October 20, 2026

The speaker
Federal House of Representative
National assembly complex
abuja

MOTION OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE DEVASTATING FLOOD DISASTER THAT CLAIMED LIVES AND DISPLACED HUNDREDS, IN IKWO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF EBONYI STATE.

Moved By: Rt. Hon. Comrade Chinedu N. Ogah, OON

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Colleagues,

I rise under order 8, Rule 5 of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to move this motion as a matter of urgent public importance.

The House:

Notes that, in the wee hours of 23rd September, till October 2026, unprecedented torrential flood caused Ebonyi, Cross River and Ebonyi to overflow their banks, submerging over 10 communities in Ikwo LGA including Ndiagu Amagu, Ndufu Amagu, Ekpa-omaka, Okpotiumo, Igbudu, Inyimagu, Enyibichiri, Alike, Amudo, Idembia in Ezza south and other riverine communities;

Also Notes that according to reports from Ebonyi State Emergency Management Agency (EBSEMA), the State Ministry of Environment and community leaders, the flood claimed lives, including women and children, destroyed over 500 houses, submerged over 1,000 hectares of rice, yam and cassava farmlands, destroyed livestock, and displaced over 2,000 families who are currently taking refuge in

primary schools and church premises without food, potable water, bedding or medical supplies;

Aware that, the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET) in its 2025/2026 Seasonal Climate Prediction listed Ebonyi State, particularly Ikwo, Izzi, Abakaliki and Afikpo LGAs as high-risk flood zones, yet no proactive dredging, drainage or early warning action was taken;

Worried that, Ikwo local government area, which is the food basket of Ebonyi State and contributes significantly to Nigeria's rice production, is now facing imminent food insecurity as a result of this disaster, with properties worth billions of naira lost, including 15 schools, shops at the building materials market and farmlands;

Concerned that, victims are presently sleeping in open spaces and are exposed to water-borne diseases like cholera, diarrhea and malaria;

Disturbed that, if urgent steps are not taken, the flood may recur, spread to neighbouring LGAs,

Resolves to:

1. Observe a minute silence in honour of those who lost their lives in the Ikwo flood disaster.

2. Urge the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), South East Development Commission, the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture as a matter of necessity and urgency provide relief materials including food items, mattresses, blankets, mosquito nets, building material medicines, clean water, temporary shelters, emergency agricultural support including seedlings, fertilizers and farm inputs to the displaced persons in Ikwo LGA and its environs.

3. Also urge the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Ecological Fund Office to immediately release ecological intervention funds for the dredging of Ebonyi

River, construction of embankments and completion of the EIB-NEWMAP drainage project in Ebonyi State to prevent future occurrence.

4. Further urge the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment of flood-prone communities in Ikwo LGA and design a permanent flood control system.

5. Mandate the House Committees on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Environment, and Water Resources to visit Ikwo LGA for on-the-spot assessment and ensure compliance, and report back to the House within 2 weeks for further legislative actions.

5. Also mandate the House Committee on Legislative Compliance to ensure full implementation of these resolutions.