



National Institute for Legislative Studies

Weekly Digest

NILS PARTNERS DGD ON STRENGTHENING CSOs

Edition #003

1
21st July 2014



Participants at the Capacity Building Workshop for Civil Society Organisations

Contents:

<i>NILS Partners DGD On Strengthening</i>	- P1
<i>NILS Gears up on Gender Mainstreaming</i>	-P2
<i>Statistics On Boko Haram Insurgency Attacks</i>	- P3
<i>Last Week In the Chambers</i>	- P4
<i>National Assembly in the Press</i>	- P5
<i>New Bills for the Week Ending 17 July, 2014</i>	- P6
<i>House Motions 15th - 17th July</i>	- P7

for Inquiries & Submissions:
Dr Aminu F. Hamajoda (Editor-In-Chief)
 aminufhamajoda@yahoo.com
Joke Akinsanmi
 joky4ever@yahoo.com

Delivering on the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) and the Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) with an overall objective of providing effective support to the National Assembly, one of the sub committees implementing the projects carried out a capacity building workshop for the National Assembly Civil Society Organizations' (CSO) Liaison office. The workshop focused on strengthening relations between Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and the Civil Society Organizations Liaison office at
(continue on P2)

NILS GEARS UP ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The validation forum on the draft report on gender strategy for the National Assembly brought together stakeholders to proffer strategies for gender mainstreaming in the National Assembly. In her remarks, the Director General, National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS), Dr. Ladi Hamalai, noted the fact that women constitute only about 7% of the legislators which is a hindrance to gender mainstreaming in the National Assembly. She reiterated that affirmative actions at the level of political parties to reserve a quota for women, which should be part of the recommendations, can ease the challenge. Dr. Hamalai called on women groups and other relevant Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to promote Bills and Legislation that relate to gender issues. She added that women NGOs should complement the

efforts of the female legislators by collaborating with them in creating a stronger force that can make an impact in the National Assembly. The Director General also notified the forum of a strong weapon which is the use of media on a sustained basis. She said adequate sensitization and publicity of the activities in this regard will go a long way in facilitating gender mainstreaming in the National Assembly. In her presentation, Amina Salihu, a member of the implementation subcommittee, said gender has to be mainstreamed into all policy related and programming activities as well as structures, adding that partnership and gender responsive budget are required. Though implementation frameworks are needed, avenues to track results are of great importance, Ms. Salihu posited, adding that there is need for laws and policies that respond to the needs of women. (continue on P3)



Participants at the Forum on the Draft Report on Gender Mainstreaming for NASS

NILS PARTNERS DGD ON STRENGTHENING CSOS (cont'd from P1)

at the National Assembly, with focus on strengthening citizens' participation in the legislative process through constructive engagement, regular advocacy, and collaborative activities between CSOs and the National Assembly. Speaking at the event, the Director, Research and Training at the National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) and subcommittee's project leader, Dr. Badayi

Sani, said the Institute is committed to providing effective support to the National Assembly. He added that the Institute's role will produce a vibrant and effective legislature through capacity building that would on the long run culminate into producing informed legislators enacting better laws that will meet the demands of current realities. The participants expressed appreciation to NILS for spotlighting the CSOs especially in a society where their role is being misrepresented.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING CONT'D

In his goodwill message, the Project Director, Democratic Governance for Development (DGD), Dr. Mourtada Deme, said the project is a response and follow up to the national gender policy of 2006 which calls on all sectors to advance the cause of gender equality. He said a gender audit will lead to the development of a strategy which will contribute significantly towards enhancing the functions of the National Assembly. Lending her voice at the forum, the Minister of Women Affairs, Hajia Zainab Maina, through the Director, Women Affairs in the Ministry, acknowledged the efforts of the National Institute for Legislative Studies and the Democratic Governance for Development in conceptualizing the project which she said will do a lot in complimenting efforts by the President in realizing the transformation agenda of integrating the general principles

of an all-inclusive growth and development in all aspects of national development. Representative of the Millennium Development Goals, Funke Baruwa, said with the foresight of NILS in collaboration with DGD, the nation can begin to actualize the 2006 gender policy. In the early part of 2014, the National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) with the support of the Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) commissioned a gender audit of the National Assembly with the aim of understanding the status of gender within the legislature and ascertain what works and guides the development of a set of principles in line with the mandate of the National Assembly to mainstream gender and women's rights within the legislature and beyond. The audit report presented at the forum is intended to guide the process of developing a gender strategy for the National Assembly.

NILS COMPILE STATISTICS ON BOKO HARAM ATTACKS



It is common knowledge that Nigeria Since her return to civil rule in 1999, has been battling with series of violent agitations from various geo-political zones in the country. These agitations which have taken terrorist dimensions especially in the North East of Nigeria have threatened national security and regional integration. Terrorists or what is popularly known as Boko Haram attacks have resulted in the killings of hundreds of people and wanton destruction of property.

According to reports, unemployment, illiteracy, weak family structures make or contribute to making young men vulnerable to radicalization while itinerant preachers capitalize on the situation by preaching an extreme version of religious teachings and by conveying a narrative that

government is weak and corrupt and that secular system has failed. Boko-Haram can then recruit and train these frustrated young people for activities ranging from errand running, raids on villages to suicide bombings.

It is against this background that the National Institute for Legislative Studies, National Assembly, Abuja has decided to study the trends and activities of this group by making a day to day compilation of the BOKO-HARAM attacks and impacts from 2009 when the insurrection started. The compilation is based mainly on available data, especially the attacks that are reported by various newspapers over the years.

The report also proffers solutions to the Boko-Haram menace including monitoring and regulations of religious preaching, strengthening education, job training and creation programmes, designing a robust programmes to aid destitute children, promotion of peace education, and an invigorate anti- corruption campaign. The report notes that addressing the conditions that make it possible for insurgents to recruit young men in Nigeria can significantly diminish the strength of the insurgency, if not eliminate it altogether. Therefore, a national consensus is needed to tackle both the philosophical and practical underpinning of the group's activities, and begin the arduous task of curbing the group's destructive tendencies.

LAST WEEK IN THE CHAMBERS

Edition #003

4

21st July 2014



Tuesday, July 15, 2014

The Senate on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 passed into law four Money Bills. The Bills passed into law are the Federal Capital Territory 2014 Appropriation Bill, the Niger Delta Development Commission 2014 Appropriation Bill, the Nigerian Communication Commission 2014 Appropriation Bill and the Universal Service Provision Fund 2014 Appropriation Bill. Senate President, David Mark commended the various Committees that worked hard to ensure the passage of the four Appropriation Bills. He urged them to ensure adequate oversight of the budgets for optimal implementation in 2014.

The House of Representatives in its 15th July, 2014 plenary sitting chaired by Rt. Hon. Speaker Aminu Waziri Tambuwal received reports from various Committees. "A Bill for an Act to Repeal the Sales of Goods Act of 1893 and Enact the Sales of Goods Act, 2013 to Provide for Regulation of Sales of Goods in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 486)" "on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria to be charged with the responsibility to determine what standards and Skill are to be attained by persons seeking to be members of the Statistics Profession and For Other Matters connected Therewith (HB. 541)". "A Bill for an Act to Amend Sections 2, 16 (5), 34 (1) and (2) 35, 46 (2) 48, 60, 61 and 62 of the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria Act, 2010 (HB. 531)" Other reports presented on the floor of the House were on the Appropriation Bills for the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Universal Service Provision Fund, (USPF), Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). All the reports were presented for further consideration and legislative actions.

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

The Senate on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 considered, approved and confirmed the request of President Jonathan for the confirmation of Mr. Osita Benjamin Chidoka and Dr. Abubakar Olanrewaju Sulaiman for appointment as Ministers of the Government of Federal Republic of Nigeria in accordance with Section 147 (2) of the 1999 Constitution. The screening exercise commenced via a motion moved by the Senate Leader, Sen. Victor Ndoma-Egba and seconded by Senate Deputy Minority Leader, Sen. Ganiyu Solomon. The Senate President, David Mark, rendered progress report and put the confirmation questions of both nominees before the Senators and they were confirmed.

On the 16th July 2014, two bills scaled second reading in the Federal House of Representatives and have been referred to the relevant committees for further legislative actions. They are:

- A Bill for an Act to Provide for the Regulation and Control of Production, Manufacture, Sale, Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship of Tobacco or Tobacco Products in Nigeria and for Other Related Matters (HB. 700), sponsored by Leader of House, Hon. Mulikat Akande-Adeola.
- A Bill for an Act to Establish the Maritime University of Nigeria, Oron, to transfer to the University the properties of the Maritime of Nigeria, Oron and for Other Matters Related Thereto (HB. 734), sponsored by Hon. Robinson. Also, the House has received four reports from its Committee on Public Petitions. The presentations were made by the Chairman of the Committee, Hon. Uzo Azubuike

Thursday, July 17, 2014

On the 17th July, The Senate has passed two more bills into law. The bills are the Prisons Act CAP P29 LFN 2011 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2014 (SB. 42), sponsored by Sen. Abubakar Atiku Bagudu and the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Centre Bill 2014 (SB.292 and Sb. 358), sponsored by Sen. Victor Lar. The Prisons bill was earlier passed into law by the two chambers of the National Assembly but with differences which informed the setting up of a Conference Committee to iron out the differences and report back to the two chambers. Sen. Abubakar Bagudu presented the report to the Senate for consideration, approval and passage. The Chamber resolved into the Committee of the Whole for its consideration.

On its sitting on the 17th July, President Goodluck is seeking the approval of the National Assembly for a \$1 billion loan to tackle insecurity. The President's letter requesting approval for the loan was read on the floor of the House by the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal. The president's request was referred to the Committee on Aids, Loan and Debt Management.

For more details go to
www.nass.gov.ng
www.nils.gov.ng

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN THE PRESS 30TH JUNE - 4TH JULY, 2014

Edition #003

5

21st July 2014

Date	Newspaper	No. of Story	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Most Featured Sectors
30 th June – 4 th July, 2014	Daily Trust	51	29	22	0	Leg, Pol & Exec
	Leadership	30	22	8	0	Pol, Leg & Exec
July, 2014	Punch	19	13	5	1	Leg, Pet & Pol
	This Day	27	12	14	1	Pol, Leg & Fin
Total	4	127	76	49	2	5

R E M A R K S :

National Assembly in the press in week under review was relatively high. Legislative activities spread across 15 sectors of the nation's economy, out of which five featured most prominently. The sectors include:

- Legislature - 70 times
- Politics - 18 times
- Executive - 8 times
- Finance - 4 times
- Petroleum - 3 times

Other sectors equally involved in the week's legislative activities of the country's apex legislature but on a low key note include; Aviation, Commerce, Defence, Economy, Education, Energy, Health, Information, Social and Sports.

Impressively, 127 stories concerning the nation's highest law-making body were recorded during the week. 76 of them projected the image of the National Assembly POSITIVELY. One of the image boosting reports was titled "Be accountable to voters, Tambuwal tells politicians". According to the story, the Speaker of House of Representatives, Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal has charged politicians to be accountable to the electorate through transparent representation in order to seek support during elections.

Hon. Tambuwal spoke in Calabar, Cross River State during an empowerment programme organized by the member representing Bakassi/Akpabuyo/

Calabar South Federal Constituency, Hon. Essien Ayi. The Speaker asserted that the era of politicians luring electorate with peanut was over. He commended the Hon. Ayi for working in close touch with the members of his constituency as evidenced by the crowd that graced the occasion.

Nonetheless, 49 stories portrayed the image of the revered parliament in the NEUTRAL direction. One of the neutral reports reads "Ramadan: Pray for Nigeria's Survival, Mark, Baraje Tell Muslims". Accordingly, the Senate President, David Mark and a chieftain of the All Progressive Congress, (APC) Kawu Baraje have urged Muslims to make the continued survival of Nigeria the focal point of their prayers to the almighty Allah as they begin the fasting in the holy month of Ramadan. Sen. Mark in a goodwill message to the Muslim faithful in Nigeria urged them to pray for the nation, its people and its survival in order to overcome the trying time.

However, only two stories skewed the image of the apex legislature to the NEGATIVE direction. One of such reports was captioned "Anambra, Kogi Reps Clash over Disputed Oil Well". According to the story, two members of House of Representatives have clashed over disputed oil reserve in Anambra River Basin. The law-makers involved were the Chairman, House Committee on Environment, Hon. Uche Ekwunife and Isma'il Hussaini. The duo engaged in finger pointing and shouting following Hon. Ekwunife's protest against the choice of words used by Hon. Hussain when he raised a motion on the controversial oil well, drawing the attention of the House to the unresolved dispute between the people of Kogi State and their Anambra neighbours over the oil well

National Assembly in the press is a publication of
Information Unit, NILS.

NEW BILLS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 17TH JULY 2014

Senate

Institute of Animal Science Act No 26 of 2007 Bill 2014 (HB. 478) -First Reading Sen. Victor Ndoma-Egba, SAN,CON, (Senate Leader)

Education (National Minimum Standards and Establishment of Institutions) Act CAP E3 LFN 2011 Amendment Bill 2014. (SB. 503) -First Reading. Sen. Uche Chukwumerije, CON (Abia North)

Institute of Animal Science Act No 26 of 2007 Bill 2014 (SB. 504) -First Reading Sen. Adegbeniga Kaka (Ogun East)

The Power Sector Reform Act No.6 2005 Bill 2014 (SB. 505)-First Reading. Sen. Chris Ngige (OON) (Anambra Central)

The Supreme Court Act CAP S15 LFN 2011 Bill 2014(SB. 506)-First Reading. Sen. Chris Ngige (OON) (Anambra Central)

House

Appeals from the National Industrial Court to the Court of Appeal (Special Provisions) Bill, 2014 (HB. 667) (Hon. Friday Itulah) - First Reading.

Construction and Maintenance Bill, 2014 (HB. 742) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) - First Reading.

National Boundary Commission Act (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (HB. 743) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) - First Reading.

National Peace Council Bill, 2014 (HB. 744) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) - First Reading.

Chemical Waste Management Commission Bill, 2014 (HB. 745) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) First Reading.

Maritime Security Agency (Establishment etc.) Bill, 2014 (HE. 746) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) - First Reading.

National Integrated Rural Development Agency (Establishment, etc.)Bill 2014 (HB. 747) (Hon. Abiodun Isaq Akinlade) - First Reading.

Broadcasting Practitioners Bill, 2014 (HB. 748) (Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa) - First Reading.

HOUSE MOTIONS 15TH - 17TH JULY 2014

Need to investigate the issue of Nigerian Children who are not Attending Schools:

Hon. Beni Lar	Hon. Emmanuel Goar
Bon. Simon Yakubu Arabo	Hon. Rose Oko Okoji
Hon. Innocent Tirsell	Hon. Jonathan Aminu
Hon. Suleiman Kwande	Hon. Ismail Ahmed Gadaka
Hon. Uche Ekwunife	Hon. Ahmed Idris
Hon. Nnenna Elendu-Ukeje	Hon. Bitrus Kaze
Hon. Mwadkwon Simon Davou,	

Suspension of the Nigerian Football Federation (NFF) by the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA):

Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil:

Rescission Pursuant to Order IX, Rule 57 (6) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives on the Nigerians in Diaspora (Establishment) Commission Bill, 2011:

Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa:

Receipt and Adoption of Conference Report on a Bill for an Act to Provide a Framework for the Regulation, Development and Management of a National Health System and set Standards for rendering Health Services in the Federation and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB.301):

Hon. Ndudi Elemelu:

Declaration of Support by the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Parliamentary Assembly over the Condemnatory Position of the European Parliament on the Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act:

Hon. Mukhtar M. Ahmed:

The Ongoing Exercise to demarcate the Borders between Nigeria and Cameroun Republic:

Hon. Robinson Uwak: