

National Institute For legislative Studies

Weekly Digest

No 14-18 Danube
Maitama Abuja
Nigeria

NILS RESUMES PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES



Edition #0043

1

6th July 2015

The National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS) has resumed its public lecture series in pursuance of its intellectual role of exploring vital themes important to democracy and legislation.

The public lecture series invite both internal and external intellectuals/researchers to explore topics pertinent to the evolution of democracy in Nigeria and the West African Region. The DG, Dr. Ladi Hamalai together with an invited professor, Akin Iwayemi, presented two papers at the Institute's Training Center today.

Dr Hamalai who presented a paper on *Resource Competence in the National Assembly and Legislative Performance*, attempted to correlate available resources to productivity in Nigerian legislature. According to Dr. Hamalai, the study is facing several challenges including lack of adequate data, difficulty in building sufficient resource variables, reliance on hypothetic studies, and lack of definitive way of correlating relative rise of legislative productivity to resource competencies.

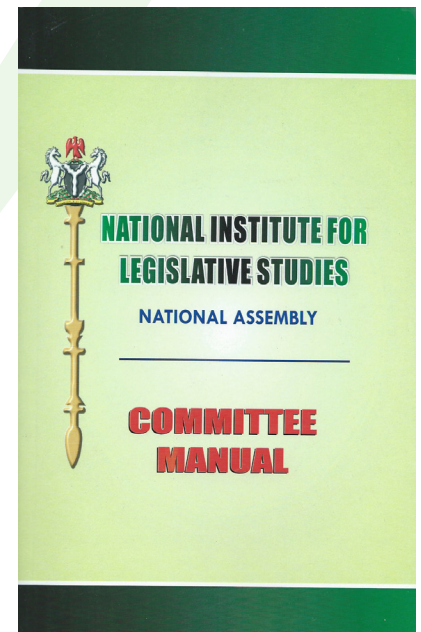
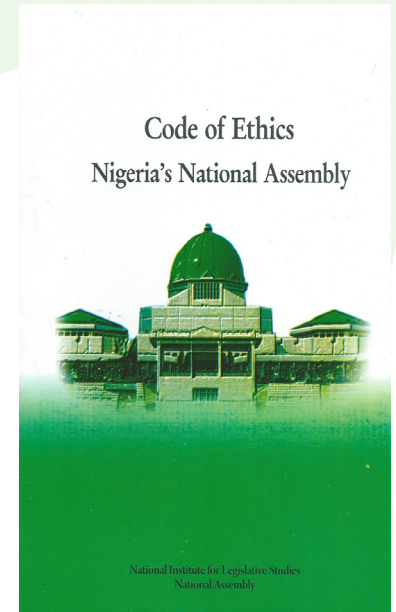
Dr. Hamalai therefore proposed for more concrete ways of finding how to relate legislative resources to productivity indicators in the legislature. She also called for the establishment of a comprehensive database of both resources and indicators so as to ensure a more rigorous analysis.

Professor Akin Iwayemi on the other hand presented a paper on *Elections, Electoral Outcomes and Political Accountability in Nigeria*. The paper revealed the importance of electoral competition in ensuring political and economic development. Professor Iwayemi discussed further how performance of governments determine their electoral successes in ideal democracies.

He therefore called on NGOs, the Press and Academia to help in analyzing and disseminating success and failure indicators to expose economic and political status of the society for voters to hold politicians to account

NILS Publications 2015

- 1. Inside the Chambers a primary Guide to the working of Nass**
- 2. Standing Orders of the House of Representatives 8 Edition**
- 3. Budget Proposal book**
- 4. Nigerian Journal of legislative Affairs volume 6 vol. No 1 Jan-Jun**
- 5. Toolkit for Training of State Houses of Assembly in Nigeria**
- 6. Revised Practical Guide on Legislative Drafting**
- 7. Public Hearing Manual for Members and Staff of National & State House**
- 8. Committee Manual**
- 9. Code of Ethics Nigeria's National Assembly**
- 10. Legislative Practice and Procedures of the National Assembly**
- 11. The National Assembly and Democratic governance in Nigeria**
- 12. Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with Amendments**
- 13. Induction Manual For Legislators**
- 14. Legislative Oversight Manual**
- 15. Industrial Strikes in the Health Sector: Incidence, Causes and Solutions**
- 16. Century of Lawmaking in Nigeria, 1914-2014**
- 17. The National Assembly Gender strategy**
- 18. Nigerian State Assemblies: A study of legislative activities Book volume 5**
- 19. Legislative Oversight : A study of performance in Nass**



Edition #0043

2

6th July 2015

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN THE PRESS, WEEK 26: 22ND – 26TH JUNE, 2015

Date	Newspaper	No. of Story	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Most Featured Sectors
22 nd - 26 th June, 2015	Daily Trust	39	16	18	5	Leg, Pol & Pet
	Leadership	30	12	12	6	Pet, Leg & Jud
	Punch	19	8	8	3	Leg & Pet
	This Day	33	15	14	4	Jud, Leg & Pet
Total	4	121	51	52	18	4

Edition #0043

3

6th July 2015

REMARKS

Press coverage of the National Assembly in the week under review was relatively high with legislative activities spread across ten sectors of the nation's economy, out of which four featured most prominently. The sectors include:

- Legislature - 97 times
- Petroleum - 7 times
- Judiciary - 7 times
- Politics - 2 times

Other sectors equally involved in the week's legislative activities of the apex legislature but on a low key note include; Communication, Defence, Economy, Education, Executive and Labour.

On the whole, 121 stories concerning the country's highest law-making body were recorded during the week. Interestingly, 51 of them projected the image of the National Assembly POSITIVELY. One of the heartwarming reports was titled "Senate Constitutes 18-Man Committee To Set Agenda For NASS". According to the story, the Senate has constituted an 18-Man Committee to draw the agenda for its take off. This was announced by the Senate President, Bukola Saraki while welcoming his colleagues from a two week recess. Sen. Saraki noted that the membership of the Committee would be drawn from each of the six geo-political zones of the country comprising of three members each.

Sen. Saraki added that now that the law-makers are back from the recess, there is no doubt that they are faced with great legislative challenges couple with high expectations of Nigerians that must be met. He urged distinguished Senators to see the challenges they faced as an opportunity to look inward and find answers to the nation's development problems.

Meanwhile, 52 stories portrayed the image of the revered Parliament in the NEUTRAL direction. One of the neutral report reads "Saraki Appoints Galaudu, Chief of Staff, Olaniyonu, Special Adviser". Accordingly, the Senate President, Bukola Saraki has appointed former Sen. Isa Galaudu who represented Kebbi North in the 7th Senate as his Chief of Staff. The Senate President has also appointed former Commissioner for Information in Ogun State, Mr. Yusuph Olaniyonu as his Special Adviser, Media. Both appointments are with immediate effect.

On the flip side, 18 stories dimmed the image of the apex legislature NEGATIVELY. One of such reports was captioned "Reps Exchange Blows, PDP Blames Buhari ". According to the story, the federal law-makers in the House of Representatives had on Thursday, June 25, 2015 engaged in a free-for-all over the sharing of Principal Offices.

Reacting to the development, the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP) slammed President Muhammadu Buhari saying the disgraceful act in the Green Chamber was a direct consequence of the President's lack of democratic credentials and respect for the independence and security of the legislature.

*National Assembly in the Press is a
Publication of Information Unit, NILS.*