

DG CALLS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO BOOST FEMALE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE

Lending a voice to the 2015 International Women's Day Celebration on both radio and TV platforms, the

Director General of the National Institute for Legislative Studies, Dr Ladi Hamalai reiterated that every country that has made progress in women's participation in governance achieved such through affirmative action.

Dr. Hamalai called for organized assistance from political parties to all tiers of government in reserving some positions for women. She emphasized that the low turnout of female legislators in Nigeria is as a result of cultural and financial obstacles militating against women's participation in politics.

With this year's theme as "empowering women, empowering humanity: Picture it! #makeithappen", the international women's day celebrated globally on the 8th of March every year highlights the Beijing declaration and platform for action, a historic roadmap signed by 189 governments twenty years ago that sets the agenda for realizing women's right.



The National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) plans to boost capacity of women in legislature through a grant agreement signed between the Institute and the United Nation's Development Programme (UNDP)/Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) targeting developmental programs in the legislature among which is gender mainstreaming in the National Assembly.

NASS Website Oversight Committee Inaugurated

The Deputy Clerk to the National Assembly, Mr. Ben Efeture inaugurated an Oversight Committee for



NASS website on 3rd March 2015 in his office. Mr Efeture charged the committee to ensure that the website portrays every aspect of the legislature and the services they render to the nation. He said that activities of committees, public hearings, oversight activities and other daunting tasks carried out by both Senate and the House of Representatives must have timely update on the website while adding that the National Assembly Management which carries out the bureaucratic duties be given adequate visibility as well.

The Chairperson of the Committee, Director of ICT at the National

Assembly, Mrs. Felicia Uchola promised all departments at the National Assembly will be duly informed of the committee and its functions so as to get optimal support and cooperation.

Drawn from the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) and Information Departments of the National Assembly and National Institute for Legislative Studies, the committee has the mandate to oversee the general contents of the website by ensuring prompt sourcing, collation and timely online publishing of soft copies of all relevant official legislative and parliamentary affairs among other things.

NEW HOUSE MOTIONS

Receipt and Adoption of the Conference Committee Report on the Nine Federal Universities (Establishment), Bills:

Hon. Aminu Suleiman:

Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly: *Environmental Managers Registration Council Bill*, 2014 (HB. 586):

Hon. Uzoma Nkem-Abonta:

Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly:

National Centre for Women Development (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (HB. 692):

Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa:

Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly:

Environmental Manager's Registration Council Bill, 2014 (HB. 586):

Motion made and Question proposed:

Reconsideration of Outstanding Bill from the Preceding Assembly:

National Centre for Women Development (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (HB. 692):

Motion made and Question proposed:

The Need for the Independent National Electoral Commission to Liaise with the House to bring about the Staggering of Future Elections to Reduce Tension in the Polity and Improve Governance.

Hon. Eddie Ifeanyichukwu Mbadiwe:

Gas Emission from Irri/Kwale 18" Gas Pipeline and the Refusal of Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) to Address the Claims of the Impacted Community:

Hon. Ossai Nicholas Ossai:

The Need to Establish Earthquake and Tsunami Monitoring Stations in the Hinterland and Coastlines of the Country:

Hon. Akpan Micah Umoh:

Receipt and Adoption of the Conference Committee Report on a Bill for an Act to further amend the Electoral Act, No.6 of 2010 to ensure a level playing field for all participants in the Electoral Process and for a more Transparent Process of conducting Elections in Nigeria and for Other Matters Connected Therewith (HB. 718):

Hon. Jerry S. Manwe:

Rebasing the Nigerian Economy and need to Bridge the Gap in Tax- to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP)Ratio:

Hon. Friday Itulah:

Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC) MLL II and the Need for strict adherence to Local Content:

Hon. Uzoma Kkem-Abonta: