



Issue 005, November 2024

GREEN CHAMBER **WEEKLY**

...front row insights on legislative governance

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MEDIA & PUBLIC AFFAIRS, NIGERIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, 11th November - Friday, 15th November, 2024

Public Petitions:

HCDT: HOUSE DELIVERS JUSTICE FOR HOST COMMUNITIES

- Committee orders Total Energies to address neglect - Page 07



Photo Credit: The Tide News Online

Page 02

Open Parliament:
House pioneers live streaming of Public Petitions Hearings



Page 05

Reps Speaker, Senate President, others bid farewell to late COAS



Page 11

Oversight Extra:
Reps wind up two-week recess with visits to MDAs, Industries





HOUSE STRENGTHENS OPEN PARLIAMENT INITIATIVE, PIONEERS LIVE STREAMING OF PUBLIC PETITIONS HEARING

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq and Chooks Oko

The House of Representatives on Tuesday, took a significant step forward in its commitment to transparency and accountability, as it launched the live streaming of hearings by the House Committee on Public Petitions. This move is in line with the House's Legislative Agenda, particularly its focus on Open Parliament (Agenda 6).

Speaking to petitioners and respondents during the hearing, Chairman of the Committee, **Rep. Mike Etaba** (APC, Cross River), explained that the initiative was part of the House's efforts to demonstrate transparency in addressing issues that affect Nigerians, regardless of their circumstances.

Emphasising that the live streaming of hearings was a key part of the House's commitment to fostering openness. Rep. Etaba stated: *"We want Nigerians to see for themselves that the House is transparent in its dealings with matters concerning the wellbeing of all Nigerians."* *"By the leave of the Speaker and my dear colleagues, we seek to bring succour to Nigerians by ensuring that they get unassailable justice in any case brought before us,"* he added.

Rep. Etaba also highlighted the Committee's active presence on Facebook, **[Public Petitions Committee, 10th House of Representatives]** encouraging the public to regularly visit the page for updates on hearings and activities. *"We have a robust Facebook presence, which has been running for some time now, and I urge Nigerians to continue engaging with us through this platform,"* he added.

This development comes just weeks after the House formalised its partnership with **Human Rights Radio/TV (Brekete Family)** for a weekly radio show, **"Wetin Representatives Dey Do Sef?"** This collaboration aligns with the House's goal of establishing partnerships with NGOs, think tanks, and civil society organisations that promote transparency, accountability, and public engagement.

Since its inauguration in June 2023, the 10th House of Representatives has prioritised numerous initiatives outlined in its Legislative Agenda on Strengthening Good Governance (Agenda 1) and Open Parliament (Agenda 6) focused on upholding

democratic principles such as accountability, public engagement, and trust-building.

The constitution of the House Special Committee on Media and Public Affairs, led by **Rep. Akin Rotimi Jr.** (APC, Ekiti) in July 2023, has further strengthened the House's efforts in communications. The Committee under his leadership, has thus spearheaded a transformative approach to managing communications for the Green Chamber, with an emphasis on timely, factual, and innovative storytelling.

As part of its commitment to good governance, the 10th House recognizes that improving service delivery within the legislature is crucial to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the legislative process. This, in turn, can lead to better governance, increased public trust, and more meaningful representation.

The **Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD,** **GCON**-led House has also embraced

e-parliament initiatives such as the Facebook Live Streaming for the Public Petitions Committee Hearings, recognising them as essential for modernising legislative processes and increasing democratic participation. Ultimately, these initiatives aim to improve the efficiency, transparency, and overall functionality of parliamentary work.

Central to the House's Open Parliament Agenda is the recognition that promoting citizen engagement and ensuring transparency are vital to strengthening democratic institutions. *"An open parliament fosters a two-way dialogue between elected representatives and the citizens they serve,"* the House stated in its agenda.

"The 10th House, dubbed the 'People's House,' will ensure that legislative processes are transparent and make our records, proceedings, and decisions accessible. When citizens can see how decisions are made, it enhances trust in the democratic process."



73RD MISS UNIVERSE PAGEANT: HOUSE CONGRATULATES CHIDIMMA VANESSA ADETSHINA ON HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT AS 1ST RUNNER-UP

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq



- Reps reaffirm commitment to advancing policies that empower the Girl-Child, champion women's progress

The House of Representatives has congratulated **Chidimma Vanessa Adetshina**, Nigeria's representative at the 73rd Miss Universe competition in Mexico, for her exceptional achievement as the first runner-up at the prestigious global pageant.

In a statement released on Sunday by the House Spokesman, Rep. Akin Rotimi, Jr., the Green Chamber commended the 23-year-old for her remarkable journey to the global stage, noting that her stellar performance exemplifies the resilience, brilliance, and elegance that define the Nigerian spirit.

The House also praised Ms. Adetshina for her composure under pressure, eloquence in representing the aspirations of young girls, and her passionate advocacy for hope and empowerment.

"Her courage and grace in overcoming challenges have made Nigeria proud, establishing her as a true symbol of hope and possibility," the statement read.

"From her triumph as Miss Universe Nigeria (representing Taraba State), to being crowned Miss Universe Africa/Oceania on the international stage, she has proven herself to be not just a beauty queen but a true ambassador of Nigeria's rich cultural heritage and the limitless potential of African women," the congratulatory message continued.

The Deputy Speaker, Rt. Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu, also praised Ms. Adetshina's resilience, stating:

"Her inspiring story, marked by perseverance and grace, will undoubtedly serve as a beacon of hope and motivation for generations to come. I commend the Silverbird Group and everyone who contributed to her success. Together, we celebrate this milestone and wish her even greater accomplishments and a future filled with endless possibilities."

The 10th House of Representatives also used the occasion to reaffirm its commitment to advancing policies that empower the girl-child and champion the progress of women in all spheres of life.

REPS SPEAKER, SENATE PRESIDENT, OTHERS BID FAREWELL TO LATE COAS

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq



Speaker of the House of Representatives, **Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD, GCON**, on Friday joined President, Commander-in-Chief, **Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR**, in bidding farewell to the late Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Taoreed Lagbaja, at the National Military Cemetery in Abuja.

The late COAS, who passed away on Tuesday, November 5, at the age of 56, was interred with full military honours on Friday, November 15, 2024. Speaker Abbas described the late General as a patriotic Nigerian who served his fatherland with zeal, dedication, and sacrifice.

In his tribute, Speaker Abbas prayed for the repose of his soul and strength for the nation to bear the irreplaceable loss. He added that the late Lagbaja would be remembered for his doggedness and resilience.

The event brought together family, colleagues, and numerous top military

officers, as well as civilian dignitaries. In attendance were Vice President, **Senator Kashim Shettima, GCON**, President of the Senate, **Senator Godswill Akpabio, GCON**, members of the Federal Executive Council, and Service chiefs led by the Chief of Defence Staff, **General Christopher Musa**. The Inspector General of Police, **Kayode Egbetokun**, also participated, with each dignitary laying wreaths at the grave of the late Army Chief with heartfelt reverence.

On Wednesday, November 6, 2024, the House of Representatives had issued a statement mourning the loss of Lt. Gen. Lagbaja, extending heartfelt condolences to his family, the Defence Headquarters, the Nigerian Army, the people and government of Osun State, and all Nigerians during this painful period.

The statement reflected on his unwavering dedication and significant contributions to the service of the

nation. Notably, it recalled his participation in the inaugural edition of the House's Sectoral Debate on Security in November 2023, which highlighted his deep commitment to addressing the challenges facing the Army and ensuring its successes under his leadership.

"Lt. Gen. Lagbaja's leadership was instrumental in the recent successes against banditry and terrorism in various regions of the country. His legacy,

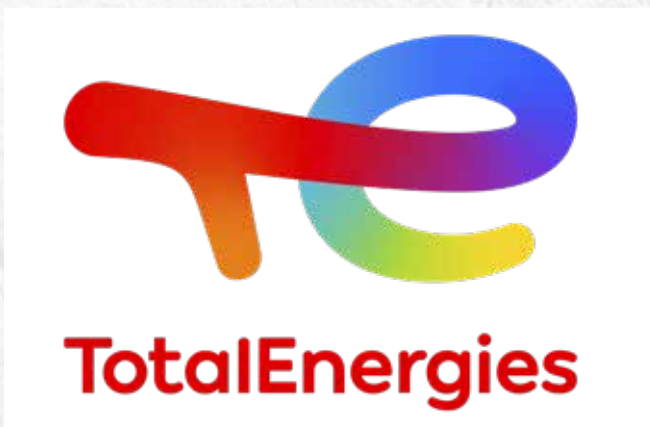
particularly his modest but impactful achievements in a short period as Chief of Army Staff, will continue to resonate in the years to come," the statement read in part.

At the event, President Tinubu conferred a posthumous national honour, Commander of the Federal Republic (CFR), on Lagbaja, describing him as one of his best appointees, in recognition of his exceptional service to the nation.



HOUSE DELIVERS JUSTICE FOR HOST COMMUNITIES, ORDERS TOTAL ENERGIES TO ADDRESS NEGLECT

By Chooks Oko



The House Committee on Public Petitions on Wednesday, directed Total Energies Nigeria Limited and the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) to immediately establish a separate Host Community Development Trust (HCDDT) for the Ikot Abasi, Ibeno, and Mbo communities in Akwa Ibom State.

This directive followed a petition calling on Total and NUPRC to honour a memorandum of understanding (MoU) Total Energies had signed with the local government councils in Akwa Ibom, which had designated a local government area as a host community. However, by August 2022, Total Energies excluded these communities from the HCDDT and failed to reinstate them despite multiple appeals.

In his ruling, Committee Chairman, **Rep. Mike Etaba** (APC, Cross River) expressed strong dissatisfaction with the way Total Energies and NUPRC handled the issue, particularly considering the communities' efforts to resolve the

matter through proper channels. He reaffirmed that the 10th House of Representatives is the *People's House* and will not allow any Nigerian to suffer unjustly.

The Committee subsequently ordered Total Energies and NUPRC to take immediate action to rectify the situation and reinstate the affected communities into the Host Communities Development Trust.

Reacting to the ruling, **Eyoh Asuquo**, Counsel for the Communities, expressed his gratitude. *"On behalf of the communities of Mbo, Ibeno, and Ikot Abasi, I extend our profound gratitude to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD, GCON, and Rt. Hon. Mike Etaba, Chairman of the House Committee on Public Petitions,"* Asuquo said.

He continued, *"Your decision on our petition is a testament that you are indeed the Representatives of the people who would uphold and protect Nigerians against the oppressive and obnoxious decisions of oil companies and regulators especially Total Energies."*

Asuquo noted that the ruling would be a landmark moment, recorded in history as evidence of the positive impact the House of Representatives can have on the lives of ordinary Nigerians.



PERISCOPE

A PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT SERIES BY GREEN CHAMBER, NIGERIA

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

This week, we spotlight the Standing Committee of the House, notable for being the only “all-female committee” of the 10th Assembly, with a membership of sixteen.

As outlined in Order 20 of the House Standing Orders: “There shall be a Committee, to be known as the Committee on Women in Parliament, constituted at the commencement of the life of the House.”

COMMITTEE'S MANDATE

- (a) Initiating good Policies on Parliamentary Research and documentation, and ensuring an efficient data Bank on Women in National and State Assemblies
- (b) Oversight and monitoring of the Conference of Women in Parliament
- (c) Ensuring harmonious relationships between Women Legislators in the National and State Houses of Assembly
- (d) Initiating the organisation of National and International Conferences, Workshops and other fora for the dissemination and education of Women in Parliament;
- (e) Recommending to the House the formation of and entry into any new Women Parliamentary Group;
- (f) Making recommendations on the desirability of the House sending Women Delegation to specific Inter Parliamentary Women events
- (g) Representing the National Assembly in International Parliamentary Associations or Groupings on women's matters generally

LEADERSHIP

The Committee is led by **Rep. Fatima Talba** (APC, Yobe) as Chairperson and **Rep. Blessing Chigeru Amadi** (PDP, Rivers) as Deputy Chairperson. They are supported by **Grace Edu** (Clerk) and **Daniel Maina** (Deputy Clerk).



Rep. Fatima Talba
Chairperson,
Women in Parliament
(APC, Yobe)



Rep. Blessing Chigeru Amadi
Deputy Chair,
Women in Parliament
(PDP, Rivers)

MEMBERSHIP



Rep. Adewunmi Oriyomi Onanuga
Deputy Chief Whip
(APC, Ogun)



Rep. Kafilat Adetola Ogbara
Chairperson, Women Affairs
(APC, Lagos)



Rep. Lilian Obiageli Orogbu
Chairperson, Corporate Social Responsibilities
(LP, Anambra)



Rep. Chinwe Clara Nnabuife
Deputy Chair, Monitoring & Evaluation of Legislative Agenda
(YPP, Anambra)



Rep. Maureen Chinwe Gwacham
Deputy Chair, Legislative Compliance
(APGA, Anambra)



Rep. Marie Enenimiete Ebikake
Deputy Chair, Women Affairs
(PDP, Bayelsa)



Rep. Blessing Onyeché Onuh
Chairperson, Land Transport
(APC, Benue)



Rep. Zainab Gimba
Chairperson, Steel Development
(APC, Borno)



Rep. Erhiatake Ibiri-Suenu
Chairperson, NDDC
(PDP, Delta)



Rep. Regina Akume
Chairperson, Food & Drugs Admin Control
(APC, Benue)



Rep. Miriam Odinka Onuoha
Chairperson, TETFUND & other Services
(APC, Imo)



Rep. Tolulope Akande-Sadipe
Chairperson, Ethics & Privileges
(APC, Oyo)



Rep. Boma Goodhead
Chairperson, Nigerian Content Dev.
(PDP, Rivers)



Rep. Khadija Bukar Abba Ibrahim
Chairperson, Maritime Safety, Education & Admin.
(APC, Yobe)

“MEDIA INNOVATION, DIGITAL CONTENT PIVOTAL TO ECONOMIC RESILIENCE” SPEAKER ABBAS

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD, GCON, has emphasised the crucial role of innovation in media and digital content in driving both economic resilience and cultural influence in today’s global economy.

Represented by Rep. Joshua Audu Gana, the Speaker made this statement on Sunday, November 10, 2024, during his goodwill remarks at the unveiling of Luft PayTV in Abuja.

Speaker Abbas highlighted that the media and entertainment sectors are vital pillars of a dynamic and resilient economy, capable of attracting investment and fostering a skilled workforce.

“In today’s global economy, innovation in media and digital content is pivotal to both economic resilience and cultural influence. The establishment of Luft PayTV, therefore, promises to enhance Nigeria’s presence on the digital stage, connecting us with the world and bringing Nigerian stories, values, and voices to a broader audience,” he said.

The Speaker also noted that the 10th House of Representatives strongly supports initiatives that prioritise local development, as these align with the House’s legislative focus on creating



sustainable economic opportunities for all Nigerians.

“The House of Representatives is deeply encouraged by such innovative ventures, which align with our national aspirations for economic growth and diversification. It is important to state that Luft PayTV’s vision for expanding media access, creating jobs, and boosting Nigeria’s digital economy resonates with the goals of the 10th Assembly, as outlined in our Legislative Agenda (2023–2027), particularly Agenda 4, which prioritises Economic Growth and Development,” he remarked.

The Speaker also reaffirmed the House’s readiness to support policies that will enable businesses like Luft PayTV to thrive and contribute meaningfully to the economy. *“We are confident that this initiative will set a standard for future investments in Nigeria’s media landscape and contribute to our broader economic goals,”* he added.

OVERSIGHT EXTRA

By Temidayo Taiwo-Sidiq

This week, various Standing Committees of the House of Representatives concluded their oversight visits to Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) of Government as part of ongoing efforts to ensure proper accountability to the Nigerian people.

On Thursday, October 31, 2024, the House adjourned for a two-week recess to facilitate critical oversight activities, underscoring its commitment to upholding transparency and accountability. The recess allowed Honourable Members to engage in direct assessments of the performance of MDAs, ensuring that government actions align with the needs and expectations of Nigerians.

The decision for the oversight recess was communicated to Honourable Members by the Speaker, **Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD, GCON**, during plenary on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, via an announcement titled "**Pre-Budget Oversight.**" The Speaker urged lawmakers to make the most of this period to strengthen governance and fulfill their oversight responsibilities.

He also called on MDAs to cooperate fully with visiting lawmakers, in

compliance with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) and the House's Standing Orders. *"I call on all MDAs to extend their full cooperation, providing members with all necessary information and access to facilitate thorough and meaningful assessments,"* he added.

This oversight exercise is in line with the House's ongoing efforts to ensure that government activities are transparent, accountable, and responsive to the needs of the Nigerian people. It also served as a critical step in evaluating the performance of MDAs ahead of the upcoming budgetary process.



PHOTO GALLERY

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

REPS VISIT EFCC CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA



Photo Credit: EFCC Nigeria

REPS VISIT EFCC HEADQUARTERS, EXPRESS SATISFACTION WITH BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTCOMES



The House Committee on Financial Crimes visited the Corporate Headquarters of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Abuja on Tuesday for an oversight assignment, aimed at evaluating the Commission's ongoing efforts in combating corruption and financial crimes across the nation.

Chairman of the Committee, Rep. Ginger Obinna Onwusibe (LP, Abia), reaffirmed the Committee's unwavering support for the EFCC's autonomy and its effectiveness in tackling financial crimes that threaten national security and economic stability.

Rep. Onwusibe also expressed satisfaction with the Commission's budget implementation and outcomes, noting that the Committee, alongside the National Assembly, would continue to support the EFCC with increased funding in the 2025 budget to help the

Commission achieve even greater success in its mandate.

During the visit, the Executive Chairman of the EFCC, Mr. Ola Olukoyede, provided an update on the Commission's activities, highlighting significant achievements. Olukoyede reported that between October 18, 2023, and October 18, 2024, the Commission secured over 3,500 convictions. He emphasised that the EFCC had placed a strong focus on prevention in the past year, achieving more cost-efficient and impactful results. He also pointed out that no fight against corruption and financial crimes can succeed without strengthening the economy and considered asset recovery a critical tool in both fighting financial crimes and deterring corruption.

Addressing the Commission's workload, Olukoyede revealed that in the past year alone, the EFCC had received over

17,000 petitions and was actively investigating more than 20,000 cases. He added that apart from the convictions, the Commission had several cases pending in court, and over 4,800 new case files had been opened between October 2023 and now.

Nigeria's national anti-corruption framework. The Committee also conducted progress reviews of key investigations and ongoing prosecutions, ensuring alignment with legislative mandates and public expectations.

The oversight visit also provided an opportunity for the Committee members to engage with EFCC leadership on operational challenges, successes, and strategic priorities for the coming months. Key discussions focused on the effective allocation of resources and strengthening collaboration between the EFCC and other relevant government agencies to bolster

This visit underscores the continued commitment of the 10th House of Representatives in alignment with its Legislative Agenda (2023 - 2027) to upholding transparency, accountability, and the rule of law in Nigeria's anti-corruption efforts, ensuring that the EFCC remains equipped to carry out its vital mandate effectively.



PHOTO GALLERY

Thursday, November 14, 2024

REPS TOUR KEY AUTO PLANTS IN LAGOS, PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURERS

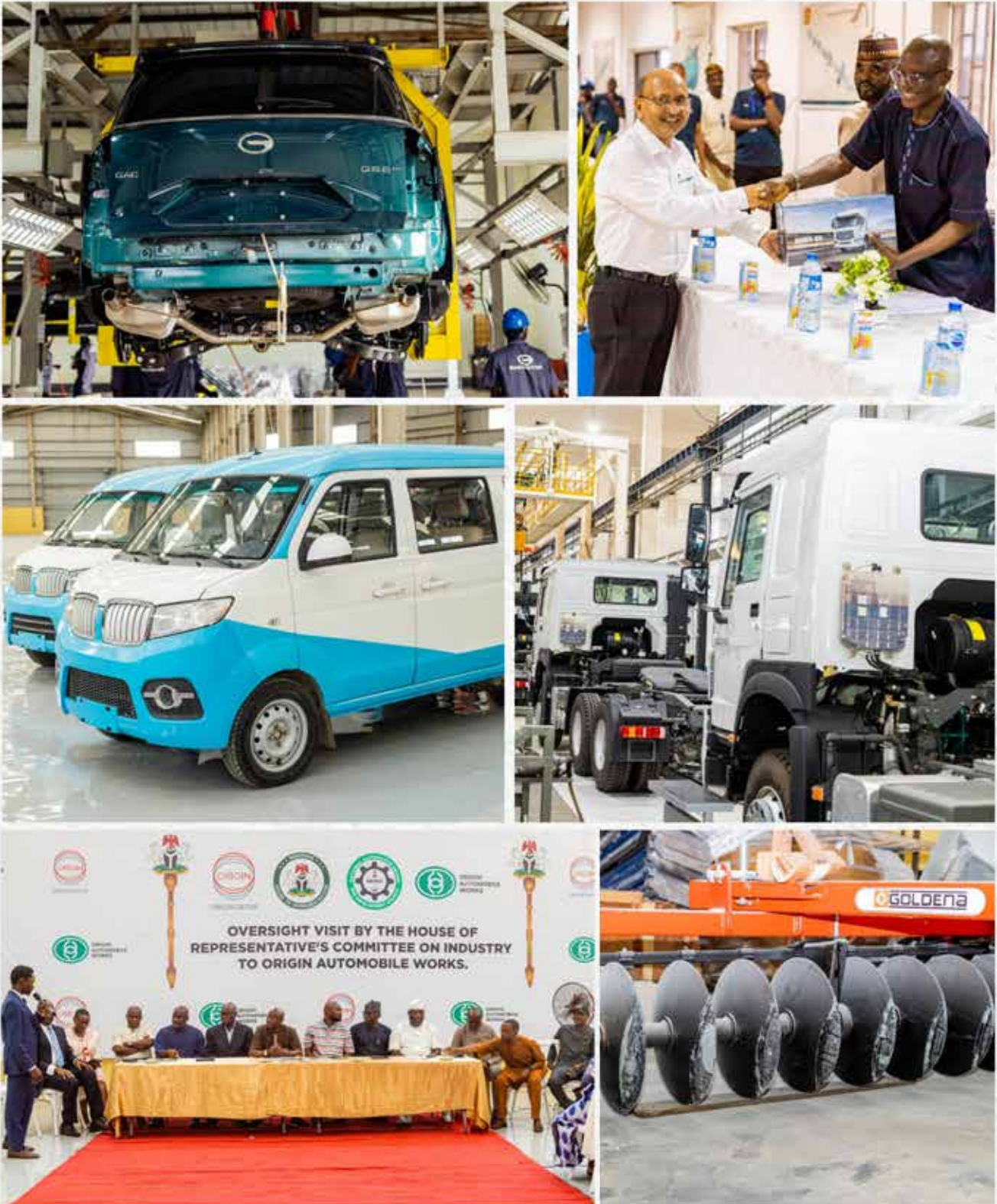


Photo Credit: NADDC Nigeria



REPS TOUR KEY AUTO PLANTS IN LAGOS, PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL MANUFACTURERS

The House Committee on Industry this week visited key vehicle assembly plants in Lagos as part of an oversight mission, reaffirming its commitment to supporting local manufacturing and strengthening Nigeria's automotive sector.

Accompanied by senior management from the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), the delegation toured several prominent automotive plants, including Coscharis Motors, Mikano Motors Factory, Choice International Group (CIG Motors), and Dangote Sinotruk. The aim was to assess the progress of Nigeria's automotive industry, identify key challenges, and pinpoint areas for improvement.

Speaking at Coscharis Motors on Thursday, Rep. Dolapo Badru, Chairman of the Committee, emphasised the House's commitment to fostering an environment conducive to business growth. He noted the potential of local assembly plants to reduce Nigeria's reliance on imported vehicles while stimulating economic growth.

"Our goal is to create a favourable business climate, enabling you to expand your operations and contribute to Nigeria's industrial growth," Rep. Badru stated.

During the visit, Coscharis Motors' Group Managing Director, Josiah Samuel, gave the delegation a tour of the facility, showcasing its advanced production capabilities. *"This facility features a multi-model production line assembly plant. What we have here is Complete Knock-Down (CKD) assembly, utilising an automated cradle. Established in 2013 under Ford Motor Company's guidance, we manufacture the Ford Ranger SUV and other brands,"* Samuel explained.

He also highlighted the company's exceptional dismantling capabilities. *"Our dismantling capabilities are unmatched, with only one other company rivalling our level. While some firms disassemble 20-50 components, our extent is unparalleled,"* he added.

Director of Research, Design, and Development at the NADDC, Engr. Dr. Fidelis Achiv, who represented the

NADDC Director-General, stressed the importance of supporting local manufacturers that produce high-quality components to meet international standards. He called for greater collaboration between Nigeria's assembly plants and local suppliers, rather than depending on international sources for parts.

"It is essential that Nigerian assembly plants patronise local manufacturers producing high-quality components that meet international standards. This will help boost local content and foster growth in the automotive sector," Achiv stated.

At other plants, the delegation explored strategies to enhance production capabilities and broaden customer bases beyond government contracts. Rep. Badru also highlighted some key gaps in Nigeria's automotive sector, including the need for more service centres and increased local

manufacturing of CKD vehicles. He noted that the absence of sufficient service centres across the country could hinder consumer confidence and impact vehicle sales, stressing the importance of developing nationwide infrastructure to address these gaps.

The visits provided Members of the House with firsthand insights into the challenges faced by local manufacturers and offered an opportunity to discuss strategies for enhancing their growth and competitiveness. *"Together, we are committed to strengthening Nigeria's automotive sector for a sustainable future,"* the delegation concluded.

As outlined in its Legislative Agenda on Economic Growth and Development (Agenda 4), the 10th House of Representatives remains committed to creating an environment conducive to industrial growth and innovation, which is essential for Nigeria's broader economic development.



PHOTO GALLERY

Thursday, November 14, 2024

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY VISITS COSCHARIS MOTORS



Photo Credit: NADDC Nigeria

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NAVY TOURS NAVAL FACILITIES IN LAGOS



As part of its oversight responsibilities, the House Committee on Navy visited the Western Naval Command Headquarters in Lagos from Thursday, November 14 to Friday, November 15, 2024.

The visit, which included a tour of Navy Town Ojo to inspect ongoing projects, was aimed at ensuring quality and timely delivery while reinforcing the Committee's commitment to supporting the Navy in meeting and exceeding its constitutional mandate of safeguarding Nigeria's maritime security.

Led by Rep. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi (APC, Plateau), the Committee inspected several key facilities, including the Falcon Eye Monitoring Room, Navy ships, and ongoing infrastructure projects.

The delegation also visited the Naval Dockyard Limited (NDL), where they witnessed firsthand the critical role the shipbuilding and fabrication yard plays

in advancing Nigeria's self-reliance in the construction, maintenance, and repair of both naval and merchant vessels.

Rep. Gagdi emphasised the importance of NDL's potential, stating, "With the right focus and support, NDL has the potential to create jobs for our youth and become a major revenue driver, propelling Nigeria towards its goal of becoming the premier maritime hub in West Africa."

Concluding the visit, Rep. Gagdi expressed confidence in the future of the Nigerian Navy, stating, "The Nigerian Navy under our watch will undoubtedly be a pride of the nation."



PHOTO GALLERY

Thursday, November 14 - Friday, November 15, 2024

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NAVY TOURS WESTERN NAVAL COMMAND HEADQUARTERS



Photo Credit: Office of Rep. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NAVY TOURS WESTERN NAVAL COMMAND HEADQUARTERS



■ Photo Credit: Office of Rep. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi

PHOTO GALLERY

Wednesday, 13th - Friday, 15th, November, 2024

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WORKS COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENTS AND INSPECTION OF ROAD PROJECTS



Photo Credit: Office of Rep. Akin Alabi

PHOTO GALLERY

Friday, November 15, 2024

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL POLYTECHNICS AND HIGHER TECHNICAL EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENTS AND OVERSIGHT VISITS



The House Committee on Federal Polytechnics and Higher Technical Education recently visited several federal polytechnics across the country, including the Federal Polytechnic Kaura-Namoda in Zamfara State, the Federal Polytechnic Bauchi in Bauchi State, the Federal Polytechnic Kaltungo in Gombe State, and the Federal Polytechnic Bali in Taraba State.



During the oversight visits, the Committee, led by Rep. Fuad Kayode Laguda (APC, Lagos), encouraged the Rectors and management teams of the institutions to adopt innovative approaches in their academic offerings. Rep. Laguda urged the polytechnics to introduce courses and programmes tailored to address local challenges and leverage the untapped potentials within their catchment areas.

■ **Photo Credit:** Office of Rep. Fuad Kayode Laguda

THE MHR'S Perspective

Shaping Nigeria's Future, One Idea at a Time

THE CASE FOR TRANSITIONING FROM A PRESIDENTIAL TO A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

Culled from Speeches at the National Dialogue on a Homegrown Parliamentary System (Monday, November 11, 2024)




Nigeria needs a governance model tailored to our specific needs—one that integrates historical insights and cultural values, and has the capacity to fulfill our highest aspirations.

- Rep. Abdulsamad Dasuki
MHR, Kebbe/Tambuwal Federal Constituency, Sokoto State




The Parliamentary System of Government ensures that no individual holds enough power to disregard the will of the people.

- Rep. Abdulsamad Dasuki
MHR, Kebbe/Tambuwal Federal Constituency, Sokoto State




This unique flexibility has allowed parliamentary systems to effectively represent the diverse ideas of nations, enabling the removal of ineffective leaders through votes of no confidence — something the rigid structure of the presidential system does not allow.

- Rep. Abdulsamad Dasuki
MHR, Kebbe/Tambuwal Federal Constituency, Sokoto State

THE MHR'S Perspective

==== *Shaping Nigeria's Future, One Idea at a Time* ====

THE CASE FOR TRANSITIONING FROM A PRESIDENTIAL TO A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM


Culled from Speeches at the National Dialogue on a Homegrown Parliamentary System (Monday, November 11, 2024)



“

I believe that it's not just about those who administer the system; you must also have a system that is adaptable to your own circumstances.

- Rep. Kingsley O. Chinda, House Minority Leader
MHR, Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency, Rivers State



“

This system contains inherent loopholes that allow those who abuse it to evade accountability, and therefore, we must take measures to tighten it..

- Rep. Kingsley O. Chinda, House Minority Leader
MHR, Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency, Rivers State



“

The current presidential system we practise provides significant leverage, where many actions that are morally wrong are still considered legally permissible under our laws. As a result, it becomes challenging to hold individuals accountable for their actions.

- Rep. Kingsley O. Chinda, House Minority Leader
MHR, Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency, Rivers State



“

We are praying that, in the best interest of our country, we begin to recognise the unique attitudes and behaviours of Nigerians. We must design an administration, government, and legal framework that are tailored to our specific circumstances and realities.

- Rep. Kingsley O. Chinda, House Minority Leader
MHR, Obio/Akpor Federal Constituency, Rivers State



THE MHR'S Perspective

==== Shaping Nigeria's Future, One Idea at a Time ====

THE CASE FOR TRANSITIONING FROM A PRESIDENTIAL TO A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM

Culled from Speeches at the National Dialogue on a Homegrown Parliamentary System (Monday, November 11, 2024)



“
Under a parliamentary system of government, no one is in power without being elected by the people. This means you cannot become a minister without having a constituency to represent.

- Rep. Wale Tasir Raji,
MHR, Epe Federal Constituency, Lagos State



“
Under a parliamentary system of government, not only does it reduce the cost of electing our leaders, but it also ensures greater accountability.

- Rep. Wale Tasir Raji,
MHR, Epe Federal Constituency, Lagos State



“
The leader, being a member of parliament, is directly answerable to the people. There is a weekly 'question time' during which the leader of the government, the prime minister, is held accountable for their actions and decisions.

- Rep. Wale Tasir Raji,
MHR, Epe Federal Constituency, Lagos State



“
In terms of accountability, cost of governance, and participatory democracy, the parliamentary system has distinct advantages. It not only allows the ruling party to govern, but also ensures that the minority has a voice through the activities of the shadow cabinet ministers.

- Rep. Wale Tasir Raji,
MHR, Epe Federal Constituency, Lagos State



PRESS RELEASE: **House to hold Interactive Session on Executive Tax Reform Bills**

Sunday, November 17, 2024



The House of Representatives is set to host an internal Interactive Session on the four Executive Tax Reform Bills currently before the National Assembly.

This initiative, championed by the House Leadership, underscores our commitment to ensuring robust engagement and informed legislative action on critical policy reforms.

The interactive session, scheduled for **Monday, November 18, 2024**, at the **Temporary Chamber of the House of Representatives**, will begin at **10:00 AM**.

It aims to provide Members of the House with a platform to engage directly with the principal promoters of the tax reform bills from the Executive arm of government.

Thus, this engagement will enable Honourable Members seek clarifications, pose critical questions, and gain deeper insights into the proposed reforms. Such understanding is vital to strengthening the legislative process and enhancing Members' contributions to the deliberations on these bills.

Recognising the national significance of the proposed reforms and their implications for fiscal policy and governance. The 10th House of Representatives remains committed to its mandate of advancing the nation's development through transparent, inclusive, and informed legislative processes.

The public is invited to note that while this is an internal interactive session, it does not foreclose the customary public hearing a crucial step in the lawmaking process. At such hearings, members of the public are provided with an opportunity to gain deeper insights into legislative proposals and make meaningful inputs aimed at shaping effective reforms.

Signed:

Rep. Akin Rotimi, Jr.

Spokesman, House of Representatives

CONNECT WITH THE



  @HouseNGR  @House_NGR

 bit.ly/thegreenchamber