



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 29 May, 2024

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1. The House met at 09.03 a.m. Mr Deputy Speaker read the Prayers.
 2. The House recited the National Pledge.
 3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Deputy Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Thursday, 23 Thursday, 2024.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber:**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Vice President, Former Heads of State, the President of the Senate, Senators of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Former Presidents of the Senate, Former Senators, Former Speakers, Former Members, Former Clerks to the National Assembly, Ministers, Management Staff of the National Assembly, Government Officials and other Dignitaries to commemorate 25 years of Unbroken Democracy/Legislature, pursuant to Order Six, Rule 4 (1) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (viii) and (ix) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives" (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

5. **Petition**
A petition from Amasenibo Akie Opuene Hart and 9 others, on behalf of residents of Jumbo Akatikpo Park Community, Bonny Island on alleged inhuman treatment by Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited (SPDC) and Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG), was presented and laid by Hon. Jallo Hussaini Mohammed (*Igabi Federal Constituency*).

Petition referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.

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

(i) ***Incessant Issue of Banditry in Bakori and Danja Local Government Areas of Katsina State:***
Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai (*Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

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

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

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

Incessant Issue of Banditry in Bakori and Danja Local Government Areas of Katsina State:

The House:

Notes the incessant and escalating banditry attack of the people of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency of Katsina State, resulting in loss of lives, destruction of properties as well as displacement of inhabitants of that area, leaving them in great fear and despair;

Also notes the recent attack on Sunday, 26 May, 2024, of Unguwar, Lamido, Guga Ward, Bakori Local Governments with 8 individuals killed and the attack on Gidan Kare near Lamido, bordering Bakori and Faskari Areas of the State giving rise to another causality of 26 people, loss of livestock, food items and eventual setting of the villages ablaze;

Further notes the unfortunate death of 32 citizens in Gidan Tinjimi, Kakumi Ward and Bakori Areas including women and children with many kidnapped, loss of Livestock, looting of food items, and fertilizers;

Conscious of the recent gunmen attack of Sunday, 26 May, 2024, of Unguwar Lamido Langu Ward and Bakori Areas resulting in 8 individuals, with over 100 cattle and sheep stolen;

Worried that the attacks have become frequent and unabated with the most recent and unfortunate kidnapping of Hon. Shamsudeen Abubakar Dabai, Member of Katsina State House of Assembly without hope of freedom, while two of his brothers and a son still held captive;

Also worried that the attacks and kidnapping have resulted in fear, trepidation, psychological trauma and calamities in the affected areas;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm of Government and relevant security agencies to immediately deploy additional security personnel to Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency to protect the lives and properties of the residents;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other relevant bodies to provide immediate relief materials to the affected communities, including food, shelter, and medical assistance;

- (iv) initiate programmes to support the rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced persons, including psychological support for trauma victims;
- (v) mandate a thorough investigation into the attacks to bring the perpetrators to justice and prevent future occurrences (*Hon. Abdullahi Balarabe Dabai — Bankori/Danja Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Amendments Proposed:

- (i) *Insert* a new Prayer (vi) as follows:
“urge the Executive Arm of Government to establish Army security posts at Bangalala in Wase Local Government Area, and Paidan Wildlife Park in Quan, Plateau State” (*Hon. Ahmed Idris — Wase Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (ii) *Insert* a new Prayer (vii) as follows:
“mandate the Leadership of the National Assembly to meet with the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces to vehemently relate and express disappointment on the failure of the security system generally and find a lasting solution to the falling standard of security” (*Hon. Abdullahi Ibrahim Isa — Ankpa/Omala/Olamaboro Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iii) *Insert* a new Prayer (viii) as follows:
“urge the relevant security agencies to provide or improve security around trading and commercial places such as markets in the Southeast termed “security adaption strategies” (*Hon. Miriam Onuoha — Isiala Mbano/Onuimo/Okigwe Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (iv) *Insert* a new Prayer (ix) as follows:
“urge the Nigeria Police Force to reconstruct, reinforce and restore personnel to security posts destroyed by non-state actors abandoned by security personnel” (*Hon. Miriam Onuoha — Isiala Mbano/Onuimo/Okigwe Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

- (v) *Insert* a new Prayer (x) as follows:
“urge the Executive Arm of Government to increase the capacity of security personnel in the nation ” (*Hon. Abass Adigun — Ibadan North East/Ibadan South East Federal Constituency*).

Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.

Question on the Motion as amended — Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the incessant and escalating banditry attack of the people of Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency of Katsina State, resulting in loss of lives, destruction of properties as well as

displacement of inhabitants of that area, leaving them in great fear and despair;

Also noted the recent attack on Sunday, 26 May, 2024, of Unguwar, Lamido, Guga Ward, Bakori Local Governments with 8 individuals killed and the attack on Gidan Kare near Lamido, bordering Bakori and Faskari Areas of the State giving rise to another causality of 26 people, loss of livestock, food items and eventual setting of the villages ablaze;

Further noted the unfortunate death of 32 citizens in Gidan Tinjimi, Kakumi Ward and Bakori Areas including women and children with many kidnapped, loss of Livestock, looting of food items, and fertilizers;

Conscious of the recent gunmen attack of Sunday, 26 May, 2024, of Unguwar Lamido Langu Ward and Bakori Areas resulting in 8 individuals, with over 100 cattle and sheep stolen;

Worried that the attacks have become frequent and unabated with the most recent and unfortunate kidnapping of Hon. Shamsudeen Abubakar Dabai, Member of Katsina State House of Assembly without hope of freedom, while two of his brothers and a son still held captive;

Also worried that the attacks and kidnapping have resulted in fear, trepidation, psychological trauma and calamities in the affected areas;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the deceased;
- (ii) urge the Executive Arm of Government and relevant security agencies to immediately deploy additional security personnel to Bakori/Danja Federal Constituency to protect the lives and properties of the residents;
- (iii) also urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other relevant bodies to provide immediate relief materials to the affected communities, including food, shelter, and medical assistance;
- (iv) initiate programmes to support the rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced persons, including psychological support for trauma victims;
- (v) further urge the Executive Arm of Government to establish Army security posts at Bangalala in Wase Local Government Area, and Paidan Wildlife Park in Quan, Plateau State;
- (vi) again urge the relevant security agencies to provide or improve security around trading and commercial places such as markets in the Southeast termed “security adaption strategies;
- (xvii) still urge the Nigeria Police Force to reconstruct, reinforce and restore personnel to security posts destroyed by non-state actors abandoned by security personnel;
- (xviii) urge the Executive Arm of Government to increase the capacity of security personnel in the nation;

- (ix) mandate a thorough investigation into the attacks to bring the perpetrators to justice and prevent future occurrences;
- (x) also mandate the Leadership of the National Assembly to meet with the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces to vehemently relate and express disappointment on the failure of the security system generally and find a lasting solution to the falling standard of security (**HR. 240/05/2024**).

A minute silence was observed in honour of the deceased.

(ii) *Retrenchment of 600 Employees of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN):*

Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi (*Karu/Keffi/Kokona 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.

Retrenchment of 600 Employees of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN):

The House:

Notes that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), as part of an extensive reform, has been downsizing the workforce which has affected close to 600 employees including Directors and nearly all members of staff in the Governor's Directorate being terminated;

Also notes that the recent downsizing by the Apex Bank has raised significant concerns and controversies among stakeholders, including the affected employees, labour unions, and the general public;

Cognizant that now, more than ever before, there is a dire need for meritocracy in institutions and the importance of maintaining and sustaining strong institutions. Nigeria currently has the highest Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and Chartered Financial Analysts. The nation is at a critical point of economic resuscitation, and therefore cannot afford to develop capacity and lose it to Europe and America;

Worried that these retrenchments, without any sort of fair hearings or panels could cause the nation a lot in settlements. A Director's tenure according to the Public Service Rules is two terms of four years or 60 years of service, which ever comes first. This makes them like permanent secretaries. The capacity being thrown away can not easily be replaced;

Also worried about staff morale and progression, people choose careers in civil service so that they can end careers like their superiors and mentors who trained them. Seeing their bosses being treated with disregard and like criminals will send a message that professionalism is not rewarded, as well as, meritorious service to our great nation Nigeria;

Concerned that considering the President's renewed hope agenda, which is meant to improve lives will only lend to more hardship, and will lead to another batch of brain drain outside Nigeria;

Resolves to:

Mandate the Committees on Banking Regulations, and Federal Character to look into aforementioned reform of the Apex Bank leading to the downsizing of employees and report within four (4) weeks (*Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi — Keffi/Karu/Kokona Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), as part of an extensive reform, has been downsizing the workforce which has affected close to 600 employees including Directors and nearly all members of staff in the Governor's Directorate being terminated;

Also noted that the recent downsizing by the Apex Bank has raised significant concerns and controversies among stakeholders, including the affected employees, labour unions, and the general public;

Cognizant that now, more than ever before, there is a dire need for meritocracy in institutions and the importance of maintaining and sustaining strong institutions. Nigeria currently has the highest Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and Chartered Financial Analysts. The nation is at a critical point of economic resuscitation, and therefore cannot afford to develop capacity and lose it to Europe and America;

Worried that these retrenchments, without any sort of fair hearings or panels could cause the nation a lot in settlements. A Director's tenure according to the Public Service Rules is two terms of four years or 60 years of service, which ever comes first. This makes them like permanent secretaries. The capacity being thrown away can not easily be replaced;

Also worried about staff morale and progression, people choose careers in civil service so that they can end careers like their superiors and mentors who trained them. Seeing their bosses being treated with disregard and like criminals will send a message that professionalism is not rewarded, as well as, meritorious service to our great nation Nigeria;

Concerned that considering the President's renewed hope agenda, which is meant to improve lives will only lend to more hardship, and will lead to another batch of brain drain outside Nigeria;

Resolved to:

Mandate the Committees on Banking Regulations, and Federal Character to look into aforementioned reform of the Apex Bank leading to the downsizing of employees and report within four (4) weeks (**HR. 241/05/2024**).

(iii) ***Fatal Boundary Disputes between Communities in Osun and Oyo States:***

Mudashiru Lukman Alani (*Ayedire/Iwo/Olaoluwa 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.

Fatal Boundary Disputes between Communities in Osun and Oyo States:

The House:

Notes the prolonged interstate boundary disputes in communities in Iwo Local Government Area and some parts of Ayedire Local Government Area of Osun State and Lagelu Local Government Area in Oyo State causing immense challenges for the residents of these communities;

Also notes that the boundary disputes in these Local Governments in Osun state and Oyo state have led to numerous violent clashes which has claimed many lives of people living in these affected communities, including Paapa Village, Paku Village, Oloya Village, Ogunajo Village and Malamu Village all in Iwo Local Government as well as Eleye Village and Arikese Village in Ayedire Local Government area;

Further notes that as a result of this inter-state boundary dispute on 24 April, 2024, Eleye Village in Ayedire Local Government area of Osun State was burnt down, leading to many losses of life;

Aware that the continuous boundary disputes among these communities have inflicted a great deal of hardship on the people of Iwo and Ayedire Local Government Areas, hindered the development of infrastructure, investment and crippled meaningful progress in different sectors such as Agriculture, Education, Healthcare and Commerce, etc.;

Also aware that in February, 2022 delegates from the National Boundary Commission (NBC) led by Mr Femi Osinaike, met with the Former Deputy Governor of Osun State, who also doubled as the Chairman of Osun State Boundary Committee, in order to intervene in the boundary dispute between the affected communities in both States;

Further aware that the National Boundary Commission (NBC) team were able to trace and discussed the Osun/Oyo inter-state boundary, with the issues on the grey sectors to be sorted out;

Worried that the lack of a definite, precise and clear boundary within the affected Local Government Areas in both States will lead to continuous conflicting territorial claims which will give rise to various dispute and clashes among the communities of Iwo and Ayedire Local Governments in Osun State and Lagelu Local Government of Oyo State;

Also worried that the if the inter-state boundary dispute is not quickly resolved, there will be continuous loss of lives in the affected communities as well as prolonged negative impact on the lives and the means of livelihood of the affected populace;

Disturbed that the effect of this boundary disputes among the three affected areas have been severe with numerous communities facing uncertainty, very limited access to resources and difficulties in executing initiatives/projects;

Resolves to:

Urge the Federal Government through National Boundary Commission and other relevant Agencies to:

- (i) promptly re-open the boundary adjustment process among Iwo Local Government and Ayedire Local Government of Osun State and Lagelu Local Government in Oyo State in order to find a lasting and amicable resolution;
- (ii) conduct a thorough and impartial assessment of historical records, traditional boundaries, land title documents to ensure an accurate demarcation that respect the cultural and historical significance of the affected areas;
- (iii) encourage the active participation and involvement of the affected communities, the affected local government councils, traditional leaders and stakeholders from Iwo Local Government, Ayedire Local Government and Lagelu Local Government in the settlement and adjustment of boundary process as their contributions are crucial in achieving a fair, just and peaceful co-existence amongst all parties involved;
- (iv) encourage cooperation, peaceful dialogue and resolution among the affected communities of Iwo Local Government, Ayedire Local Government and Lagelu Local Government during the boundary adjustment process (*Hon. Mudashiru Lukman Alani — Ayedire/Iwo/Oba-Oluwa Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted the prolonged interstate boundary disputes in communities in Iwo Local Government Area and some parts of Ayedire Local Government Area of Osun State and Lagelu Local Government Area in Oyo State causing immense challenges for the residents of these communities;

Also noted that the boundary disputes in these Local Governments in Osun state and Oyo state have led to numerous violent clashes which has claimed many lives of people living in these affected communities, including Paapa Village, Paku Village, Oloya Village, Ogunajo Village and Malamu Village all in Iwo Local Government as well as Eleye Village and Arikese Village in Ayedire Local Government area;

Further noted that as a result of this inter-state boundary dispute on 24 April, 2024, Eleye Village in Ayedire Local Government area of Osun State was burnt down, leading to many losses of life;

Aware that the continuous boundary disputes among these communities have inflicted a great deal of hardship on the people of Iwo and Ayedire Local Government Areas, hindered the development of infrastructure, investment and crippled meaningful progress in different sectors such as Agriculture, Education, Healthcare and Commerce, etc.;

Also aware that in February, 2022 delegates from the National Boundary Commission (NBC) led by Mr Femi Osinaike, met with the Former Deputy Governor of Osun State, who also doubled as the Chairman of Osun State Boundary Committee, in order to intervene in the boundary dispute between the affected communities in both States;

Further aware that the National Boundary Commission (NBC) team were able to trace and discussed the Osun/Oyo inter-state boundary, with the issues on the grey sectors to be sorted out;

Worried that the lack of a definite, precise and clear boundary within the affected Local Government Areas in both States will lead to continuous conflicting territorial claims which will give rise to various dispute and clashes among the communities of Iwo and Ayedire Local Governments in Osun State and Lagelu Local Government of Oyo State;

Also worried that the if the inter-state boundary dispute is not quickly resolved, there will be continuous loss of lives in the affected communities as well as prolonged negative impact on the lives and the means of livelihood of the affected populace;

Disturbed that the effect of this boundary disputes among the three affected areas have been severe with numerous communities facing uncertainty, very limited access to resources and difficulties in executing initiatives/projects;

Resolved to:

Urge the Federal Government through National Boundary Commission and other relevant Agencies to:

- (i) promptly re-open the boundary adjustment process among Iwo Local Government and Ayedire Local Government of Osun State and Lagelu Local Government in Oyo State in order to find a lasting and amicable resolution;
- (ii) conduct a thorough and impartial assessment of historical records, traditional boundaries, land title documents to ensure an accurate demarcation that respect the cultural and historical significance of the affected areas;
- (iii) encourage the active participation and involvement of the affected communities, the affected local government councils, traditional leaders and stakeholders from Iwo Local Government, Ayedire Local Government and Lagelu Local Government in the settlement and adjustment of boundary process as their contributions are crucial in achieving a fair, just and peaceful co-existence amongst all parties involved;
- (iv) encourage cooperation, peaceful dialogue and resolution among the affected communities of Iwo Local Government, Ayedire Local Government and Lagelu Local Government during the boundary adjustment process (**HR. 242/05/2024**).

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. Kelechi Nwogu — Etche/Omuma Federal Constituency*).

Agreed to.

(iv) **Public Violence Against Nigerian Law Enforcement Officers:**

Hon. Kelechi Nwogu (*Etche/Omuma 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.

Public Violence Against Nigerian Law Enforcement Officers:

The House:

Notes that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) provides for the establishment of Law Enforcement Agencies;

Also notes that Law Enforcement Officers are to be entrusted with all matters relating to the public and national security;

Pained that thousands of Law Enforcement Officers attacked by civilians were injured, or killed in line of duty;

Disturbed that those Officers killed during public violence were at the prime of their ages (35-55 years) and consequently, left their wives as widows and children as orphans;

Aware that the killing of civilians by Law Enforcement Officers are to say the least, condemnable;

Mindful that the current data of Law Enforcement Officers assaulted, injured, or killed in line of duty remain uncountable;

Concerned that the country will continue to lose more dedicated, and gallant Law Enforcement Officers if measures are not put in place to control public violence against them;

Resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims of public violence;
- (ii) condemn all forms of public assault or killing of Law Enforcement Officers;
- (iii) urge Heads of Law Enforcement Agencies to provide Officers with harmless protective equipment and training on Public Crises Management;
- (iv) also urge the Office of the National Security Adviser to the President to collate and update records of officers assaulted, injured, or killed in line of duty;
- (v) mandate all Security-related Committees, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance (*Hon. Kelechi Nwogu — Etche/Omuma Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) provides for the establishment of Law Enforcement Agencies;

Also noted that Law Enforcement Officers are to be entrusted with all matters relating to the public and national security;

Pained that thousands of Law Enforcement Officers attacked by civilians were injured, or killed in line of duty;

Disturbed that those Officers killed during public violence were at the prime of their ages (35-55 years) and consequently, left their wives as widows and children as orphans;

Aware that the killing of civilians by Law Enforcement Officers are to say the least, condemnable;

Mindful that the current data of Law Enforcement Officers assaulted, injured, or killed in line of duty remain uncountable;

Concerned that the country will continue to lose more dedicated, and gallant Law Enforcement Officers if measures are not put in place to control public violence against them;

Resolved to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in honour of the victims of public violence;
- (ii) condemn all forms of public assault or killing of Law Enforcement Officers;
- (iii) urge Heads of Law Enforcement Agencies to provide Officers with harmless protective equipment and training on Public Crises Management;
- (iv) also urge the Office of the National Security Adviser to the President to collate and update records of officers assaulted, injured, or killed in line of duty;
- (v) mandate all Security-related Committees, and Legislative Compliance to ensure compliance **(HR. 243/05/2024)**.

7.	Sitting Suspended for Joint Session of the National Assembly	—	10.55 a.m.
8.	Joint Session of the National Assembly (See the Joint Session Votes and Proceedings)	—	12.03 p.m.
9.	End of Joint Session	—	12.52 p.m.
10.	Resumption of Sitting	—	12.54 p.m.

11. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Tuesday, 4 June, 2024 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 12.56 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker