a copy of the instrument to the Minister.
- (6) The members of the Council shall keep themselves informed of the nature of the —
- (a) instruction given at approved institutions to persons attending approved courses of training, and
 - (b) examination as a result of which approved qualifications are granted,

and for the purpose of performing that duty, the Council may appoint, either from among its own member or otherwise, persons to visit approved institutions, or to attend such examinations (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART IV — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Clause 13: Visitation Panel.

- (1) The Council shall set up a Visitation Panel which shall report to the Council on —
 - (a) the sufficiency of the instruction given to persons attending the approved course of training at the institution visited,
 - (b) the sufficiency of the examinations attended, and
 - (c) any other matter relating to the institution or examination on which the Council may, either generally or in a particular case, request the Visitation Panel to report,

but the Visitation Panel shall not interfere with the giving of any instruction or the holding of any examination.

- (2) On receiving a report made under this section, the Council may, if it deems fit, and shall, if so required by the Institute, send a copy of the report to the person appearing to the Council to be in charge of the institution or responsible for the examination to which the report relates, requesting that person to make observations on the report to the Council within the period as may be specified in the request, not being less than one month beginning with the date of request (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Establishment of an Investigating Panel and Disciplinary Tribunal.

- (1) There is established the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria Investigating Panel (in this Bill referred to as "the Panel"), charged with the duty of —
 - (a) conducting preliminary investigation into any case where it is alleged that a person registered has misbehaved in that person's capacity as member or shall for any other reason, be subject of proceedings before the Tribunal; and
 - (b) deciding whether the case may be referred to the Tribunal.
- (2) The members of the Panel shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of two members of the Council and three registered members who are not members of the Council.
- (3) There is established the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria Disciplinary Tribunal (in this Bill referred to as "the Tribunal") charged with the duty of considering and determining any case referred to it by the Panel established under subsection (1).

- (4) The Tribunal shall consist of the Chairman of the Council and six other members appointed by the Council, one of whom may be a legal practitioner with at least 10 years post call experience.
- (5) The provisions of the Third Schedule to this Bill shall, so far as applicable to the Tribunal and Panel respectively, have effect with respect to those bodies (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Penalties for unprofessional conduct.

- (1) Where —
 - (a) a member is adjudged by the Tribunal to be guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect,
 - (b) a member is convicted by any court of law in Nigeria or elsewhere, having powers to award imprisonment for an offence, whether or not punishable with imprisonment, which, in the opinion of the Tribunal, is incompatible with the status of a professional Health Care Management consultant, or
 - (c) the Tribunal is satisfied that the name of any person has been fraudulently registered,the Tribunal may, if it deems fit, give a direction reprimanding that person or ordering the Registrar to strike his name off the register.
- (2) The Tribunal may, if it deems fit, defer its decision as to the action taken under subsection (1) until a subsequent meeting of the Tribunal, but no -
 - (a) decision shall be deferred under this provision for a period exceeding one year; and
 - (b) person shall be a member of the Tribunal for the purpose of reaching a verdict on a deferred or further deferred decision unless he was present as a member of the Tribunal when the decision was deferred.
- (3) For the purpose of subsection (1) (b), a person shall not be treated as a convict unless the conviction stands at a point where no appeal or further appeal is pending or may, without extension of time, be brought in connection with the conviction.
- (4) When the Tribunal gives a directive for the purpose of effecting penalties for unprofessional conduct, the Tribunal shall cause notice of the directive to be served on the person to whom it relates.
- (5) The person to whom such a directive relates, at any time within 28 days from the date of service on him of notice of the directive, may appeal against the directive to the Federal High Court and the Tribunal may appear as respondent to the appeal and, for the purpose of enabling directive to be given as to the costs of the appeal and proceeding before the Federal High Court, the Tribunal shall be deemed to be a party to the appeal whether or not it appears on the hearing of the appeal.

- (6) A directive of the Tribunal under subsection (1) shall take effect where —
- (a) no appeal under this section is brought against the directive within the time limited for such an appeal, or at the expiration of the time;
 - (b) such an appeal is brought and is withdrawn or struck out for want of prosecution, or dismissed for lack of merit; or
 - (c) an appeal is brought and is not withdrawn or struck out, if and when the appeal is dismissed.
- (7) A person whose name is removed from the register following a directive of the Tribunal under this section is not entitled to be registered again except under a direction in that behalf given by the Tribunal on the application of that person and a directive under this section for the removal of a person's name from the register may prohibit an application under this subsection by that person until the expiration of that period from the date of the direction, and where he has duly made an application, from the date of his last application, as may be specified in the direction (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: When a person is deemed to practice as a professional Health Care Management of Nigeria practitioner.

- (1) From the commencement of this Bill, any person who was not a member of the Institute and who under this Bill, is qualified to apply for and obtain membership of the profession may, within the period of three months beginning with the date of the commencement of this Bill, apply for membership of the Institute in the manner prescribed by the Council and if approved, he shall be enrolled or registered, as the case may be, according to the person's qualification.
- (2) A person is deemed to be a professional Health Care Management of Nigeria practitioner if, for consideration of remuneration to be received whether by himself or in partnership with any other person —
- (a) he engages in the practice of Health Care Management in Nigeria or holds himself out to the public as a professional Health Care Management of Nigeria consultant;
 - (b) he renders professional service or assistance in or about matters of principle or detail relating to Health Care Management in Nigeria or data; or
 - (c) renders any other service that may, by regulations made by the Council, be designated as service constituting practice as a professional Health Care Management of Nigeria practitioner or consultant (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Rules of practice.

- (1) The Council may make rules for the —
- (a) training of suitable persons in Health Care Management of Nigeria;

- (b) licensing of persons employed in Health Care Management;
 - (c) prescribing the fees to be paid by Health Care Management practitioners or consultants; and
 - (d) restriction of right of practice where conditions are not met.
- (2) The Council may also make rules prescribing the amount and due date for payment for membership of annual subscription and for such purposes, different amounts may be prescribed by the rules according to the category of membership of the Institute.
- (3) Rules made under this section shall, if the Chairman of the Council directs, be published in the print media (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 19: Honourary membership.

The Council may award honorary membership of the Institute to persons it considers worthy of such honour, on terms and conditions prescribed by the Council and approved by the Institute in its general meeting (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: Library facilities.

The Institute shall —

- (a) provide and maintain a library comprising books and publications for the advancement of knowledge in Health Care Management in Nigeria and such other books and publications as the Council may consider necessary for that purpose;
- (b) encourage research into Health Care Management in Nigeria, methods and allied subjects to the extent that the Council may consider necessary; and
- (c) encourage the production and sale of materials, books and journals arising from its research and consultancy activities (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Rules and regulations.

Rules and regulations made under this Bill shall be subject to confirmation by the Institute at its next AGM or at a special meeting of the Institute convened for the purpose, and if annulled, shall cease to have effect on the day after the date of annulment, but without prejudice to anything done under any such rules (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Transfer of property.

- (1) From the commencement of this Bill —

- (a) all properties held by or on behalf of the Incorporated Institute before this Bill, by virtue of this section shall be vested on the Institute; and
 - (b) subject to subsection (2), any act, or matter made or done by the Incorporated Institute before this Bill shall continue to have effect.
- (2) The provisions of this Bill shall have effect with respect to matters arising from the transfer by this section to the Institute of the property of the Incorporated Institute before this Bill, and with respect to the other matters mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Interpretation.
In this Bill —

"Board" means the Board of Fellows (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Council" means the Governing Council of the Institute established under section 5 (1) of this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"fees" includes annual subscription (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Fund" means Fund of the Institute established under section 7 of this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Minister" means the Minister charged with the responsibility for education (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"President" and "Deputy President" respectively mean the office holders as specified under section 4 of this Bill; 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.

"register" means the register prepared and maintained under section 10 (4) of this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

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

Clause 24: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

[Section 5(3)]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL

Qualification and Tenure of Office of Principal Officers of the Council

1. (1) Subject to this paragraph, every elected principal officer of the Council shall hold office for a term of two years and may be eligible for re-election for another term of two years and no more.
- (2) A principal officer of the Institute who ceases to be a member shall, if he is also a member of Council, cease to hold office as a member of the Council.
- (3) Any elected member of the Council may by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President resign his office, and any appointed member may, likewise resign his office.
- (4) A person who retires from or otherwise ceases to be an elected member of the Council shall be eligible again to become a member of the Council, and any appointed member may be reappointed.
- (5) Election to the Council shall be held in the manner prescribed in rules made by the Council and unless otherwise prescribed, they shall be decided by a secret ballot.
- (6) If an elected member vacates office, the Council may, if the time between the unexpired portion of the term of office and the next general meeting of the Institute appears necessary to fill the vacancy, co-opt some fit persons for the period.
- (7) The election of members of the Council shall be effected in the manner prescribed as follows —
 - (a) at least eight weeks before each AGM of the Institute, the Council may nominate candidates for election to the Council, provided that the number of candidates nominated shall not exceed 50% of those retiring;
 - (b) not less than seven weeks before each AGM of the Institute, the Secretariat shall issue to all professional members a notice which shall —
 - (i) specify the names of elected Council members whose terms of office will expire at the close of the next AGM,

- (ii) specify any other vacancy in the membership of the Council which may be filled by election,
 - (iii) specify the names of any candidates nominated by the Council for election to the Council,
 - (iv) invite nominations of other candidates on the prescribed nomination form, and
 - (v) contain other particulars as may be prescribed by the Council;
- (c) candidates for election to the Council, other than candidates nominated in the following manner —
 - (i) at least five weeks before each AGM, nomination forms including details of all particulars required to be given shall be duly completed in the manner set out below and shall be sent to the Secretariat of the Institute, and
 - (ii) each nomination form shall relate to one candidate only and shall contain his class and grade of membership in the Institute, his full-time managerial or other appointment, if any, or, if retired, such appointment immediately before retirement and his date of retirement, and such other particulars as may be prescribed by the Council;
- (d) each candidate shall be sponsored by two persons who shall be members of the Institute entitled to vote and each nomination form shall contain, in addition to the particulars referred to in sub paragraph (c), a statement of the names, addresses, class and grade of membership of each of the sponsors; and
- (e) vote shall be taken by secret ballot at the AGM.

Powers of the Council

2. (1) The Council shall —

- (a) have powers to engage in legal activities, which in its opinion will facilitate the carrying on of the activities of the Institute;
- (b) exercise such powers of the Institute and do, on behalf of the Institute, such acts as may be exercised and done by the Institute;
- (c) exercise any power granted by the Institute in a general meeting, and subject to such bye-laws or provisions, as may be prescribed by the Institute in a general meeting, but no byelaw made by the Institute in a general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Council which would have been valid if such byelaw had not been made;
- (d) exercise powers on behalf of the Institute to borrow money, to mortgage or charge its undertaking and property or any part thereof and to issue debentures, debenture stocks, and other securities whether outright or security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Institute;
- (e) set up annually after the AGM, an executive committee of the Council, which shall meet regularly and carry out the normal business of Council between the regular meetings of Council; and

- (f) establish a branch of the Institute in any locality within the country.

Power to make, alter or repeal bye-laws of the Institute

- (2) The Council shall have power to make, alter or repeal any bye-law as the Council may deem necessary for the proper conduct and management of the Institute and the Council shall adopt the means deemed sufficient to bring to the notice of the Institute and all its members, any bye-laws, alterations or repeals made under the powers conferred by this paragraph:

Provided that no bye-law shall be inconsistent with, affect or repeal anything contained in this Bill or constitute an amendment of, or addition to these presents as could only lawfully be made by special resolution.

Proceedings of the Council

3. (1) Subject to this Bill, the Council may, in the name of the Institute, make standing orders regulating the proceedings of the Institute or of the Council and, in the exercise of its powers under this Bill may, set up committees in the general interest of the Institute, and make standing orders for the committees.
- (2) Standing orders shall provide for decisions to be taken by a majority of the members and, in the event of equality of votes, for the President or the Chairman, as the case may be, to have a second or casting vote.
- (3) Standing orders made for a committee shall provide that the committee is to report back to the Council on any matter not within its competence to decide.
- (4) The quorum of the Council shall be seven and the Council shall fix the quorum of a committee.

Meetings of the Institute

Annual General Meetings (AGM)

4. (1) An AGM of the Institute shall be held once in every calendar year, at a time and place as may be determined by the Council, provided that every AGM after the first AGM shall be held not more than 15 months after the holding of the last preceding such meeting.

Extra-Ordinary General Meeting

- (2) All general meetings of the Institute, which are not AGMs, shall be called Extra-Ordinary General Meetings.
- (3) The Council may call an Extraordinary General Meeting whenever it deems fit and an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened on request.

Quorum at General Meetings

- (4) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business, and unless otherwise provided, the quorum shall be 35 members present in person.

Adjournment of Meetings

- (5) If within an hour from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting a

quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved and in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, or at such other place as the Chairman of the meeting shall appoint, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.

Special Business

5. All business transacted at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and an AGM except for the consideration of the account and balance sheet, the report of the Council and of auditors, the fixing of the remuneration of the auditors and the election of members of the Council at an AGM, shall be deemed to be special business.

Notices — Mode of Service

6. (1) A notice may be served by the Institute upon any member of the Council, its committees and the Institute either personally or by sending it through the post in prepaid letter addressed to the member at his address as it appears in the professional register of members or other records of members not being professional members.
- (2) A notice if served by post shall be deemed to have been served on the day following that on which the letter containing the notice is put into the post or email and in proving such service, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put in the email or post office as a prepaid letter.

Annual or Extra-Ordinary Meetings

7. (1) An Annual or Special Meeting of the Institute shall be convened by at least 21 days' notice in writing.
- (2) The notice shall be exclusive of the day on which it is served or deemed to be served and of the day for which it is given and shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting, and in case of business other than ordinary annual business of the Institute, the general nature of business.
- (3) In the case of an AGM, the Secretary shall also send to each member with the notice, a copy of the annual report of the Council, a copy of the accounts of the Institute with the auditors' report thereon, and particulars of all motions to be brought before the meeting.

Special Motions at AGMs

8. A member desiring to bring before the AGM any motion not relating to the ordinary business of the AGM of the Institute may do so provided that —
- (a) notice in writing of the proposed motion is sent or given to the Secretary not later than 45 days before the date of the AGM; and
- (b) no less than 10 members entitled to vote at the AGM shall have sent or given notice in writing to the Secretary not later than 30 days before the date of the AGM expressing their desire that the proposed motion be brought before the AGM and that the proposed motion relates to matters affecting the Institute.

Voting at General Meetings

9. (1) Except as provided in this Schedule regarding voting to elect members to fill

vacancies on the Council, a resolution put to the vote at any AGM or Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Institute shall be decided on a show of hand unless (before or on the declaration of the show of hands) a poll is demanded by at least 10% of those present provided that the matter arrived at is not less than five.

- (2) No amendment shall be permitted by resolution to amend the Act or the rules and bye-laws of the Institute except with the consent of the Chairman of the meeting (whose decision shall be final) if the amendment is one of form only and not of substance.
- (3) If a poll is duly demanded or required to be taken, it shall be taken in accordance with the relevant bye-laws and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll is demanded.
- (4) Except as provided in this Schedule regarding voting to elect members by ballot to fill vacancies on the Council, in the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the meeting, at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is required to be taken, shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- (5) A poll demanded on the election of a Chairman or on any question of adjournment shall be taken and a poll demanded or required to be taken of any other question shall be taken at such time and place as the Chairman of the meeting directs and any business other than that upon which a poll has been demanded or is required may be proceeded with pending the taking of the poll.
- (6) On a show of hands or a poll, every member present in person shall (except as provided in the case of electing members to fill vacancies of the Council) have one vote.

Voting Rights of Corporate Members

10. Each corporate member's voting power at any meeting of the Institute shall be vested in a single person entitled as a "Voting Representative", who, if he is a professional member of the Institute in his own right, may exercise his rights to vote as an individual member in addition to voting as a representative.

Meeting of the Council

11.
 - (1) Subject to the provisions of any standing order or byelaw of the Council, the Council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman, and if the Chairman is required to do so by notice in writing given to him by not less than five other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Council to be held within seven days from the date on which the notice is given.
 - (2) At any meeting of the Council, the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside, but if both are absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of them to preside at that meeting.
 - (3) Where the Council desires to obtain advice from any person on a particular matter, the Council may co-opt him as a member for such period as the Council deems fit, but a person who is a member by virtue of this subparagraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and shall not count towards a quorum.
 - (4) Notwithstanding anything in this paragraph, the first meeting of the Council shall be summoned by the Minister of Education, who may give such direction as he thinks fit as to the procedure to be followed at the meeting.

Committees

12. (1) The Council may appoint one or more committees to carry out, on behalf of the Institute or of the Council, such functions as the Council may determine.
- (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of the number of persons determined by the Council, and a person other than a member of the Council shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of the instrument by which he is appointed.

Miscellaneous

13. (1) The fixing of the seal of the Institute shall be authenticated by the signature of the President or of some other member of the Council authorised generally or specially by the Institute to act for that purpose.
- (2) A contract or instrument, which if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Institute or the Council as the case may require, by any person generally or specially authorised to act for that purpose by the Council.
- (3) A document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the Institute shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be so executed.
- (4) The validity of any proceeding of the Institute, Council or committee of the Council shall not be affected by any vacancy in membership, any defect in the appointment of member of the Institute, the Council or a person to serve on the committee or by reason that a person not entitled to do so took part in the proceedings.
- (5) A member of the Institute or the Council, and any person holding office on a committee of the Council, who has a personal interest in any contract or arrangement entered into or proposed to be considered by the Council on behalf of the Institute, the Council or a committee, shall disclose his interest to the President or the Council as the case may be, and shall not vote on any question relating to the contract or arrangement.
- (6) A person shall not, by reason only of his membership of the Institute, be required to disclose any interest relating solely to the audit of the accounts of the Institute (*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 22(2)]

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AS TO PROPERTY

Transfer of property

1. (1) Every agreement to which the Incorporated Institute was a party immediately before the commencement of this Bill, whether in writing or not and whether or not of such nature that the rights, liabilities and obligations thereunder could be assigned by the Incorporated Institute, shall have effect from the commencement of the Act so far it relates to property transferred by this Bill to the Institute, as if —

- (a) the Institute had been a party to the agreement; and
 - (b) for any reference (however worded and whether express or implied) to a member or members of the Council or the Incorporated Institute there were substituted as respects anything failing to be done on or after the commencement of the Act, a reference to —
 - (i) the Institute, and
 - (ii) a member or members of the Council under this Bill.
- (2) Other documents referring, whether specifically or generally, to the Incorporated Institute shall be construed in accordance with subparagraph (1).
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of this Schedule, where, by the operation of any of them or any section of this Bill, any right, liability or obligation vests in the Institute, the Institute and all other persons shall, as from the commencement of this Bill, have the same rights, powers and remedies (and, in particular, the same rights as to the taking or resisting of legal proceedings or the making or resisting of applications to any authority) for ascertaining, perfecting or enforcing that right, liability or obligation as they would have had if it had at all times been a right, liability or obligation of the Institute.
- (4) Any legal proceeding or application to any authority pending on the commencement of this Bill by or against the Incorporated Institute and relating to property transferred by this Bill to the Institute may be continued on or after that day by or against the Institute.
- (5) If the law in force at the place where any property transferred by this Bill is situated provides for the registration of transfers or property of the kind in question (whether by reference to an instrument of transfer or otherwise), the law shall, so far it provides for alterations of a register but not for avoidance of transfers, the payment of fees or any other matter, apply with the necessary modifications to the transfer of the property and the Council shall furnish the necessary particulars of the transfer to the proper officer of the registration authority, and of that officer in charge of the transfer accordingly.

Transfer of Functions

- 2.
 - (1) At its first meeting, the Council of the Institute shall fix a date not later than six months after the commencement of this Bill, for the AGM of the Institute.
 - (2) The members of the Council of the Incorporated Institute shall be deemed to be the members of Council of the Institute until the date determined under subparagraph (1) when the Institute shall have its first AGM, and they shall cease to hold office at the conclusion of such meeting.
 - (3) A person who, immediately before the commencement of this Bill, held office as the President or Deputy President of the Incorporated Institute by virtue of the Articles of Association shall, on that day, become the President or, as the case may be, the Deputy President of the Institute, and shall be deemed to have been elected —
 - (a) to that office under this Bill, corresponding to the relevant provision in the said Articles of Association; and
 - (b) on the date on which he took office, or last took office, under the relevant provisions of those articles.

- (4) The members of the Incorporated Institute shall, as from the commencement of this Bill, be registered as members of the Institute and, without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of this Schedule relating to the transfer of property, any person who, immediately before the commencement of this Bill, was a member of the staff of the Incorporated Institute shall on that day become the holder of an appointment with the Institute with the status, designations and functions which correspond as nearly as may be to those appertaining to him in his capacity as a member of staff of the Incorporated Institute.
- (5) A person being an office holder on, or member of, the Council of the Incorporated Institute immediately before the commencement of this Bill and deemed under this paragraph to have been appointed to any position in the Institute, or the Council of the Institute, and hereafter ceasing to hold office otherwise than by reason of his misconduct, shall be eligible for appointment to the office in the Institute or to membership of the Council, as the case may be.
- (6) All regulations, rules and similar instruments made for the purpose of the Incorporated Institute and in force immediately before the commencement of this Bill shall, except in so far as they are subsequently revoked or amended by any authority having power in that behalf, have effect with necessary modifications, as if duly made for the corresponding purpose of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

THIRD SCHEDULE

[Section 15 (5)]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL AND INVESTIGATING PANEL

The Tribunal

1.
 - (1) The quorum of the Tribunal shall be four.
 - (2) The Council shall make rules as to the selection of members of the Tribunal for the purpose of any proceeding and as to the procedure to be followed and rules of evidence to be observed in proceedings before the Tribunal.
2. The rules shall in particular provide —
 - (a) for securing that notice of the proceedings shall be given, at such time and in such manner as may be specified by the rules, to the person who is the subject of the proceedings;
 - (b) for determining who, in addition to that person, shall be a party to the proceedings;
 - (c) for securing that any party to the proceedings shall, if he so requires, be entitled to be heard by the Tribunal;
 - (d) for enabling any party to the proceedings to be represented by a legal practitioner;
 - (e) subject to the provisions of section 16 (5) of this Bill, as to the costs of proceedings before the Tribunal;

- (f) for requiring, in a case where it is alleged that the person who is the subject of the proceedings is guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect, that where the Tribunal adjudges that the allegation has not been proved, it shall record a finding that the person is not guilty of such conduct in respect of the matters to which the allegation relates; and
 - (g) for publishing in the print media, a notice of any direction of the Tribunal, which has taken effect provided that a person's name shall be struck off a register.
- 3. For the purpose of any proceeding before the Tribunal, any member of the Tribunal may administer oaths and any party to the proceedings may issue out of the registry of the High Court writs of subpoena *ad testificandum* and *duces tecum*, but no person appearing before the Tribunal shall be compelled to —
 - (a) make any statement before the Tribunal tending to incriminate himself; or
 - (b) produce any document under such a writ which he could not be compelled to produce at the trial of an action.
- 4.
 - (1) For the purpose of advising the Tribunal on questions of law arising in the proceedings before it, there shall, in all such proceedings, be an assessor to the Tribunal who shall be appointed by the Council on the nomination of the Attorney-General of the Federation and shall be a legal practitioner of no less than 10 years standing.
 - (2) The Attorney-General of the Federation shall make rules as to the functions of assessors appointed under this paragraph and in particular such rules shall contain provisions for securing that —
 - (a) where an assessor advises the Tribunal on any question of law as to evidence, procedure or any other matter specified by the rule, he shall do so in the presence of every party or person representing a party to the proceedings who appears there or, if the advice is tendered while the Tribunal is deliberating in private, that every such party or person shall be informed what advice the assessor has tendered; and
 - (b) every such party or person shall be informed if in any case the Tribunal does not accept the advice of the assessor on such a question.
 - (3) An assessor may be appointed under this paragraph either generally or for any particular proceeding or class of proceeding and shall hold and vacate office in accordance with the terms of the instrument by which he is appointed.

The Panel

- 5.
 - (1) The quorum of the Panel shall be three.
 - (2) The Panel may, at any meeting of the Panel attended by the members of the Panel, make standing orders with respect to the Panel.
 - (3) Subject to the provisions of any such standing orders, the Panel may regulate its own procedure.

Miscellaneous

- 6. A person ceasing to be a member of the Tribunal or the Panel shall be eligible for reappointment as a member of that body (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to establish the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria charged with the responsibility for registration of persons seeking to be public administrators, and for the promotion, study and practice of the profession of Health Care Management (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria to Make Provisions, Amongst Other Things, for Membership and Control of the Profession of Health Care Management; and for Related Matters (HB.1260) (*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 Chartered Institute of Health Care Management of Nigeria and for Related Matters (HB.1260) and approved Clauses 1 - 24, 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 Establish Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) to build capacity and conduct collaborative Engineering Research and Development in the area connected with buildings. Roads, engineering Production and Construction Materials and for Related Matters (HB.1283) (Committee of the Whole):***

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report on a Bill for an act to Establish Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) to build capacity and conduct collaborative Engineering Research and Development in the area connected with buildings. Roads, engineering Production and Construction Materials and for Related Matters (HB.1283)” (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 NIGERIAN BUILDING AND ROAD RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NBRRI) TO BUILD CAPACITY AND CONDUCT COLLABORATIVE ENGINEERING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREAS CONNECTED WITH BUILDINGS, ROADS, ENGINEERING PRODUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

PART I — ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIGERIAN BUILDING AND ROAD RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND ITS GOVERNING BOARD

Clause 1: Establishment of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI).

- (1) There is established an Institute to be known as Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (in this Bill referred to as "the Institute").
- (2) The Institute —
 - (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal;
 - (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold and dispose of any movable or immovable property and enter into a contract or any other transaction for the purpose of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 2: Establishment and Composition of the Governing Board of the Institute.

- (1) The Council shall consist of —
 - (a) a Chairman who shall be a person with professional qualification and cognate experience in the road sector or built environment to be appointed by the President;
 - (b) a representative, not below the Directorate Cadre, of the Federal Ministry responsible for —
 - (i) science, technology and Innovation,
 - (ii) works and housing,
 - (iii) transportation, and
 - (iv) Environment;
 - (c) President of the —
 - (i) Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN),
 - (ii) Nigerian Society of Engineers, and
 - (iii) a representative of the Federal Road Safety Corps;
 - (d) President or Chairman of one of the following professional bodies, who shall serve for two years only, on rotational basis —
 - (i) Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON),
 - (ii) Architect Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON),
 - (iii) Quantity Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria,
 - (iv) Town Planners Registration Council (TOPREC),

- (v) Land Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria, or
 - (vi) Estate Surveyors Registration Council of Nigeria;
 - (e) two persons nominated by the Minister and approved by the President;
 - (f) the Director-General of the Institute who shall be Secretary to the Board.
- (3) The supplementary provision set out in the Schedule to this Bill shall apply with respect to the proceedings of the Board and other matters contained therein (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 3: Tenure of office.

- (1) Members of the Board —
- (a) other than the Director General/CEO shall hold office on part-time basis; and
 - (b) who are not ex-officio members shall hold office for a term of three years and may be eligible for re-appointment on satisfactory performance for another term of three years and no more.
- (2) Subject to any other provisions of this Bill, a member of the Board shall hold office on the terms and conditions specified in his letter of appointment (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 4: Emolument, allowances and benefits.

The Chairman and members of the Board shall be paid such emoluments, allowances and benefits as the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission may, from time to time, approve (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 5: Cessation of membership.

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

- (a) his term of office expires;
- (b) he resigns from office by a notice in writing under his hand addressed to the President;
- (c) in case of an *ex officio* member, he ceases to hold the office on the basis of which became a member;
- (d) he is removed from office; or
- (e) he dies (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 6: Removal from the Board.

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

- (a) he becomes bankrupt,
- (b) he is convicted of a felony or any offence involving dishonesty or fraud;
- (c) he becomes of unsound mind or is incapable of carrying out his duties;
- (d) he is guilty of a serious misconduct in relation to his duties;
- (e) he possesses professional qualification and he is disqualified or suspended from practicing his profession in Nigeria by an order of a competent authority; or
- (f) the President is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the Institute or of the public for the person appointed to continue in office (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 7: Filling of Vacancies.

- (1) Where a vacancy occurs in the Board pursuant to section 5 or 6 of this Bill, the President shall appoint another person to fill the vacancy.
- (2) A person appointed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to replace a member who is not an ex-officio member, shall hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor whose exit created the vacancy.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, a member filling a vacancy created by the exit of a member of a professional body shall —
 - (a) hold office for the unexpired term of office of his predecessor in office;
 - (b) be nominated by the same professional body as his predecessor where his predecessor has not completed his term of office and shall represent the same interest in the Board as that of his predecessor (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART II — POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD**Clause 8: Powers and Functions of the Board.**

- (1) The Board shall have power to —
 - (a) approve rules and regulations relating to the appointment, promotion and disciplinary measures of staff of the Institute, consistent with extant Public Service Rules and Regulations;
 - (b) fix the remuneration, allowances and benefits of staff of the Institute, Subject to the approval of the National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission; and

- (c) regulate its proceedings and make standing orders with respect to its meetings, notices to be given, the keeping of minutes of its proceedings and such other matters as the Board may, from time to time determine.
 - (d) approve the policy guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of the Bill;
 - (e) receive and approve the audited accounts of the Institute;
 - (f) approve the appointment of the directorates staff of the Institute;
 - (g) approve changes in implementation plans as may be submitted by the Institute from time to time to enhance the Institute's duties and functions under the Bill;
 - (h) approve and modify the operational structure of the Institute as may be necessary to enhance the Institute's duties and functions under this Bill; and
 - (i) give such other directives and perform such other functions as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the Institute.
- (2) The Board shall —
- (a) formulate and provide policy guidelines for discharging the functions of the Institute;
 - (b) review and approve the strategic plan of the Institute in the areas of:
 - (i) capacity building, research and development, in buildings, roads and engineering materials,
 - (ii) methods of construction, and
 - (iii) environmental factors that affect road and building performances in the Nigeria;
 - (c) ensure the implementation of policies and programs of the Institute; and
 - (d) perform such other functions that are necessary and expedient for the efficient performance of the functions of the Institute under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 9: Powers of the Institute.

The Institute shall have power to —

- (a) formulate the guidelines for the implementation of the Provisions of this Bill;
- (b) collaborate with relevant regulatory agencies to monitor and assess the effective utilization of the construction materials researched and developed by the Institute for the road and building construction sector;

- (c) develop code of practice, in collaboration with relevant regulatory agencies, for locally produced and emerging materials for the road and building construction sector and determine the most effective and economic methods of their utilization;
- (d) enter any construction site with the approval of the project implementing agency enter any construction site for the purpose of performing its functions under this Bill;
- (e) liaise, with relevant establishments within and outside Nigeria in pursuance of its functions under this Bill;
- (f) invest surplus funds of the Institute in profit-yielding ventures;
- (g) collaborate with relevant regulatory agencies in the development of codes design criteria and specifications for conventional engineering materials, roads and safety measures and;
- (h) perform such other activities as are necessary and expedient for the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 10: Functions of the Institute.

- (1) The Institute shall build capacity and conduct applied integrated research and development on building, road and engineering construction materials and methods, and socio-economic aspects and impacts of construction and environmental factors that affect building and road performances in the country; and in these regards, it shall carry out research on —
 - (a) the suitability or otherwise of building, road, and construction materials;
 - (b) architectural design of buildings to suit Nigerian climatic conditions with respect to lighting ventilation, thermal comfort and humidity;
 - (c) the design and performance of functional units in building including electrical installations, plumbing, painting, drainage, ventilation and air-conditioning systems;
 - (d) local construction and building operations and methods to increase their effectiveness;
 - (e) the suitability of the materials for structural design of buildings and bridges and the development of the design criteria, specifications and codes of practice;
 - (f) transportation schemes including occurrence of accidents and safety measures;
 - (g) geotechnical issues including soil conditions and recommending appropriate solutions;
 - (h) the system and processes for the conversion of raw or semi-finished materials into engineering materials of various shape, gauges, forms and performance; and

- (i) the causes of structural failure of buildings bridges and road pavements and make appropriate recommendation."
- (2) The Institute shall —
 - (a) publish the results of its research on building, road and engineering materials in the construction sector;
 - (b) encourage and promote the commercialization of research and development innovation in the construction sector;
 - (c) partner with the private sector to encourage and promote the commercialization of research, development and innovation in the construction sector";
 - (d) promote the practice of research, development and innovation in the construction sector and it shall —
 - (i) consider applications for research and development grants made by institution, corporate bodies and individuals for building, road and engineering materials on the basis of criteria to be determined by the Institute, and
 - (ii) develop facilities and capabilities through its centers for research and development in building, road and construction materials, scientific equipment as they relate to construction.
 - (e) collaborate with higher educational institutions and other relevant Government Institutions, organizations, agencies, councils and commercial industries in the research and development of building materials and in scientific and engineering manpower training.
- (3) The Institute shall —
 - (a) develop, run and manage modern laboratories in Nigeria for research and development in the construction sector;
 - (b) provide consultancy and scientific services, in areas relating to building, road and engineering materials in construction sector;
 - (c) establish an academy and in collaboration with other relevant bodies, develop curricula for manpower development for the construction sector;
 - (d) proffer advise to professional and regulatory bodies towards the development of curriculum for training of artisans, craftsmen, workmen in related disciplines for the construction sector; and
 - (e) undertake production of prototypes of quality innovations and implementation of strategies for uptake into the construction industry;
 - (f) establish investment outlets for the promotion and application of research and development innovations in the construction sector;
 - (g) set maximum load capacity for trucks plying the roads to prevent road damage; and

- (h) undertake such other activities which are necessary for the performance of its functions under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART III — STRUCTURE OF THE INSTITUTE

Clause 11: Structure of the Institute.

- (1) The Institute shall have:
- (a) the Directorate of Construction Materials Research;
 - (b) the Directorate of Building Research;
 - (c) the Directorate of Road and Traffic Research;
 - (d) the Directorate of Science Research and Development Support Services;
 - (e) the Directorate of Cement, and Supplementary Cementations Materials Research;
 - (f) the Directorate of Geotechnical Engineering and Terrain Evaluation Research;
 - (g) innovative Materials;
 - (h) such other research directorates as it may consider necessary for the efficient performance of its functions under this Bill;
 - (i) such training centers as may be established pursuant to section 13 of this Bill;
 - (j) zonal offices and laboratories to be established in such places in Nigeria as may be considered appropriate by the Institute with the approval of the Board;
 - (k) the following Departments shall be headed by Directors:
 - (i) Human Resources Management,
 - (ii) Finance and Accounts,
 - (iii) Planning and Information Technology,
 - (iv) Consultancy and Extension Services,
 - (v) Procurement,
 - (vi) General Services, and
 - (vii) Legal Services; and
 - (g) power, with the approval of the Board, to set up such units, technical committees and working groups as the Institute may

require to assist it in the discharge and performance of its duties and functions.

- (2) There shall be appointed for each of the Units, Technical Committees and Working Groups set up pursuant to subsection (1)(e) of this section, an Officer-In-Charge who shall be known by such designation as the Institute may determine.
- (3) The Institute may, with the approval of the Board, make changes to its structure.
- (4) The operational structure and management of the Institute shall be as may be approved by the Board from time to time to enhance the functions of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 12: Technical Advisory Committee.

- (1) The Institute shall establish a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for external expert peer review and critique for the effective performance of its research and other technical functions.
- (2) Members of the Technical Advisory Committee appointed by the Institute shall be persons with cognate research and development expertise and experience in the relevant areas of building, roads or construction materials discipline.
- (3) The Technical Advisory Committee shall —
 - (a) meet at least twice in every calendar year to consider, scrutinize and critique reports of ongoing research and development projects activities;
 - (b) vet the reports on physical implementation and progresses; and
 - (c) suggest further areas of emphasis for the future in line with dictates of national developmental needs of Nigeria and global competitive trends.
- (4) The Chairman of Technical Advisory Committee shall —
 - (a) have a cognate experience in a relevant engineering discipline or built environment; and
 - (b) attain the minimum rank of a Professor or its equivalent in the construction discipline.
- (5) The Director-General shall, with the approval of the Board, determine the remunerations and terms of engagement of members of Technical Advisory Committee whose number shall not exceed 10.
- (6) The members shall serve for a term of two years' subject to approval for another two years and no more.
- (7) The Director Engineering Materials Research of Research of the Institute shall be the Secretary of Technical Advisory Committee.
- (8) The report of Technical Advisory Committee shall be collated and presented

to the Institute Research Committee for implementation and compliance with the content of its recommendations.

- (9) The Institute Research Committee shall consist of —
- (a) the Director-General, as Chairman;
 - (b) all Directors of Research Directorates; and
 - (c) Heads of Research Departments and Training Centers (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART IV — ESTABLISHMENT OF BUILDING, ROAD AND
ENGINEERING MATERIALS TRAINING CENTRES

Clause 13: Establishment of Training Centres.

- (1) The Institute may, on the recommendation of the Director-General and with the approval of the Board, establish the Building, Road and engineering Materials Training Centre (in this Bill referred to as "the Training Centre") which shall be located in in any of the geo-political zones in Nigeria as may be specified in the Order.
- (2) An Order establishing a Training Centre pursuant to the provisions of this Bill may contain supplementary or incidental provisions relating to the Training Centre, including provisions for —
- (a) the designation of the Centre;
 - (b) the area of specialization covered by the training at the Training Centre;
 - (c) transfer of any existing facility belonging to Federal, State or Local Government to the Training Centre by mutual agreement;
 - (d) the establishment and constitution of senior research officers to manage the affairs of the Centre;
 - (e) the Training Centre to be fully equipped to carry out training on Building, Road, and Engineering Materials;
 - (f) association and collaboration of the Training Centre with universities, other institutions of higher learning and commercial industries; and
 - (g) the Training Centre shall report for its day-to-day operations to the Director-General (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART V — APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL
AND OTHER STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE

Clause 14: Appointment, functions and tenure of the Director-General.

- (1) The President shall, on the recommendation of the Minister, appoint the Director-General for the Institute, who —

- (a) shall have at least 15 years post qualification experience in the built environment, particularly in —
 - (i) building,
 - (ii) road,
 - (iii) geotechnical,
 - (iv) engineering, or
 - (v) construction sector.
- (2) The Director-General shall be —
 - (a) is the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer; and
 - (b) is responsible for the day-to-day administration and execution of the policy of the Institute.
- (3) The Director-General shall, as Secretary to the Board —
 - (a) prepare minutes of the meetings of the Board;
 - (b) keep and secure the corporate record of the Board and the Institute;
 - (c) issue notices of the meetings of the Board as may be directed by the Board;
 - (d) be in custody of the seal of the Institute; and
 - (e) perform such other duties as the Board may, from time to time assign.
- (4) The Director-General:
 - (a) shall hold office for a term of four years; and
 - (b) may, upon satisfactory discharge of his duties, be re-appointed for another term of four years and no more (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 15: Appointment and tenure of Principal Officers of the Institute.

- (1) The Institute shall have the following Principal Officers —
 - (a) a Head of Department who shall be of the rank of a Director of Research in the Institute for each of the Research Directorates provided under section 11 of this Bill and in the absence of a person of the rank of a Director, the most Senior Research Officer in the Directorate who shall not be below the rank of a Principal Research Officer shall be appointed on acting capacity;
 - (b) a Director to head each of the Non-Research Directorates as may be established by the Institute; and

- (c) a Coordinating Director for each Laboratory and Training Centre established by the Institute under this Bill.
- (2) The appointment of the Principal Officers under this section shall be made by the Board on the recommendation of the Director-General.
- (3) A Principal Officer appointed under subsections (1) (a) or (c) shall hold office for a term of two years and may be eligible for re-appointment upon satisfactory performance of his duties, for another term of two years after which he may be retained as an officer in the Institute where he has not attain the retirement age of 65 years (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 16: Functions of the Principal Officers.

The Principal Officers appointed in this Bill shall —

- (a) be answerable to the Director-General for the day to day administration of their respective Directorates, Laboratories, Training Centres or offices;
- (b) implement the policies of the Institute as they apply to the Directorate, Centre or office which he heads or coordinates; and
- (c) perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Director-General from time to time (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 17: Other Staff of the Institute.

- (1) The Board may appoint for the Institute, directly or request for the deployment from the Public Service of the Federation, such number of staff as may be necessary for the proper and efficient performance of its functions under this Bill.
- (2) The terms and conditions of service, including remuneration, allowances and benefits of staff of the Institute shall be as determined by the Board in consultation with the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission, subject to relevant extant laws.
- (3) The employment, discipline and removal of staff of the Institute shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may, from time to time, be stipulated by the Board and contained in the letters of appointment of the staff of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 18: Service in the Institute.

- (1) Service in the Institute shall be Public Service of the Federation within the meaning of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- (2) Staff of the Institute shall, in respect of their services in the Institute, be entitled to such pension and other retirement benefits as are prescribed for persons holding equivalent grades in the Civil Service of the Federation under the Pension Reform Act, so however that nothing in this Bill shall prevent the appointment of a person to an office on terms which preclude the

grant of pension and other retirement benefit in respect of that office (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART V — FINANCIAL PROVISION

Clause 19: Fund in the Institute.

- (1) The Institute shall establish and maintain a fund (hereinafter referred to as “the Fund”) for its day-to-day administration, into which shall be paid—
 - (a) such money as may be appropriate to it by the National Assembly;
 - (b) fees charged for any consultancy service rendered by the Institute and trainings at the Training Centres;
 - (c) contributions from the organized private sector;
 - (d) foreign aid and assistance from bilateral and multilateral agencies;
 - (e) fees charge in respect of commercialization of products by the Institute;
 - (f) all sums accruing to it by way of gifts, endowments or testamentary disposition;
 - (g) profits from investment entered into by the Institute; and
 - (h) such other funds as may from time to time accrue to the Institute.
- (2) Every applicant for registration in the Journal of the Institute shall pay a fee which shall be credited and maintained in a separate account by the Institute and part of the fees shall be used for the publication of the Journal.
- (3) The fees referred to in subsection (2) of this section shall be as determined from time to time by the Board (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 20: Budget of the Institute.

- (1) The Institute shall not later than 31st October in each financial year or any such time as may be required under the Financial Regulations of Nigeria, prepare and submit to the National Assembly, through the Minister an estimate of its income and expenditure for the next financial year.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Institute may also, in any financial year, submit supplementary or adjusted statements of estimated income and expenditure through the Minister to the National Assembly (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 21: Expenditure of the Institute.

Subject to the provisions of section 20 of this Bill the Institute shall from time to time apply the proceeds of the Funds established under section 19 of this Bill to —

- (a) meet the administrative and operating costs of the Institute;
- (b) pay salaries, wages, fees, allowances, retirement benefits including pensions and any other remuneration payable to the members of the Board and staff of the Institute;
- (c) publicize and promote the activities of the Institute;
- (d) purchase or acquire property and make other approved capital expenditure and to maintain any property acquired or purchased;
- (e) meet the investment need of the Institute and the profit generated shall be paid into the Fund of the Institute; and
- (f) undertake any other activity in connection with all or any of the functions of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 22: Disposal of Surplus Funds.

- (1) The Institute may, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Finance Incorporated (MOFI) and the Financial Regulations of Nigeria, invest any surplus funds in profit-yielding ventures
- (2) The Board may subject to subsection (1) of this section, issue to the Institute, directives as may be deemed necessary as to the disposal of any such funds (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 23: Exemption from Income Tax.

Incomes derived by the Institute from the sources specified under section 19 of this Bill shall be exempted from income tax (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 24: Accounts and Audit.

The Institute shall —

- (a) keep proper accounts and records of its receipts, payments, assets and liabilities and prepare in respect of each financial year a statement of accounts in such forms as may be directed by the Auditor-General for the Federation; and
- (b) cause its accounts to be audited within six months from the end of each financial year by auditors whose appointment shall be approved by the Board provided that such auditors are on the list of auditors approved from time to time by the Auditor-General for the Federation (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 25: Annual Report.

- (1) The Institute shall, not later than six months after the expiration of each financial year, prepare and submit to the Minister through the Board an

annual report on its activities and operations during the previous year and shall include in such report, a copy of its audited accounts and the auditor's report for the year.

- (2) The Institute shall not later than 30th September in each year, submit to the Board the annual report of each of its Training Centre for the preceding year.
- (3) The Board shall submit the annual report referred to in subsection (2) of this section to the Minister within two months after its receipt of the report (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 26: Power to accept gifts.

The Institute may accept gifts of land, money or other property upon such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the donor of the gift, provided that the terms and conditions are not contrary to the objectives and functions of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 27: Utilization of Gifts.

A gift intended by the donor of the gift to the Institute, Training Centre or project shall be made directly to the Institute which shall utilize the gift for its objects under this Bill subject to any expressed wishes of the donor (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 28: Financial Year.

The financial year of the Institute shall commence from 1st January of each year and end on 31st December of the same year (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART VI — LEGAL ACTIONS AGAINST THE INSTITUTE

Clause 29: Limitations of Suit against the Institute.

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

- (3) No suit shall be commenced against any member of the Board, the Director-General, secretary, any officer or employee of the Institute before the expiration of a period of one month after written notice of the intention to commence the suit shall have been served on the Institute by the intending plaintiff or his agent.
- (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall clearly and explicitly state the —
 - (a) cause of action;
 - (b) particulars of the claim;
 - (c) name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and
 - (d) relief sought (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 30: Service of Court Process.

A notice, summons or other documents required or authorized to be served on the Institute under the provisions of this Bill or any other law or enactment, may be served by delivering it to the Institute by registered post addressed to the Director-General of the Institute at the principal office of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 31: Restriction on execution against property of the Institute.

In any action against the Institute, no execution or attachment of any nature thereof shall be issued against the Institute without the consent of the Honourable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice unless at least three months' notice of the intention to execute or attach has been given to the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 32: Indemnity of the Officials of the Institute.

A member of the Board, the Director-General, Secretary, Officer or employee of the Institute shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Institute against any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, where the proceedings are brought against him in his capacity as member of the Board, the Director-General, Secretary, Officer or employee of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

PART VII — MISCELLANEOUS

Clause 33: Power to give directives.

- (1) The Minister may from time to time, give general policy guidelines to the Institute.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Minister may give to the Institute directives of a general or specific nature relating generally to a particular matter or case, as the case may be.

- (3) The Institute shall comply with any policy guidelines or directive given to it by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section or cause them to be complied with (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 34: Power to make Regulations.

- (1) The Institute may, with the approval of the Minister make Regulations as it deems expedient for the purpose of giving full effect to the provisions of this Bill.
- (2) The contravention of any regulation issued pursuant to any of the provisions of this Bill shall constitute an offence and shall be punishable as prescribed in the particular regulation (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 35: Amendments of the Research Institutes (Establishment, etc.) Order LN 54 of 1977.

- (1) The Research Institutes (Establishment, etc.) Order LN 54 of 1977 (in this Bill referred to as "the Order") made pursuant to the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure Act, Cap. N3, LFN, 2004, is amended by deleting sections 1 (1) (e) and 6 of the Order.
- (2) Section 9 of the Order shall not apply to the Institute established under this Bill.
- (3) Any other reference to the Institute established under the Order is consequently deleted (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 36: Savings Provision.

- (1) Without prejudice to the provisions of the interpretation Act nothing in this Bill shall invalidate or otherwise prejudicially after anything done or purported to be done under the amended sections of the Order.
- (2) As from the commencement of this Bill all assets, rights, liabilities and obligations of the Institute established under the Order shall vest in the Institute established under this Bill.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill and subject to such directions as may be issued by the Institute, any person who was an employee of the Institute established under the Order shall be deemed to be an employee of the Institute established under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

Clause 37: Interpretation.

In this Bill —

"Board" means the Governing Board of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Board of the Institute (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Fund" means the fund of the Institute established under Section 19 of this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Institute" means Nigerian Building, Road and Road Research Institute established under this Bill (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"Minister" means the Minister charged with the responsibility for Science and Technology; and (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

"President" means the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (*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.

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

Clause 38: Short Title.

This Bill may be cited as the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

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

SCHEDULE

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE BOARD

Section 2

Proceedings of the Board

1. (1) Subject to 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 person presiding at the meeting and five other members of the Board and the quorum of any committee of the Board shall be as determined by the Board.
- (3) The Board shall meet not less than four times in each year and subject thereto, the

Board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman or where the Chairman is required to do so by notice given to him by not less four other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within twenty-eight days from the date the notice was given.

- (4) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall preside but if he is absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their members to preside at the meeting.
- (5) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Board may co-opt such person for such period as it deems fit, but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this sub-paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards a quorum.

Committees

2. (1) The Board may appoint one or more committee to carry out, on behalf of the Board, such functions as the Board may determine.
- (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Board and a person shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (3) A decision of a committee shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Board.
- (4) The validity of any proceedings of the Board or of a committee thereof shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Board or of a committee.
- (5) Any member of the Board or any person holding office on a committee of the Board, who has personal interest in any contract or arrangement shall disclose his interest to the Board and shall not vote on any matter relating to the contract or arrangement.

Miscellaneous

3. (1) The fixing of the seal of the Board shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director-General or any person or specifically authorized by the Board to act for that purpose.
 - (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be made or executed on behalf of the Board by the Director-General or any person generally or specifically authorized by the Board to act for that purpose.
 - (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under the seal of the Board shall be received in evidence and shall, unless and until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.
4. The validity of any proceedings of the Board or of a committee shall not be 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 Schedule stand part of the Bill — Agreed to.

Explanatory Memorandum:

(This note does not form part of the above Act but is intended to explain its purport)

This Bill seeks to establish the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) to build capacity and conduct collaborative engineering research and development in the areas connected with buildings, roads, engineering production and construction materials (*Hon. Ibrahim Ali Abdullahi — Deputy House Leader*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to Establish Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) to Build Capacity and Conduct Collaborative Engineering Research and Development in the Areas Connected with Buildings, Roads, Engineering Production and Construction Materials; and for Related Matters (HB. 1283) (*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 Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) to build capacity and conduct collaborative Engineering Research and Development in the area connected with buildings. Roads, engineering Production and Construction Materials and for Related Matters (HB.1283) and approved Clauses 1 - 38, 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.

(iii) Report of the Conference Committee:

Motion made and Question proposed, “That the House do consider the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Assembly Library Trust Fund Act, No. 11 of 2022, change the Name of the National Assembly Library Trust Fund to National Assembly Library and Resource Centre, eliminate the ambiguity in the Chairmanship position of the Governing Council, Streamline the functions and duties of the Governing Council and the Office of the Director - General and to Provide for Application of the Funds of the National Assembly Library Resource Centre to set up the Assembly Museum and for Related Matters”(Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

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

(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY TRUST FUND ACT, NO. 11 OF 2022, CHANGE THE NAME OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY TRUST FUND TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE, ELIMINATE THE AMBIGUITY IN THE CHAIRMANSHIP POSITION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, STREAMLINE THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR - GENERAL AND TO

PROVIDE FOR APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE
TO SET UP THE ASSEMBLY MUSEUM AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Clause 1: Amendment of Act No. 11 of 2022.

The National Assembly Library Trust Fund (Establishment) Act, No. 11 of 2022 (in the Bill referred to as the 'Principal Act') is amended as set out hereunder (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 2: Amendment of Act No. 11 of 2022: Change of Name.

The Principal Act is amended —

- (a) by substituting for the name "National Assembly Library Trust Fund", the name "National Assembly Library and Resource Centre" wherever it appears in the Act;
- (b) by substituting for the words "Trust Fund", the words, "Resource Centre" or "and Resource Centre" (as the case may be), wherever it appears in the Act;
- (c) by substituting for the expression, "Board of Trustees", the expression "Governing Council", wherever it appears in the Act;
- (d) by substituting for the words, "Executive Secretary", the words "Director General" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 3: Amendment of section 1: Objectives.

The Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 1, a new section 1:

The Objectives of this Bill is to establish a library and resource centre for the National Assembly that will —

- (a) digitize all legislative records for preservation, accessibility, and historical documentation;
- (b) establish an archiving system for the proper storage and retrieval of legislative records and documents;
- (c) be exclusively responsible for the printing of all legislative documents, including but not limited to journals, reports, bills, and related materials;
- (d) develop and maintain a state-of-the-art library and museum to serve as a comprehensive resource center for legislators, researchers, students, and the general public;
- (e) procure and implement state-of-the-art technologies for the efficient management, preservation, and dissemination of legislative information and resources.
- (f) facilitate and promote research activities related to legislative processes, governance, and policy-making;

- (g) provide training and capacity building programmes for legislators and staff on legislative processes, research methodologies, and information management;
- (h) enhance the accessibility of legislative information and resources to promote transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement in the legislative process;
- (i) collaborate with national and international institutions for knowledge sharing, best practices, and continuous improvement in library and information management services;
- (j) conduct and furnish legislators with non partisan research policy, analysis and documents in critical sectors to enhance the performance of legislative functions;
- (k) collaborate with and support the Legislative Libraries of State Houses of Assembly (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 4: Insertion of New Section 2A and 2B.

The Principal Act in amended inserting, after the existing section 2, new "sections "2A" and "2B" —

(A) Establishment of the National Assembly Library.

- (1) There is hereby established for the National Assembly (in this Bill referred to as "the Library").
- (2) The Library shall serve as the official repository of all legislative documents, legislative records, treaties, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, publications, and other relevant materials of the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly.
- (3) The Library shall be operated and maintained with funds appropriated from the consolidated Revenue Account of the Federal Government"

(B) Establishment of the National Assembly Museum.

- (1) There is established within the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre a section known as the National Assembly Museum (in this Bill referred to as "the Museum").
- (2) The Museum shall serve as a repository for historical documents, artifacts, and materials relevant to the history, evolution, and functioning of the National Assembly.
- (3) The Museum shall collect, preserve, and exhibit items including but not limited to:
 - (a) documents pertaining to significant legislative milestones, debates, and proceedings;
 - (b) artifacts representing the cultural, social, and political context of legislative activities;

- (c) portraits, photographs, videos and memorabilia of past and present legislators and key figures in the National Assembly.
- (4) The Museum shall be open to members of the National Assembly, researchers, students, and the general public for educational and research purposes.
- (5) The Director General of the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre shall oversee the operations and management of the Museum, in coordination with designated curatorial staff.
- (6) The Museum may organize exhibitions, seminars, and educational programs to promote awareness and understanding of the legislative process and democratic governance.
- (7) Adequate resources and funding shall be appropriated to the Resource Centre, by the National Assembly to support the acquisition, conservation, and maintenance of collections within the Museum.
- (8) The Director General may make regulations as necessary for the effective functioning and administration of the Museum, subject to the approval of the Governing Council" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 5: Amendment of section 3.

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection (1) by inserting after the existing paragraph (e), new paragraphs "(f)" and "(g)" —
 - "(f) mony to be derived from the sales of books and other memorabilia and other monetised online contents.
 - (g) fees to be paid by users of the services of the Library and Resource Centre shall be determined by Director General, subject to periodic review by the Governing Council";
- (b) by substituting for the existing subsection (2), a new subsection "(2)" —
 - "(2) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the Resource Centre shall be funded from the consolidated revenue appropriated or any voluntary donation, grant or aid from any organisation, persons or group interested in the Resource Centre" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 6: Amendment of Section 4.

Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after the word "the" in line one the words "revenue of" and —

- (a) in paragraph "(d)", by inserting after the word "library", the words, "and Museum";
- (b) by inserting, after the existing paragraph (e), new paragraphs "(f) - (j)" —
 - "(f) to provide for the establishment of a state-of-the-art printing press and publishing arm of the library;
 - (g) for the provision and maintenance of a robust e-library platform.
 - (h) administer the National Assembly Museum ;
 - (i) provide for modern equipment and facilities for archiving and publishing, as well as the necessary resources for digitization, preservation, and dissemination of important legislative and historical documents;
 - (j) provide for the publishing of transcripts of parliamentary debates in the Senate and House of Representatives; and
 - (k) strengthen legislative research information sharing to State Houses of Assembly;
 - (l) provide for the establishment and operation of a dedicated Legislative Television Station (NASS TV) ";
- (c) by inserting new subsections (2) and (3) —
 - "(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this or any other Act of the National Assembly, the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre is exempted from any form of taxation and shall not be subject to any levy imposed under this or any other Act of the National Assembly".
 - (3) Section 22 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 (as amended) shall not apply to the Resource Centre" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 7: Amendment of Section 5: Functions of the Resource Centre.

Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, after the existing paragraph (c), a new paragraph "(d)" —

- "(d) administer the National Assembly Library and Museum" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 8: Substitution for new section 6.

The Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section "(6)", a new section (6):

- "6. (1) There is established the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre Governing Council (in this Bill referred to as "the Governing Council").

- (2) The Governing Council shall consist of —
- (a) the President of the Senate or his representative;
 - (b) the Speaker of the House of representatives or his Representative;
 - (c) a former President of the Senate to be nominated by the President of the Senate;
 - (d) a former Speaker of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Speaker;
 - (e) the Clerk to the National Assembly or his representative not below the rank of a Secretary or its equivalent;
 - (f) the Director General of the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies;
 - (g) three persons to be nominated by the President of the Senate;
 - (h) three persons to be nominated by the Speaker of the House of representatives; and
 - (i) the Director General, who shall serve as the Secretary to the Governing Council.
- (3) The Chairman of the Governing Council shall be the President of the Senate.
- (4) A member of the Governing Council other than the Director General, shall hold office for four years:
- Provided always that a person appointed to fill any vacancy created by the death, resignation or removal of any member of the Governing Council, shall only hold office for the residue of the term of the predecessor."
- (5) Where for any reason, the Governing Council is not constituted or where the Governing Council stands dissolved by reason of the expiration of the tenure of the members of the Council, or for any reason whatsoever, the Clerk to the National Assembly shall act as the Chairman and shall perform such functions of the Governing Council as may be required, until such time as the Governing Council is fully constituted (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 9: Amendment of section 7.

Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) in subsection "(1) (b)", by deleting the expression "or makes compromises with his creditors"; and

- (b) by substituting for the existing subsections "(2)" and "(3)", new subsections "(2)" and "(3)" —

"(2) A member of the Governing Council may be removed from office for gross misconduct if a resolution for his removal is supported by not less than two-thirds of the entire members of the Governing Council .

(3) A member of the Governing Council, may resign his appointment by a notice in writing addressed to the Chairman of the Governing Council" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 10: Amendment of section 8.

Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 8, a new "section 8" —

“8. Functions of the Council.

The Governing Council is responsible for —

- (a) determining the general policy direction of the Resource Centre;
- (b) ratification of staff employment, promotion;
- (c) approving the disbursement of all monies above the Director General's threshold to finance capital projects; and
- (d) carrying out such other activities as are considered necessary for the attainment of the objective of this Bill" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 11: The Principal Act is amended in section 9 by deleting section 9 (1) (a) and subsection (2) (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 12: Amendment of section 10.

Section 10 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 10, a new "section 10" —

"10. (1) There is established three Directorates within the Resource Centre namely:

- (a) Directorate of Human Resources;
- (b) Directorate of Finance and Accounts; and
- (c) Directorate of ICT, Research and Documentation.

- (2) Each Directorate shall be headed by an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Governing Council and shall hold office for a term of four years only.
- (3) There shall be such number of staff in each Directorate as may be approved by the Director General subject to the ratification of the Governing Council"
- (4) Each Executive Director shall be responsible for the efficient management of the Directorate in accordance with the policy and directives of the Governing Council and the Director General" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 13: Amendment of section 11.

Section 11 of the Principal Act is amended —

- (a) by substituting for the existing subsection (3), a new subsection "(3)" —
 - "(3) The Director General shall hold office —
 - (a) for an initial term of five years and be eligible for appointment for another term of five years and no more; and
 - (b) on such other terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of appointment".
- (b) by inserting a new subsection (4) —
 - "(4) In the appointment of a person to the office of the Director General, under subsection (1) of this section the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall evenly rotate the appointment to all geopolitical zones and shall also ensure that such appointment is rotated between the Senate and the House of Representatives" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 14: Amendment of section 12.

Section 12 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 12, a new "section 12" —

- "12. The Director General shall —
 - (a) be the chief executive and accounting officer of the Resource Centre;
 - (b) be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Resource Centre;
 - (c) produce and implement the strategic plan as approved by the Governing Council;

- (d) be the Secretary of the Governing Council;
 - (e) be a standing member of all committees constituted by the Governing Council;
 - (f) set out the policies and programmes for the research training and re-training of legislators and staff of the National Assembly;
 - (g) update the Governing Council on the activities and progress of the Resource Centre through annual and audited reports;
 - (h) be responsible for reviewing progress and suggesting improvement within the provisions of this Bill;
 - (i) be in charge of the general direction and control of all other employees of the Resource Centre;
 - (j) keep proper records of the proceedings of the Governing Council; and
 - (k) discharge such other duties as may be directed by the Governing Council.
- (2) In addition to the functions of the Director General under subclause (1) of this clause, the Director General shall, subject to ratification by the Governing Council, have the authority to make decisions relating to the management of the Resource Centre, including but not limited to:
- (a) determining the allocation of financial resources for the development and maintenance of Library and Museum facilities infrastructure, and services;
 - (b) approving expenditure on the acquisition of books, e-books periodicals, digital resources, subscriptions and other educational materials necessary for enhancing the Library's collection;
 - (c) awarding contracts of any kind or description, whether in local or foreign currency in conformity with the due process requirements as provided under any law, rule, guideline or regulation;
 - (d) developing strategic plans and programs for the expansion, modernization, and promotion of library services, in consultation with the Governing Council;
 - (e) formulating policies and guidelines for the effective coordination and utilization of the resources of the Resource Centre;
 - (f) establishing partnerships and collaborations with national and international organizations to enhance the library's resources and services; and
 - (g) appointing and overseeing personnel for the efficient functioning of the Resource Centre;
 - (h) any other decision necessary for the proper administration and progression of the Resource Centre.

- (3) For the purpose of performing any of the functions under this Bill, or for the purpose of achieving the objectives of this Bill, the Resource Centre shall on real time basis or within 48 hours or such reasonable time be granted unlimited access to records of debates, motions, committee reports, Bills passed, budget passed and other legislative documents or activities, of each house of the National Assembly" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 15: Amendment of section 14.

Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 14, and a new section "14" as follows —

- "14. (1) Subject to the approval of the Governing Council, the Director General shall appoint for each Directorate either from the public or private sector, or may appoint either on transfer or secondment from the Public Service of the Federation or a State, such number of staff required for the effective discharge of the duties of the Resource Centre under this Bill.
- (2) Subject to the ratification of the Governing Council, the Director General shall, appoint such other junior staff as may be necessary to assist him to perform the functions and duties of his office under this Bill.
- (3) The terms and conditions of services (including terms and conditions as to the remuneration, payment of allowances and other benefits) of the staff of the Resource Centre shall be determined by the Governing Council and shall be accorded such special status to enable the Resource Centre attract, employ and retain such highly skilled professionals and experts that are necessary for the attainment of the objectives of the Resource Centre.
- (4) The retirement age for staff of the Resource Centre shall be 65 years of age or 40 years in service whichever comes earlier" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 16: Estimates of expenditure.

Sections 18 - 21 of the Principal Act are amended by substituting for the words "Board of Trustees", and the word "the Director-General" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 17: Amendment of section 22.

Section 22 of the Principal Act is amended by substituting for the existing section 22, a new section "22" as follow —

"22. Power to issue directives.

The President of the Senate in consultation with the Speaker of the House of Representatives may give to the Director General, directives of a general nature with regards to the performance of his function under this Bill" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 18: Amendment of section 23.

Section 23 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting, new subsections "(2)" and "(3)" as follows —

“23. Transitional and savings provisions.

(2) As from the commencement of this Bill, all Legislative Research, Library services, National Assembly Museum, Archiving of Legislative materials and documents, publishing of legislative journals, magazines, reports, digital contents as well as any other aspects of the defunct library of the National Assembly, shall be under the Resource Centre"

(3) All contracts, documents or appointments made, done or executed in or under, or using any of the names changed herein, shall continue to be in force as if such contracts documents or appointments were made in the new names set out in this Bill" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 19: Amendment of section 24.

Section 24 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting the expression "with the prior approval of the Leadership," appearing in line 1 (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 20: Interpretation.

In this Bill —

"staff" means officers and employees of the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre;

"Junior staff" includes drivers, cleaners, office secretaries, messengers, receptionist and other staff employed to perform clerical duties;

"Resource Centre" means National Assembly and Resource Centre (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 21: Amendment of Schedule.

The Schedule to the Principal Act is amended by substitution for the existing paragraph "2", a new paragraph "2"—

"2. The quorum of the Governing Council shall be one-third of the Members of the Governing Council or four, whichever is less. The Governing Council shall determine the quorum of any committee" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 22: Amendment of Act No. 13 of 2011.

The National Institute for Legislative Studies Act, 2011 is consequentially amended in section 3 subsection (3), by inserting, after the existing paragraph (f), a new paragraph "(fa)" as follows —

"(fa) the Director General of the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre; and" (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Clause 23: Citation.

This Bill may be cited as the National Assembly Library Trust Fund Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

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

Explanatory Memorandum:

This Bill seeks to amend the National Assembly Library Trust Fund (Establishment) Act, 2022, to change the name of the National Assembly Library Trust Fund to National Assembly Library and Resource Centre, to provide for additional sources of funds for the management of the library to enhance the capacity of legislators and staff of the National Assembly, eliminate the ambiguity in the chairmanship position of the Governing Council and to expand the scope of the application of the Fund to also include the National Assembly Museum, Archiving, publishing and the establishment of a dedicated Legislative TV and Radio station to broadcast contents that will promote the positive image of the National Assembly (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Long Title:

A Bill for an Act to amend the National Assembly Library Trust Fund (Establishment) Act, No. 11 of 2022, change the name of the National Assembly Library Trust Fund to National Assembly Library and Resource Centre, provide for additional sources of fund for the Resource Centre, eliminate the ambiguity in the chairmanship position of the Governing Council, streamline the functions and duties of the Governing Council and the office of the Director General, and to provide for the application of the funds of the National Assembly Library Resource Centre to set up the National Assembly Museum; and for Related Matters (*Hon. Usman Zannah — Kaga/Gubio/Magumeri Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

Chairman to report Bill.

(HOUSE IN PLENARY)

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair, reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Amend the National Assembly Library Trust Fund Act, No. 11 of 2022, change the Name of the National Assembly Library Trust Fund to National Assembly Library and Resource Centre, eliminate the ambiguity in the Chairmanship position of the Governing Council, Streamline the functions and duties of the Governing Council and the Office of the Director - General and to Provide for Application of the Funds of the National Assembly Library Resource Centre to set up the Assembly Museum and for Related Matters and approved the Recommendations of the Report.

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

16. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 9 October, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Ali — Deputy House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 12.49 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker