



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, 12 April, 2016

1. The House met at 11.13 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. **Votes and Proceedings**  
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Second Votes and Proceedings* of Wednesday, 23 March, 2016.

*By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings was adopted.*

3. **Hon. Speakers Welcome Remarks**  
Mr Speaker addressed the House as follows:

### **PROTOCOLS:**

*I have the pleasure to welcome us all back from the short Easter recess. I thank the Almighty God for His protection and sustenance and pray for His wisdom, good health and divine direction as we proceed with the execution of our mandate.*

2. *It is important to remind ourselves that as we anticipate the commencement of the 2016 budget implementation, our resolve as enunciated in our Legislative Agenda requires of us that we speedily put in place a comprehensive programme to ensure the quality of oversight that speaks to the efficient and effective budget implementation we envisage in addressing the perennial poor budget implementation culture that has inflicted incalculable damage to our developmental aspirations. The reality that a beautifully crafted budget is meaningless in the face of poor implementation can not be overstated.*

3. *I should also like to put us on notice that, pursuant to our Legislative Agenda, we shall soon be commencing our programme of Sectoral Debates. You will recall that we committed ourselves in our Legislative Agenda document to "introduce sectoral debates on various aspects of Nigerian economy as part of (our) legislative initiative to address national problems. It is hoped that the sectoral debates would lead to the crafting of new laws or amendment to existing ones or generate recommendations on how to address the specific problems. The House will designate legislative sitting days or weeks in its calendar specifically for discussion on various problems facing the nation. Such identified themes, sectors, areas or problems include: employment and job creation, Health, Education and Social Services; Women, Youths*

*and Children concerns; Power/Energy Sector, Oil and Gas, Science and Technology; Commerce and Industry; Transportation; Telecommunications; Agriculture; Mining; Manufacturing; Diversification of the Economy, Finance, Corruption, Security Matters, Infrastructure and other initiatives of urgent national importance”.*

4. *The programme in this regard will be communicated in the Notice Paper for guidance, shortly. Permit me to state, by way of a reminder, that Heads of various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, MDAs, may be required to make presentations on issues relevant to their Ministries, Departments and Agencies as part of the programme of these Sectoral debates. I would implore all Honourable Members to prepare for this programme that is critical to the overall success of our work as representatives of the people and as change drivers. We must always be conscious of the fact that human progress is never inevitable and resolve to avoid the pitfalls of the past and confront all the challenges facing our dear country with all sense of urgency. Repeating the mistakes of yesterday would amount to a decision on our part to remain, unacceptably, stuck in the past.*

5. *The other issue of critical importance is the unwarranted delays in submitting reports of Committee referrals. When we resumed from the Christmas recess early in the year, I did call our attention to the fact that the unprecedented 150 Bills we introduced into the legislative mill had placed onerous duty on us to ensure action was concluded on same, along with other Bills, timeously. I must state that by the envisaged projection, we are way behind schedule.*

6. *It has become imperative to adopt pragmatic measures to ensure that our objectives are met. Once again, may I implore all relevant Committee Chairmen as leaders of their Committees to quickly conclude their reports on the various referrals to their Committees. Going forward, Committees that persist in inability to meet their referral schedules shall be divested of their jurisdiction in respect of such referrals. I am confident that we are all deeply committed to the diligent execution of our mandate and must prove this by meeting our work schedules.*

7. *Honourable colleagues, I have no doubt that we all appreciate the magnitude and sensitivity of our mandate. Let us rise to the occasion to ensure that the confidence reposed in us by the people who gave us their mandate is not abused. We must always strive to lead by example and demonstrate to our people that it is not what they change from, but what they change to, that will bring true transformation in our country. That progress is and will always be about what they embrace and not about what they abandon. On this note, I once again warmly welcome us and wish us all, a fruitful rewarding session of service to fatherland.*

8. *God bless you, and God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*

#### 4. **Announcement**

##### (a) **Visitor in the Gallery:**

Mr Speaker recognized the presence of members of Delta State Students Association, Nigerian Law School, Bwari, Abuja.

##### (b) **Bereavement:**

(i) Mr Speaker read a communication from Hon. Olufemi Fakeye (*Ifedayo/Boluwaduro/Ila Federal Constituency*), announcing the death of his mother, Chief (Mrs) Comfort Omowumi Fakeye, on Thursday, 25 March, 2016 at the age of 86.

(ii) Mr Speaker also read a communication from Hon. Sunday Marshall Katung (*Zango Kataf/Jaba Federal Constituency*), announcing the demise of the Paramount Ruler of Atyp Nation in Zango Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Dr Harrison Bungon, on Wednesday, 6 April, 2016.

*A minute silence observed in honour of the deceased.*

**5. Petitions**

- (i) A petition from Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries, South East 1 Region, Enugu on the failure of the United Bank for Africa (UBA) to take responsibility for the cost of medical care for Mr Nite Edmond Chukwujekwu, a branch manager of the Bank who was wounded during an arm robbery attack in his branch, was presented and laid by Hon. Anayo Nnebe (*Awka North/Awka South Federal Constituency*);
- (ii) A Petition from Cpl Emmanuel Offong on his demotion in rank and dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Police, was presented and laid by Hon. Nse Ekpenyong Bassey (*Oron/Mbo/Okobo/Udung Uko/Urue Offong/Oruko Federal Constituency*).

*Petitions referred to the Committee on Public Petitions.*

**6. Privilege (Order VI, Rule 19)**

Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai (*Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*) recalled that the House passed a Resolution on Tuesday, 23 February, 2016 (**HR. 44/2016**) on the crisis in the Kogi State House of Assembly and consequently resolved to exercise its constitutional power by taking over the legislative business of the Assembly and thus directed the Inspector-General of Police to seal up the premises of the Assembly. He also recalled that the Senate subsequently concurred with the action of the House. He noted that a recent media report quoted the Attorney General of the Federation as stating that the action of the National Assembly was unconstitutional and unwarranted. He described the declaration of the Attorney General on the matter as a breach of his privilege and that of the House, and therefore sought the leave of the House to present a motion on it forthwith.

*Leave granted by Mr Speaker.*

**Declaration by the Attorney-General of the Federation concerning the resolution of the House of Representatives on the crisis in the Kogi State House of Assembly:**

The House:

*Notes* that on Tuesday, 23 February, 2016, the House considered a motion on the illegal removal of the Speaker of the Kogi State House of Assembly and, pursuant to section 11 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) resolved among other things to set up and delegate a five (5) man fact finding delegation to look into the affairs of the Kogi State House of Assembly with the aim of restoring the House to sanity ...;

*Also notes* that on Wednesday, 9 March, 2016, the House considered the Report of the delegation to Kogi State House of Assembly and approved the recommendation as amended;

*Concerned* by a recent statement credited to the Attorney-General of the Federation, to the effect that the action by the National Assembly was “unwarranted and unconstitutional”, and advising the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) to unseal the Kogi State House of Assembly, against the express directive of the National Assembly;

*Aware* that the outburst of the Attorney-General of the Federation was a direct attack on the National Assembly and constituted authority.

*Resolves to:*

- (i) Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the matter and report back to the House within 2 weeks; and
- (ii) invite the Attorney-General of the Federation, and the Inspector-General of Police, to appear before the *Ad-hoc* Committee to make clarifications on the matter (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question agreed to.*

The House:

*Noted* that on Tuesday, 23 February, 2016, the House considered a motion on the illegal removal of the Speaker of the Kogi State House of Assembly and, pursuant to section 11 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) resolved among other things to set up and delegate a five (5) man fact finding delegation to look into the affairs of the Kogi State House of Assembly with the aim of restoring the House to sanity ...;

*Also noted* that on Wednesday, 9 March, 2016, the House considered the Report of the delegation to Kogi State House of Assembly and approved the recommendation as amended;

*Concerned* by a recent statement credited to the Attorney-General of the Federation, to the effect that the action by the National Assembly was “unwarranted and unconstitutional”, and advising the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) to unseal the Kogi State House of Assembly, against the express directive of the National Assembly;

*Aware* that the outburst of the Attorney-General of the Federation was a direct attack on the National Assembly and constituted authority;

*Resolved to:*

- (i) Constitute an *Ad-hoc* Committee to investigate the matter and report back to the House within 2 weeks; and
- (ii) invite the Inspector-General of Police, and the Attorney-General of the Federation to appear before the *Ad-hoc* Committee to make clarifications on the matter (**HR. 118/2016**).

**Membership of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the Declaration by the Attorney-General of the Federation concerning the resolution of the House of Representatives on the crisis in the Kogi State House of Assembly:**

Mr Speaker announced Members of the *Ad-hoc* Committee as follows:

- (1) House Leader
- (2) Deputy Whip of the House
- (3) Deputy Minority Leader
- (4) Chairman, Committee on Justice
- (5) Chairman, Committee on Judiciary
- (5) Chairman, Committee on Rules and Business
- (6) Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai
- (7) Hon. Jagaba Adams Jagaba
- (8) Hon. Herman Hembe
- (9) Hon. Aliyu Madaki
- (10) Hon. Nnenna Ukeje
- (11) Hon. Zakari Mohammed
- (12) Hon. Babajimi Benson
- (13) Hon. Wole Oke
- (14) Hon. Philip Shuaibu
- (15) Hon. Nnanna Igbokwe
- (16) Hon. Sadiq Abubakar
- (17) Hon. Musa Soba
- (18) Hon. Pwajok Gyang
- (19) Hon. Nkem-Abonta Uzoma
- (20) Hon. Majeed Alabi
- (21) Hon. Abdullahi Mohammed

**7. Consolidation of Bills**

- (i) *Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Grazing Route and Reserve Commission to establish and control Grazing Routes and Reserves in all parts of Nigeria, to Create Cattle Ranches under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to Oversee the Production and Rearing of Livestock, including Cattle; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 388 and HB. 323); and a Bill for an Act to Establish Grazing Reserve in each of the States of the Federation of Nigeria to improve Agricultural yields from Livestock Farming and curb Incessant Conflicts between Cattle Farmers and Crop Farmers in Nigeria; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 448) be now consolidated” (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

- (ii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to make the appointments of Service Chiefs subject to confirmation by the National Assembly and provide for the appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff; and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 70 and HB. 149); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Armed Forces Act, Cap. A20, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, to, among other things, provide for specific duties for the Armed Forces Reserve in order to serve as a Rapid Response Mechanism with capacity to intervene in Emergency and Internal Security where the Nigerian Police are overwhelmed; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB.411) be now consolidated” (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

- (iii) *Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap. C52, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to Increase the Functions of the Commission; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 419); and a Bill for an Act to Amend the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act, Cap. C52, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, to Introduce Peace Studies as part of the Basic National Curricular in both the Junior and Secondary Schools in Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 420) be now consolidated” (*Hon. Orker-Jev Emmanuel Yisa — Buruku Federal Constituency*).

*Agreed to.*

**8. A Bill for an Act to Alter Section 40 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to limit the number of Political Parties to five; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 418) — Second Reading.**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Alter Section 40 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, Cap. C23, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to limit the number of Political Parties to five; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 418) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ali Muhammed Wudil — Wudil/Garko Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

*Question that the Bill be read a Second Time — Negatived.*

**9. A Bill for an Act to Amend the FCT Customary Court Act, Cap. F39, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to remove civil matters from the jurisdiction of the Court leaving it essentially with Customary Matters; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 190) — Second Reading.**

*Motion made and Question proposed*, “That a Bill for an Act to Amend the FCT Customary Court Act, Cap. F39, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to remove civil matters from the jurisdiction of the Court leaving it essentially with Customary Matters; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 190) be now read a Second Time” (*Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai — Ndokwa East/Ndokwa West/Ukwuani Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Federal Capital Territory Judiciary.*

**10. A Bill for an Act to Establish the National Poverty Alleviation and Eradication Commission of Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 415) — Second Reading.**

*Motion made and Question proposed, “That a Bill for an Act to Establish the National Poverty Alleviation and Eradication Commission of Nigeria; and for Other Related Matters (HB. 415) be now read a Second Time” (Hon. Abdulrahman Shuaibu Abubakar — Miah/Mubi North/Mubi South Federal Constituency).*

*Debate.*

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

*Bill read the Second Time by the Clerk.*

*Bill referred to the Committee on Poverty Alleviation.*

**11. A Bill for an Act to Alter Parts I and II of the 2nd Schedule to the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 in order to move certain items from the Exclusive list to the Concurrent Legislative List; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 384) — Second Reading.**

*Order deferred by leave of the House.*

**12. Urgent Need for Construction of Interchange Road at Ore-Okitipupa Junction along Benin-Lagos Expressway:**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Aware* that an interchange road is an area where two or more highways meet, or where a highway and another road meet, and is designed to allow traffic to move from one highway to another without stopping;

*Notes* that the ever busy Benin - Lagos Expressway is a Federal road linking the South West, South East and the South South geopolitical zones of the country;

*Also aware* that thousands of vehicles ply the road daily, thus making it difficult for motorists to cross without undue interference, especially at the Ore-Okitipupa Junction which is notorious for heavy traffic jam; hence the desirability for the construction of an interchange at the junction;

*Further aware* that owing to its very busy nature and the recklessness of some motorists plying the road, many lives have been lost in the recent past while they were attempting to cross the road, and properties worth millions of Naira destroyed;

*Worried* that loss of man-hours by delays in vehicular movement has negative consequences for businessmen and other road users;

*Resolves to:*

Mandate the Committee on Works to liaise with the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to ensure the construction of an interchange road at the Ore/Okitipupa Junction along Benin-Lagos Expressway to help in protecting the lives of motorists and other road users (*Hon. Mayowa Samuel Akinfolarin — Ileluji-Okeibo/Odigbo Federal Constituency*).

*Question agreed to.*

**(HR. 119/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).*

**13. Urgent Need to Construct Pedestrian Bridges at Okpoko Junction and Lagos Park at Upper Iweka along Enugu-Onitsha Expressway in Onitsha, Anambra State:**

*Motion made and Question proposed:*

The House:

*Notes* that Ogbaru main market, popularly known as Upper Iweka/Lagos Park and Okpoko Junction, are ever busy traffic outlets on the Enugu-Onitsha expressway in the commercial city of Onitsha, Anambra State;

*Aware* that Upper Iweka and Okpoko junction connect several markets which include but not limited to Ogbaru main market, Nwugo beer market, Ochanja market, Okpoko market, also known as “coke market”, and plastic market, thus causing very high vehicular and human movements all through the day which lead to pedestrians being knocked down as they attempt to cross the 12-lane highway;

*Concerned* that unless pedestrian bridges are constructed at the Okpoko junction and Lagos Park in Upper Iweka, the nation will continue to lose precious lives of its citizens who use the expressway in pursuit of their legitimate businesses;

*Resolves to:*

Urge the Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing to, as a matter of urgency, commence the construction of two pedestrian bridges at Okpoko Junction and Lagos Park, also known as Upper Iweka, to help protect the lives of pedestrians using the road (*Hon. Eucharika Azodo — Aguata Federal Constituency*).

*Question agreed to.*

**(HR. 120/2016).**

*Motion referred to the Committee on Works, pursuant to Order VIII, Rule 51 (5).*

**14. Consideration of Reports**

- (i) ***A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, 2010; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HBs. 99 and 118) (Committee of the Whole) (Hon. Ekon Emmanuel — Abak/Etim Ekpo/Ika Federal Constituency)***

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

**(HOUSE IN COMMITTEE)**

*(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE NIGERIAN OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY CONTENT DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2010 AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH

*Consideration deferred, the Committee ordered that the report on the Bill should be restructured in line with the tradition of report writing in the House and be represented for consideration on another legislative day.*

*Chairman to report progress.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole deferred the consideration of the Report on a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, 2010; and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HBs 99 and 118) and ordered that the report should be restructured in line with the tradition of report writing in the House and be represented for consideration on another legislative day.

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

**(ii) Committee on Public Petitions:**

**Petition by Messrs Musa Lema, Innocent Odumah and 1999 Others:**

*Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do consider the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Messrs Musa Lema, Innocent Odumah and 1999 Others against the Nigerian Immigration Service on alleged non-engagement after recruitment and training and approve the recommendations therein" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).*

*Question 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)*

**Recommendation (i):**

*"Urge the Nigerian Immigration Service to re-engage these petitioners numbering 2000 into the Service" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).*

*Agreed to.*

**Recommendation (ii):**

*"Also urge the Service to ensure that the principle of Federal Character is reflected in the process of the recruitment" (Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency).*

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out Recommendation (ii) and insert a new Recommendation (ii) as follows:*

*"Also urge the Nigerian Immigration Service to consider the Federal Character principle in addressing any imbalance that may arise in pursuance of the re-engagement in Recommendation (i)" (Hon. Rasaq Atunwa — Asa/Ilorin West Federal Constituency).*

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (ii) as amended, stand part of the Report — Agreed to.*



**Recommendation (iii):**

“Mandate the Committee on Appropriations to make adequate budgetary provisions in the 2016 Budget to cater for the employees” (*Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta — Ukwa East/Ukwa West Federal Constituency*).

*Debate.*

**Amendment Proposed:**

*Leave out Recommendation (iii) and insert a new Recommendation (iii) as follows:*

“That adequate supplementary budgetary provision be made in 2016 to facilitate implementation of Recommendation (ii) as amended” (*Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — Surulere I Federal Constituency*).

*Question that the amendment be made — Agreed to.*

*Question that Recommendation (iii) as amended, stand part of the Report — Agreed to.*

*Chairman to report proceedings.*

**(HOUSE IN PLENARY)**

Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair reported that the House in Committee of the Whole considered the Report of the Committee on Public Petitions on the Petition by Messrs Musa Lema, Innocent Odumah and 1999 Others against the Nigerian Immigration Service on alleged non-engagement after recruitment and training and approved Recommendation (i), and approved Recommendations (ii) and (iii) as amended.

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

**15. Adjournment**

*That the House do adjourn till Wednesday, 13 April, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila — House Leader).*

*The House adjourned accordingly at 2.42 p.m.*

**Yakubu Dogara**  
*Speaker*