

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

### **VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

Wednesday, 25 September, 2024

- 1. The House met at 10.46 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 Tuesday, 24 September, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

#### 4. Announcement

#### (i) Notification of Election Victory:

Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Dennis Idahosa (*Ovia Federal Constituency*), announcing his emergence as the Deputy Governor-elect of Edo State, in the just concluded Gubernatorial election of Saturday, 21 September, 2024.

#### (ii) Conference Committee:

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Conference Committee on a Bill for an Act to Provide for the Establishment of Maritime University, Okerenkoko and for Related Matters:

(1)	Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive	_	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Fatoba Steven Olusola	_	Member
(3)	Hon. Matthew Nwogu	_	Member
(4)	Hon. Jeremiah Umaru	_	Member
(5)	Hon. Adamu Yakubu	_	Member
(6)	Hon. Usman Zannah	_	Member

#### (iii) Nigeria - India Parliamentary Friendship Group:

Mr Speaker announced the membership of the Nigeria - India Parliamentary Friendship Group as follows:

(1)	Hon. Marie Enenimiete Ebikake	_	Chairman
(2)	Hon. Anayo Onwuegbu	_	Member
(3)	Hon. Clement Jimbo	_	Member

(4) Hon. Blessing Chigeru Amadi — Member
 (5) Hon. Shehu M. B. Fagge — Member
 (6) Hon. Silas Adekunle Ebenezer — Member

#### (iv) Visitors in the Gallery:

Mr Speaker announced the presence of a Lecturer and some Students of Kaduna State University, Kaduna State.

#### (v) Bereavement:

Mr Speaker announced the death of a former Member, Hon. Oyewole Diya (2007 - 2011, and 2015 - 2019) who died on Friday, 9 August, 2024.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

#### 5. Mr Speaker's Welcome Address

Mr Speaker read the following remarks:

#### Protocols:

Honourable colleagues and distinguished members of the 10th House of Representatives, it is with immense pleasure that I welcome you back from the recess. I trust you are fully rejuvenated after spending valuable time with your families and constituents. As we reconvene, I am confident we are ready to address the significant tasks ahead. Our nation is facing critical challenges, but I salute your dedication to the service of Nigeria. Let us remain united and focused on our shared mission for national progress and prosperity.

- 2. As we resume our legislative duties, it is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the loss of several prominent Nigerians during the recess. The House of Representatives extends its deepest condolences to the families of Chief Emmanuel Chukwuemeka lwuanyanwu, President-General of Ohanaeze Ndi'gbo; Alhaji Isa Muhammad Bawa; Hajiya Dada, mother of the late former President Umaru Musa Yar'adua; Hajiya Habiba and Hajiya Binta Jakadiya, both revered figures in the palace of the Emir of Zazzau; and Oba Gabriel Aromolaran, the Owa-Obokun of Ijesaland, whose legacy endures in the hearts of his people. We also mourn the tragic loss of Tijanniya members in a recent road accident, as well as the passing of elder statesman Alhaji Muhammad Jibo, MFR. May their souls rest. in peace, and may their families find strength in this difficult time.
- 3. Furthermore, we cannot ignore the devastating security incidents that have afflicted various communities in recent months. From the Boko Haram attacks in Gamborou-Ngala, Borno State, to the tragic massacre of innocent people in Ndun village, Tangur District in Plateau State, and the heart-wrenching killings in Maigora, Katsina State. Others include the violence in One-Man Village, Nasarawa State, the attacks in Sabon Tasha, Kaduna State, Guma in Benue State, the brutal killing of the District Head of Gobir by kidnappers, the abduction of healthcare workers and patients in Birnin Gwari, Kaduna State, and the multiple raids in Anka and Shinkafi in Zamfara. Our heart goes out to the families of the victims and to the communities who have endured these unspeakable losses. Let us observe a minute of silence in honour of the memory of those who have lost their lives and to renew our commitment to preventing such tragedies in the future.
- 4. Since our last session, Nigeria has witnessed major political, economic, and security developments. One of the most significant political events was the Edo State governorship election. Despite some tensions, it was conducted peacefully, a testament to the growing maturity of our democracy. We also appreciate the security personnel who ensured peace throughout the process.
- 5. Most importantly, we congratulate the All-Progressives Congress (APC) and the successful candidates, Sen. Monday Okpebholo, the Governor-Elect, and our own Hon. Dennis Idahosa, the Deputy Governor-Elect, on their victory. It is noteworthy that both candidates are Members of the National Assembly. We wish them success in their efforts to lead Edo State toward progress and prosperity.

- 6. On the economic front, Nigeria has demonstrated resilience and potential for recovery despite facing inflationary pressures and a high cost of living. Notably, the nation achieved a commendable 3.19% GDP growth in the second quarter of 2024, with robust contributions from sectors like services and financial institutions, according to reports. from the National Bureau of Statistics. This growth occurred in a challenging global economic environment and underscores the efforts to improve the economy. While unemployment and currency depreciation remain concerns, international organisations like the IMF have acknowledged Nigeria's efforts to diversify its economy and improve fiscal stability, signalling optimism for sustainable growth in the coming years.
- 7. Security challenges remain a significant concern, particularly in the North. However, substantial progress has been made in combating insurgency, with military operations successfully neutralising over 1 so· terrorists and major bandit kingpins, according to recent reports from the Nigerian Armed Forces. International bodies like the United Nations and the African Union have recognised Nigeria's continued efforts to enhance regional stability. These security gains, alongside increased. collaboration with neighbouring countries and improved intelligence sharing, demonstrate the government's commitment to restoring peace. While challenges persist, these efforts are gradually contributing to a safer environment for all Nigerians.
- 8. Honourable Colleagues, as legislators, we are key architects in shaping Nigeria's future. Our role transcends law making; it is about safeguarding the welfare of citizens, promoting inclusive development, and ensuring good governance. Therefore, every Bill we pass, and every debate we hold must reflect the will of the people. Our actions in this chamber bear significant responsibility for the development and stability of Nigeria. Let us all approach our duties with renewed vigour, mindful of the aspirations of the millions of Nigerians we represent.
- 9. However, while undertaking our constitutionally assigned roles, we must remain mindful that the progress we aspire to can only be realised through strong collaboration with the Executive. While safeguarding our independence as a legislative body, we are committed to working in harmony with the Executive for the greater good of Nigeria. Our joint efforts are vital to securing economic stability, enhancing security, and fostering national development. This partnership is anchored on mutual respect, transparency, and a shared vision for the future of our nation.
- 10. Before the recess, we made commendable legislative achievements, passing critical bills and conducting oversight functions that have positively impacted the lives of our citizens. With 1,351 Bills introduced and 89 passed, the 10th House has made significant progress. Our efforts have addressed vital sectors such as electricity, healthcare, and financial accountability. But as we look forward, we must maintain momentum. In the coming months, we will prioritise economic reforms, youth empowerment, healthcare, infrastructure, and education.
- 11. The economic challenges facing our nation require urgent legislative action, and the House is committed to passing laws that drive recovery, attract investments, create jobs, and provide immediate relief through targeted social welfare programs. We will support vulnerable populations by advancing youth empowerment and ensuring access to education. through the Student Loan Scheme. We also commend President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR and the Federal Executive Council for approving the Economic Stabilisation Bills, which offer tax relief for businesses generating employment, personal income relief for workers, and suspend burdensome taxes on small businesses and vulnerable groups. The House of Representatives is fully prepared to receive these Bills and expedite their passage to ensure timely implementation and economic stability.
- 12. Security remains a top priority for this House. The safety and well-being of every Nigerian are non-negotiable. We will continue collaborating with the Executive and relevant agencies to combat insecurity in all its forms. Legislative reforms will be prioritised to strengthen our security institutions, ensuring they respond more to emerging challenges. We commend the President for signing the Counter-Terrorism Bill into law, marking a crucial step in strengthening our collective fight against insecurity across the nation.

- 13. As previously committed, the House of Representatives will hold a high-level Legislative Security Summit in the final quarter of the year. This summit will address Nigeria's urgent security challenges by bringing together key stakeholders, including the Executive, security agencies, policy experts, and civil society organisations. The focus will be on legislative reforms to strengthen the capabilities of our security institutions, improve inter-agency collaboration, and optimise the use of intelligence in tackling insurgency, banditry, and other security threats. In addition, the summit will explore approaches to community policing, securing borders, and integrating advanced technology into national defense.
- 14. Honourable Members, I am optimistic about the future as we embark on this new legislative session. The challenges before us are great, but so is our resolve to overcome them. We remain committed to enacting laws that will positively impact the lives of all Nigerians. I urge our citizens to remain hopeful, knowing their concerns are being addressed. This House will work tirelessly to support the Executive in building a more prosperous and united Nigeria.
- 15. A review of our first-year scorecard shows that we have met several goals, such as establishing public engagement platforms and initiating economic reforms. However, in the second session (2024-2025), the House will focus on key areas, including the full digitisation of legislative records, further promotion of gender equality, and robust security sector oversight. The House will also promote legislative frameworks that support economic diversification and energy infrastructure.
- 16. The House will prioritise Several key bills to address critical national issues across security, governance, and environmental protection. The Armed Forces Act (Amendment) Bill and the Police Act (Amendment) Bill focus on strengthening Nigeria's security apparatus by enhancing the operational efficiency of the military and reforming the police to improve internal security, including through community policing and potential state police reforms. At the same time, the National Electoral Offences Commission Bill aims to uphold the integrity of elections by prosecuting electoral malpractices.
- 17. It is also crucial to acknowledge the devastating impact of climate change on our communities, especially the recent flooding in Maiduguri, Katsina, Saban Gari in Kaduna State and other parts of the country. We extend our deepest condolences to those affected. I ask for a minute of silence to honour those who lost their lives. May their souls rest-in peace.
- 18. These environmental disasters call for an urgent and comprehensive legislative response. Strengthening environmental laws, bolstering support for frontline enforcement personnel, and prioritising renewable energy initiatives are essential steps. Additionally, enhancing infrastructure resilience and implementing community-based adaptation strategies must be central to our agenda moving forward. A key example of this commitment is the Gas Flaring (Prohibition and Punishment) Bill, which aims to reduce gas flaring by imposing stricter penalties and promoting environmental sustainability.
- 19. In this regard, the House is pleased with President Tinubu's proposal for a **Disaster Relief Fund**, a measure that was recently approved by the Federal Executive Council. The fund is to be sourced from a portion of the revenue accruing to the Federation Account and contributions from the private sector. It will support communities affected by natural disasters, such as the recent flooding incidents. The House of Representatives and the National Assembly are fully prepared to expedite legislative action, facilitating timely and adequate relief to those in need.
- 20. Honourable Colleagues, as we resume, good governance and transparency remain top priorities for the. House. The Whistleblower Protection Bill, which provides safeguards for individuals reporting corruption, will be key in strengthening accountability. We passed the National Audit Bill earlier to enhance financial oversight and ensure the responsible use of public funds. We are optimistic that the President will soon assent to this important Bill. Moreover, the Constitution Alteration Bills represent our commitment to governance reforms, including the devolution of powers, promoting women's political participation, and advancing electoral reforms.

- 21. Effective oversight is crucial to promoting good governance and ensuring accountability in public service delivery. As a core function of the House, we will intensify our oversight efforts in the next session to guarantee transparency and the responsible use of public resources. By closely monitoring the activities of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), we will ensure that government programmes are executed efficiently and align with the aspirations of the people. This will not only enhance public trust but also support the President's agenda for national development, ensuring that resources are utilised to drive positive outcomes for all Nigerians.
- 22. In conclusion, Honourable Colleagues, I call on all of you to remain mindful of the expectations of our constituents and ensure that our legislative processes and outcomes meet the highest standards of democracy, human rights, and social justice. With confidence in our collective efforts and faith in the future, I look forward to a productive and transformative legislative session.
- 23. Thank you, and may God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

#### 6. Petitions

- (i) A petition from Godwin Erhahon, on behalf of Ologbo-Nugu Community, Edo State, on the alleged invasion of their farmland by Saro Farms Limited, was presented and laid by Hon. Billy Osawaru (*Orhionmwon/Uhunmwode Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) The following Petitions were presented and laid by Hon. Jesse Okey-Joe Onuakalusi (Oshodi/Isolo II Federal Constituency):
  - (a) Ekpo Ofonime Obo, on allegedly being screened out on medical grounds by the 2024 Armed Forces Selection Board for the 76 Regular Course of the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA),
  - (b) Aba Landlords Protection and Development Association on the revocation of the operating licences of 179 Micro Finance Banks by the Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC);
- (iii) A petition from Members of the Personal Earning and Annuity Scheme Action Group, on alleged fraud by Cash Craft Assets Management Limited, was presented and laid by Hon.Oby Lilian Orogbu (Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency);
- (*iv*) A petition from Allen Hope Jonah (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Monday Slink, on alleged non-payment of gratuity and pension benefits by the Nigeria Police Force, was presented and laid by Hon. Marie Enenimiete Ebikake (*Brass/Nembe Federal Constituency*);
- (v) A petition from David Achinya, on alleged murder of his son by officers of the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Austine Asema Achado (Gwer East/Gwer West Federal Constituency);
- (vi) A petition from Mohammed Ali & Co. (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Afolabi Olaniyi Ridwan on alleged stoppage of his salary by the Federal Fire Service, was presented and laid by Hon. Ganiyu Adele Ayuba (*Alomosho Federal Constituency*);
- (vii) A petition from Henrich Akomolafe, on refusal to pay compensation for demolition of his poultry farm in Duboyi District by Ruth Negede Ojochide and 1 other, was presented and laid by Hon. Akintunde Rotimi (*Ekiti North Federal Constituency*);
- (viii) A petition from Arewa Consultative Youth Movement, on behalf of Kabiru Yusuf, on alleged fictitious practices by Guaranty Trust Bank (GTB), was presented and laid by Hon. Nnamdi Ezechi (Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency);

(*ix*) A petition from Fomanig Chambers (Legal Practitioners), on behalf of Omini David Okoi, on his dismissal from the service of the Nigerian Army, was presented and laid by Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (*Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*);

Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

- (i) Devastating Effect of the Overflow of the Alau Dam in Borno State:

  Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji (Zango Kataf/Jaba Federal Constituency) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
  - (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
  - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

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

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

#### Devastating Effect of the Overflow of Alau Dam in Borno State:

#### The House:

*Notes* that on September 10, 2024, the Alau dam in Borno State overflowed due to heavy rain fall, resulting in major floods in and around Maiduguri, which severely affected houses, markets, fields, livestock, and several health facilities;

Also notes that the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital suffered extensive damage due to the flooding, making it inaccessible to the public and displaced victims in need of tertiary medica! care;

Further notes that the renowned Cancer Centre in the facility, which is lauded as one of the largest in the country, was submerged in the flood, thereby damaging all high-end equipment in the centre, while wards at the lower level of the facilities were also severely flooded, including all medical records, administrative records, files, amongst many other things destroyed;

Aware that electricity power supply in the facility has collapsed, largely due to precautions taken to avoid electrocution;

Concerned that if no urgent intervention is made to address the devastation of the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital, the people of Borno state are at great risk of succumbing to any disease outbreak resulting from the flooding;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to critically intervene in mitigating the adverse effect of the flood devastation in the hospital;
- (ii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Power to promptly restore electricity power supply to the hospital and take additional measures to intervene in mitigating the disaster;
- (iii) further urge all relevant sectors concerned to ensure the insurance of all medical equipment and infrastructure in Nigerian tertiary hospitals;

(iv) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, Power, Renewable Energy, Insurance and Actuaries Matters, and Legislative Compliance to ensure strict compliance (Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji — Zango Kataf/Jaba Federal Constituency).

Dehate.

#### **Amendments Proposed:**

(i) Insert a new Prayer (v) as follows:

"urge the Executive Arm of Government to commence renovation of the Correctional Centre in Maiduguri in order to checkmate insecurity in the country" (*Hon. Chinedu Ogah — Ikwo/Ezza South Federal Constituency*).

Ouestion that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(ii) Insert a new Prayer (vi) as follows:

"urge the Executive Arm of Government to give a special grant to the people of Borno State to be able to ameliorate the suffering of the people" (*Hon. Inuwa Garba — Yamaltu/Deba Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

(iii) Insert a new Prayer (vii) as follows:

"urge the Executive Arm of Government to repair the Palace of the Shehu of Borno, ravaged by the flood" (*Hon. Ademorin Kuye — Shomolu Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

#### The House:

*Noted* that on September 10, 2024, the Alau dam in Borno State overflowed due to heavy rain fall, resulting in major floods in and around Maiduguri, which severely affected houses, markets, fields, livestock, and several health facilities;

Also noted that the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital suffered extensive damage due to the flooding, making it inaccessible to the public and displaced victims in need of tertiary medica! care;

Further noted that the renowned Cancer Centre in the facility, which is lauded as one of the largest in the country, was submerged in the flood, thereby damaging all high-end equipment in the centre, while wards at the lower level of the facilities were also severely flooded, including all medical records, administrative records, files, amongst many other things destroyed;

Aware that electricity power supply in the facility has collapsed, largely due to precautions taken to avoid electrocution;

Concerned that if no urgent intervention is made to address the devastation of the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital, the people of Borno state are at great risk of succumbing to any disease outbreak resulting from the flooding;

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to:
  - (a) commence renovation of the Correctional Centre in Maiduguri in order to checkmate insecurity in the country,
  - (b) give a special grant to the people of Borno State to be able to ameliorate the suffering of the people,
  - (c) repair the Palace of the Shehu of Borno, ravaged by the flood;
- (ii) urge the Federal Ministry of Health to critically intervene in mitigating the adverse effect of the flood devastation in the hospital;
- (iii) also urge the Federal Ministry of Power to promptly restore electricity power supply to the hospital and take additional measures to intervene in mitigating the disaster;
- (*iv*) further urge all relevant sectors concerned to ensure the insurance of all medical equipment and infrastructure in Nigerian tertiary hospitals;
- (v) mandate the Committees on Health Institutions, Power, Renewable Energy, Insurance and Actuaries Matters, and Legislative Compliance to ensure strict compliance (HR. 57/09/2024).
- (ii) Terrorist Attack and Flood Disaster on Some Villages in Tarmuwa and Gujba Local Government Areas, Yobe State:

Hon. Khadija Waziri Bukar Ibrahim (*Damaturu/Tamuwa/Gujba/Gulani 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.

### Terrorist Attack and Flood Disaster on Some Villages in Tarmuwa and Gujba Local Government Areas, Yobe State:

#### The House:

*Notes* that Gunmen suspected to be Boko haram insurgents on the evening of Sunday, 1 September, 2024, attacked Mafa village in Tarmuwa Local Government Area of Yobe State;

Worried that the insurgents riding on motor bikes in huge numbers with sophisticated weapons paraded and shoting sporadically which resulted in the devastating loss of over 200 innocent lives, displacement of hundreds of people and destruction of properties;

Also notes the suspected insurgents have launched a fresh attack on Thursday, 25 September, 2024, in Buni Yadi the headquarters of Gujba Local Government Area of Yobe State just days after the mayhem at Mafa. They stormed the town on foot, set ablaze some

part of the government lodge and burnt down two vehicles belonging to a bread factory;

Also worried that on Friday August 16, 2024 there was a heavy down pour in same Tarmuwa Local Government which resulted to unprecedented flooding;

Concerned that the heavy rain washed away several houses; farms were swept away and a bridge in Jumbam which connects nine (9) Local Governments Areas to Damaturu the State capital has collapsed completely. The flood waters have also led to the spread of water borne diseases, placing an additional strain on healthcare services;

Also concerned that the combined effects of these two tragedies have created a severe humanitarian crisis, with thousands of displaced persons lacking access to basic needs such as food, clean water, shelter, and healthcare. Children and women, in particular, are bearing the brunt of this crisis, with many suffering from malnutrition and trauma;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the security agencies to enhance security measures in the region, intelligent gathering and community engagement;
- (ii) also urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and North East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide immediate aid and support to the affected people and communities;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development as well as other relevant government agencies saddled with the responsibility of flood and erosion control to provide a permanent solution to this yearly destructive occurrence (Hon. Khadija Waziri-Bukar A. Ibrahim Damaturu/Gujba/Gulani/Tarmuwa Federal Constituency and Five Others).

#### Debate.

#### Agreed to.

#### The House:

*Noted* that Gunmen suspected to be Boko haram insurgents on the evening of Sunday, 1 September, 2024 attacked Mafa village in Tarmuwa Local Government Area of Yobe State:

Worried that the insurgents riding on motor bikes in huge numbers with sophisticated weapons paraded and shoting sporadically which resulted in the devastating loss of over 200 innocent lives, displacement of hundreds of people and destruction of properties;

Also noted the suspected insurgents have launched a fresh attack on Thursday, 25 September, 2024, in Buni Yadi the headquarters of Gujba Local Government Area of Yobe State just days after the mayhem at Mafa. They stormed the town on foot, set ablaze some part of the government lodge and burnt down two vehicles belonging to a bread factory;

Also worried that on Friday August 16, 2024 there was a heavy down pour in same Tarmuwa Local Government which resulted to unprecedented flooding;

Concerned that the heavy rain washed away several houses; farms were swept away and a bridge in Jumbam which connects nine (9) Local Governments Areas to Damaturu the State capital has collapsed completely. The flood waters have also led to the spread of water borne diseases, placing an additional strain on healthcare services;

Also concerned that the combined effects of these two tragedies have created a severe humanitarian crisis, with thousands of displaced persons lacking access to basic needs such as food, clean water, shelter, and healthcare. Children and women, in particular, are bearing the brunt of this crisis, with many suffering from malnutrition and trauma;

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the security agencies to enhance security measures in the region, intelligent gathering and community engagement;
- (ii) also urge National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and North East Development Commission (NEDC) to provide immediate aid and support to the affected people and communities;
- (iii) further urge the Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development as well as other relevant government agencies saddled with the responsibility of flood and erosion control to provide a permanent solution to this yearly destructive occurrence (HR. 58/09/2024).
- (iii) Flood Disaster in Shira, Giade, Gamawa, Zaki, Itas/Gadau, Jamare and Katagum Local Government Areas of Bauchi State:

Hon. Sani Ibrahim Tanko (*Shira/Giade 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.

### Floods Disaster in Shira, Giade, Gamawa, Zaki, Itas/Gadau, Jamare and Katagum Local Government Areas of Bauch State:

#### The House:

*Notes* this year's perennial rain which wreaked havoc in Shira/Giade, Gamawa, Zaki/Itas/Gadau/Jamare and Katagum Federal Constituency in Bauch State;

Also notes that the flood submerged township roads, bridges; destroyed infrastructure such as Schools, health facilities, markets, electricity polls and houses with resultant loss of lives and property in the Constituency;

Worried that the destruction caused by the floods had adversely affected businesses, academic activities and the socio-economic activities in those areas;

*Disturbed* that life has become unbearable for the affected communities as they have been rendered homeless and now leave in make shift refugee camps;

#### Resolves to:

(i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, the North East Development Commission, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Ecological Funds

Office to immediately allocate fund for mitigation measures in Shira/Giade/Gamawa/Zaki/Itas/Gadau/Jamare and Katagum Federal Constituency in Bauchi State;

(ii) mandate the Committees on Works, North East Development Commission and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (*Hon. Sani Ibrahim Tanko — Shira/Giade Federal Constituency and Four Others*).

Debate.

#### Agreed to.

Floods Disaster in Shira, Giade, Gamawa, Zaki, Itas/Gadau, Jamare and Katagum Local Government Areas of Bauch State:

The House:

*Noted* this year's perennial rain which wreaked havoc in Shira/Giade, Gamawa, Zaki/Itas/Gadau/Jamare and Katagum Federal Constituency in Bauch State;

Also noted that the flood submerged township roads, bridges; destroyed infrastructure such as Schools, health facilities, markets, electricity polls and houses with resultant loss of lives and property in the Constituency;

Worried that the destruction caused by the floods had adversely affected businesses, academic activities and the socio-economic activities in those areas;

*Disturbed* that life has become unbearable for the affected communities as they have been rendered homeless and now leave in make shift refugee camps;

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Federal Ministry of Works, the North East Development Commission, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Ecological Funds Office to immediately allocate fund for mitigation measures in Shira/Giade/Gamawa/Zaki/Itas/Gadau/Jamare and Katagum Federal Constituency in Bauchi State:
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Works, North East Development Commission and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to ensure compliance (HR. 59/09/2024).

*Motion made and Question proposed*, "That the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 5 (4) to enable it take more than 3 matters of urgent public importance" (*Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency*).

#### Agreed to.

- (iv) Continuous Tremor and Vibration in Parts of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja: Hon. Kingsley Chinda (Obio/Akpor 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.

#### Continuous Tremor and Vibration in Parts of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja:

#### The House:

Aware that the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, is the seat of the Federal Government of Nigeria, with a population that relies on the stability and safety of its environment for daily activities;

Also aware that being the seat of power, the FCT holds great importance to the sovereignty, integrity, security and strength of the nation;

Concerned by recent reports from the media and private residents in various districts of Abuja, such as Mpape, Maitama, and Gwarimpa, who have experienced intermittent tremors and vibrations over the past few months;

*Disturbed* that despite investigations, there appears to be no conclusive explanation for these occurrences. There is growing fear among residents that these tremors could be a precursor to a more significant seismic event or structural damages to properties;

*Cognizant* of the fact that Nigeria is not generally considered a seismic hotspot, yet some regions, including the FCT, have previously experienced minor tremors, and this requires proactive measures to mitigate risks;

Worried about the potential damage to infrastructure, including homes, office buildings, roads, and other critical facilities, should these tremors persist or escalate in intensity;

*Mindful* that tremors, if not adequately studied and addressed, could lead to a loss of lives, displacement of residents, and significant economic losses, especially if critical infrastructure is affected:

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to prepare a comprehensive risk assessment report on potential hazards related to continuous tremors and provide guidelines to residents on safety measures;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Federal Capital Territory, Environment, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to investigate cause of the tremor and report within two (2) weeks (Hon. Kingsley Ogundu Chinda Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency).

#### Debate.

#### Agreed to.

#### The House:

Aware that the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, is the seat of the Federal Government of Nigeria, with a population that relies on the stability and safety of its environment for daily activities;

Also aware that being the seat of power, the FCT holds great importance to the sovereignty, integrity, security and strength of the nation;

Concerned by recent reports from the media and private residents in various districts of Abuja, such as Mpape, Maitama, and Gwarimpa, who have experienced intermittent tremors and vibrations over the past few months;

*Disturbed* that despite investigations, there appears to be no conclusive explanation for these occurrences. There is growing fear among residents that these tremors could be a precursor to a more significant seismic event or structural damages to properties;

*Cognizant* of the fact that Nigeria is not generally considered a seismic hotspot, yet some regions, including the FCT, have previously experienced minor tremors, and this requires proactive measures to mitigate risks;

Worried about the potential damage to infrastructure, including homes, office buildings, roads, and other critical facilities, should these tremors persist or escalate in intensity;

*Mindful* that tremors, if not adequately studied and addressed, could lead to a loss of lives, displacement of residents, and significant economic losses, especially if critical infrastructure is affected;

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to prepare a comprehensive risk assessment report on potential hazards related to continuous tremors and provide guidelines to residents on safety measures;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Federal Capital Territory, Environment, and Emergency and Disaster Preparedness to investigate cause of the tremor and report within two (2) weeks (HR. 60/09/2024).

#### 8. Presentation of Bills

The following Bills were read the First Time:

- (1) FCT Supplementary Statutory Appropriations Bill, 2024 (HB.1726).
- (2) Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1366).
- (3) University Teaching Hospitals (Reconstitution of Board, etc.) Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1445).
- (4) Federal College of Education, Umuobom, Imo State (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1425).
- (5) Federal University of Trade and Mentorship Studies, Isiala Mbano (Establishment, etc.)Bill, 2024 (HB.1432).
- (6) Chartered Institute of Entrepreneurship (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1626).
- (7) Federal University of Technology, Maijuju (Establishment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1685).
- (8) Institute of Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Corporate Governance Bill, 2024 (HB.1681).
- (9) Nigerian Defence Academy Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1709).
- (10) Nigeria Police Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (HB.1717).

#### 9. Presentation of Reports

#### (i) Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation, 2004, to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Fiditi - Oyo, Oyo State and for Related Matters (HB. 1269)" (Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba Federal Constituency).

#### Agreed to.

Report laid.

#### (ii) Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Ute Ukpu to make Comprehensive Provisions for its Due Management and Administration and for Related Matters (HB.105)" (Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba Federal Constituency).

#### Agreed to.

Report laid.

#### (iii) Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Federal Universities of Agriculture Act, Cap. F22, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Ako-Nike, Enugu State and for Related Matters (HB.530)" (Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba Federal Constituency).

#### Agreed to.

Report laid.

#### (iv) Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of The Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Misau, Bauchi State and for Related Matters (HB.486)" (Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba Federal Constituency).

#### Agreed to.

Report laid.

#### (v) Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do receive the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Colleges and Institutions on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Act, Cap. A12, Laws of The Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to make Provision for Establishment of Federal College of Agriculture, Ise, Ekiti State and for Related Matters (HB. 52)" (Hon. Akeem Adeniyi Adeyemi — Afijio/Oyo East/Oyo West/Atiba Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

Report laid.

Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do suspend Order Twelve, Rule 4 (1) to enable it commence and conclude debate on the general principles of a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration's Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₹419,860,394,368 (four hundred and ninety billion, eight hundred sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, of which the sum of ₹38,060,394,368 (thirty-eight billion, sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs; while the sum of ₹381,800,000,000.00 (three hundred and eighty-one billion, eight hundred million Naira) only, is for Capital Expenditure; for the service of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, for the financial year ending on 31 December 2024 (HB.1726)" (Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency).

Agreed to.

10. A Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration's Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₹419,860,394, 368 (four hundred and ninety billion, eight hundred sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, of which the sum of ₹38,060,394,368 (thirty-eight billion, sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs; while the sum of ₹381,800,000,000,000 (three hundred and eighty-one billion, eight hundred million Naira) only, is for Capital Expenditure; for the service of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, for the financial year ending on 31 December 2024 (HB.1726) — Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Authorise the issue from the Federal Capital Territory Administration's Statutory Revenue Fund of the Federal Capital Territory Administration Account, the total sum of ₹419,860,394,368 (four hundred and ninety billion, eight hundred sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, of which the sum of ₹38,060,394,368 (thirty-eight billion, sixty million, three hundred and ninety-four thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight Naira) only, is for Overhead Costs; while the sum of ₹381,800,000,000.00 (three hundred and eighty-one billion, eight hundred million Naira) only, is for Capital Expenditure; for the service of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, for the financial year ending on 31 December 2024 (HB.1726) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

Dehate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory.

11. A Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birni-Kebbi, Kebbi State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy and for Related Matters (HB.1624)

— Second Reading

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy, Birni-Kebbi, Kebbi State, to Provide for Courses Leading to the Award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates in Dental Technology, Dental Therapy and for Related Matters (HB.1624) be read a Second Time" (Hon. Ibrahim Mohammed — Bunza/Birnin Kebbi/Kalgo Federal Constituency).

Dehate.

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

Bill read the Second Time.

Bill referred to the Committee on Health Institutions.

### 12. Need to Rehabilitate the Road and Bridges Leading to the site of the Ill-fated Bellview Boeing 737-200 Airline Flight 210 from Lagos to Abuja

Motion made and Question proposed:

#### The House:

*Notes* that on 22 October, 2005, the Bellview Airlines Flight 210, a scheduled Nigerian domestic passenger flight Boeing 737-200 airliner from Lagos to Abuja nose-dived and crashed at high speed, few minutes after take-off, killing all 117 passengers on board;

Concerned that families of the deceased have been unable to pay their respects due to the dilapidated road and collapsed bridges at Awela and Alapako Rivers;

Also concerned that families of the deceased passengers are unable to lay their wreath and perform prayers, because of the badly affected road and the collapsed bridges due to flood and erosion at both Awela and Alapako Rivers, is a poignant reminder of the ongoing impact of that terrible event;

#### Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Federal Government to:
  - (a) establish a Memorial Fund to support families of the deceased involved in the accident to aid their travel expenses to visit the site,
  - (b) establish a sustainable infrastructure development in the area by engaging the relevant stakeholders to prioritize road maintenance and a monument for visitors,
  - (c) encourage donations and contributions to help alleviate financial burdens of the families of the victims;
- (ii) also urge the Ecological Fund Office to embark on immediate road development, dredging/channelization and construction of bridges across Awela and Alapako Bridges to allow families to visit the site and pay their respects;
- (iii) mandate the Committees on Ecological Funds, Appropriations and Aviation to make provision in 2025 budget estimate to address the infrastructure challenges to ensure safe site access for families of the deceased (Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency).

#### Debate.

#### **Amendment Proposed:**

Leave out Prayer (i) (Hon. Chinda Kingsley — Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

*Noted* that on 22 October, 2005, the Bellview Airlines Flight 210, a scheduled Nigerian domestic passenger flight Boeing 737-200 airliner from Lagos to Abuja nose-dived and crashed at high speed, few minutes after take-off, killing all 117 passengers on board;

Concerned that families of the deceased have been unable to pay their respects due to the dilapidated road and collapsed bridges at Awela and Alapako Rivers;

Also concerned that families of the deceased passengers are unable to lay their wreath and perform prayers, because of the badly affected road and the collapsed bridges due to flood and erosion at both Awela and Alapako Rivers, is a poignant reminder of the ongoing impact of that terrible event:

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Ecological Fund Office to embark on immediate road development, dredging/channelization and construction of bridges across Awela and Alapako Bridges to allow families to visit the site and pay their respects
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Ecological Funds, Appropriations, and Aviation to make provision in 2025 budget estimate to address the infrastructure challenges to and ensure safe site access for families of the deceased (HR. 61/09/2024).

### 13. Failure to Execute Contract for the Construction of Oloibiri Oil Museum and Research Centre, Bayelsa State

Motion made and Question proposed:

#### The House:

*Notes* that the contract for the construction of the Oloibiri-Otuabagi Oil Museum and Research Centre has lingered for years, with those who witnessed its commencement now being parents and grandparents;

Aware that Oloibiri-Otuabagi in the Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State is the site of the Oloibiri Oil Museum and Research Centre, Oloibiri where oil was first discovered in Nigeria by Shell Darcy in January, 1956;

Also aware that the foundation of the oil museum was laid by former President Shehu Shagari in 1983, with subsequent administrations of former President Olusegun Obasanjo and President Muhammadu Buhari reviewing the contract in 2001 and 2023;

Further aware of Report in the Nigerian Daily Trust Newspaper of 9 February, 2023 where the Federal Executive Council approved 117 billion Naira contract and the project was awarded to Julius Berger Plc, with a completion timeframe of two and half years, domiciled with the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) and the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB);

*Disturbed* that since the foundation of the museum was laid in 1983 and money voted for it in 2023, no meaningful work has been done on the site;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to expedite the construction of the Oloibiri Oil Museum and Research Centre in Oloibiri, Ogbia Federal Constituency of Bayelsa State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committee on Culture and Tourism to investigate the failure to execute the contract for the construction of the Oloibiri-Otuabagi Oil Museum and Research Centre in Oloibiri, Ogbia Local Government Area, Bayelsa State and report within four (4) weeks (Hon. Mitema Obordor Ogbia Federal Constituency).

Debate.

#### **Amendment Proposed:**

In Prayer (ii), immediately after the word "Tourism", insert the words "and Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring" (Hon. Chinedu Emeka Martins — Ahiazu Mbaise/Ezinhitte Federal Constituency).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

#### The House:

*Noted* that the contract for the construction of the Oloibiri-Otuabagi Oil Museum and Research Centre has lingered for years, with those who witnessed its commencement now being parents and grandparents;

Aware that Oloibiri-Otuabagi in the Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State is the site of the Oloibiri Oil Museum and Research Centre, Oloibiri where oil was first discovered in Nigeria by Shell Darcy in January, 1956;

Also aware that the foundation of the oil museum was laid by former President Shehu Shagari in 1983, with subsequent administrations of former President Olusegun Obasanjo and President Muhammadu Buhari reviewing the contract in 2001 and 2023;

Further aware of Report in the Nigerian Daily Trust Newspaper of 9 February, 2023 where the Federal Executive Council approved 117 billion Naira contract and the project was awarded to Julius Berger Plc, with a completion timeframe of two and half years, domiciled with the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) and the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB);

Disturbed that since the foundation of the museum was laid in 1983 and money voted for it in 2023, no meaningful work has been done on the site;

#### Resolved to:

- (i) urge the Executive Arm of Government to expedite the construction of the Oloibiri Oil Museum and Research Centre in Oloibiri, Ogbia Federal Constituency of Bayelsa State; and
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Culture and Tourism, and Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring to investigate the failure to execute the contract for the construction of the Oloibiri-Otuabagi Oil Museum and Research Centre in Oloibiri, Ogbia Local Government Area, Bayelsa State and report within four (4) weeks (HR. 62/09/2024).

## 14. Rehabilitation of Idofian - Fufu - Lajiki - Oke-Oyi Link Road in Ifelodun, Ilorin South/East Local Government Area of Kwara State

Order read; deferred by leave of the House.

#### 15. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 26 September, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Ibrahim Ayokunle Isiaka — Ifo/Ewekoro Federal Constituency).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.27 a.m.

Abbas Tajudeen Speaker