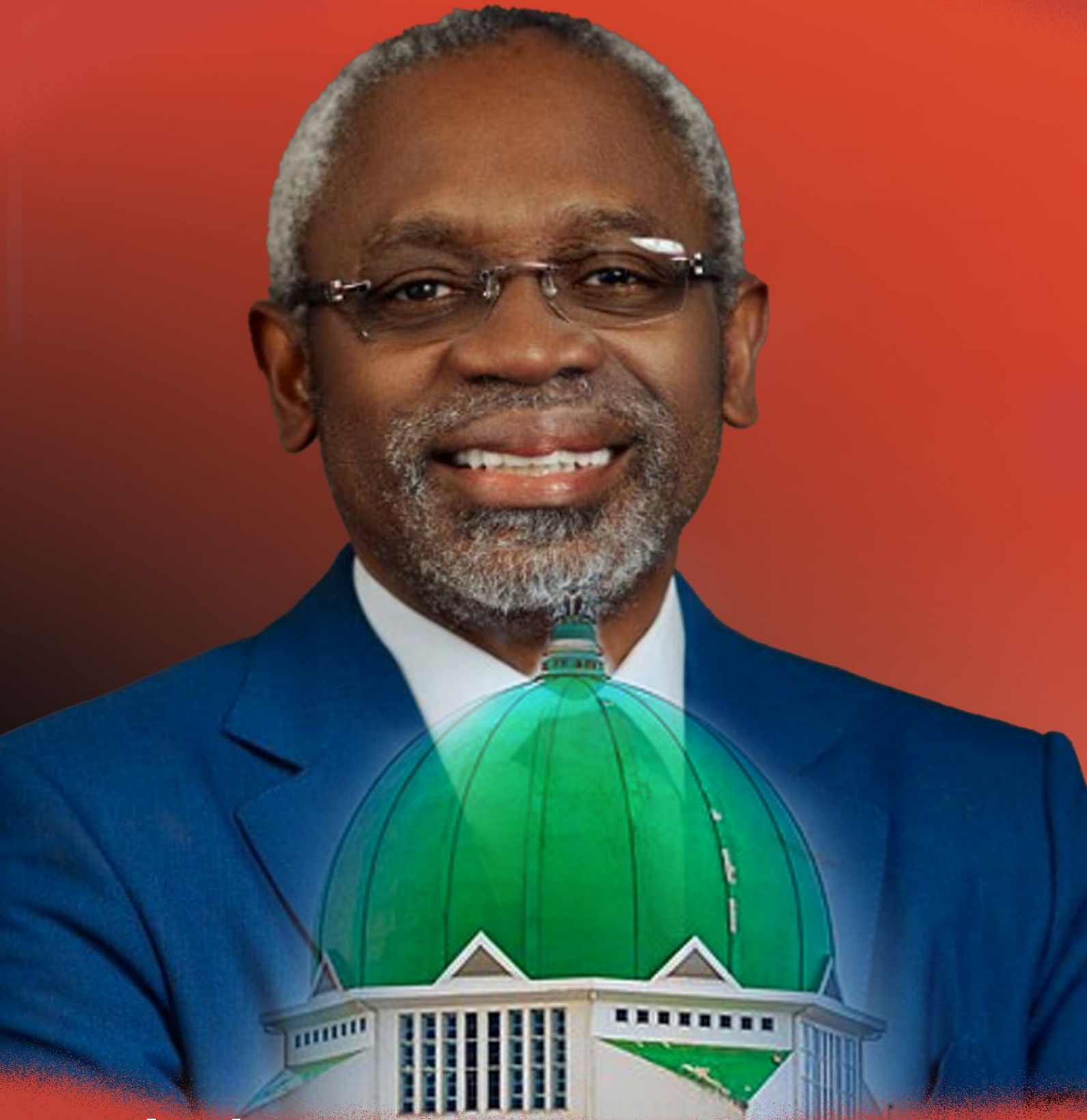


LEGISLATIVE AGENDA METER

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE 9TH ASSEMBLY (HOR) PERFORMANCE AND
THE FULFILMENT OF ITS PLEDGES IN THE REVISED LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.



“These documents (**Legislative Agenda**) represent our intention to be held accountable based on what we have freely committed to achieving, and which I am confident we will realize, to the glory of God and the edification of our people.”

Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, Speaker, Ninth Assembly, Nigeria House of Representatives during the launch of the revised Legislative Agenda

PREFACE

The Legislative Agenda Document released by the Gbajabiamila-led House of Representatives (HoR) at the onset of the 9th Assembly sets out the important actions, programmes, policies that the legislators hope to achieve with its set deadline. The document according to the speaker of the 9th Assembly of the Nigeria House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila is a contract between the legislators and the people who they are all representing at the Green Chamber.

In his introductory message on the Legislative Agenda, he reiterated that the document is “a written account of what we owe the people and how we intend to meet our obligations within the shortest possible time. These documents represent our intention to be held accountable based on what we have freely committed to achieving.” Thus, our team at Advokc in our bid to increase citizen engagement and advance representational democracy where elected public officials are held accountable in the best way launched the Legislative Agenda Promise Tracker.

In July 2020, the House of Representative reviewed its Legislative Agenda document and released a revised version. The revised version according to Hon. Gbajabiamila was vital especially with the current realities brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have necessitated the House to review its Legislative Agenda.

The **Legislative Agenda Meter** tracks the thirty most important promises in the Legislative Agenda Document of the 9th House of Representatives led by Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila.

This document contains short-, medium- and long-term promises/priorities of the HoR. In tracking the promises, our team researched the issues and then rated it based on whether the promise was achieved: Promise Kept, Promise Broken, Compromise, Stalled, In the Works or Not Yet Rated. We rate the promise not on the legislative interventions pledged by the 9th Assembly of the House of Representatives, neither by intentions or effort, but on verifiable outcomes.

ABOUT US

We are a group of young, non partisan, talented, committed individuals that have a common goal of bringing truth to politics. We track promises made by elected officials, remind elected officials about their promises, fact check political statements and advocate for improved climate policies. AdvoKC is a Civic Tech platform established to help citizens engage, track and hold elected officials accountable.

We rate campaign promises based on verifiable outcomes, not on intentions or effort. To create our promise meters, we pore through speech transcripts, TV appearances, position papers and campaign websites looking for promises. We define a promise as a prospective statement of an action or outcome that is verifiable.

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July 2023

For the latest data on our promise meters, please visit <https://www.advokc.ng/legislative-tracker>

This Legislative Agenda Meter report is the result of extensive efforts of our team members and other organizations..

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Our Legislative Agenda Meter was also made possible with relevant materials and bills trackers from **OrderPaper** and **PLAC NG**.

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METHODOLOGY

We define a promise as a prospective statement of an action or outcome that is verifiable. All of our promises list the source. We track these promises by staying informed about the activities and communications of the elected officials. following their official websites, social media accounts, Freedom of Information (Fol) Act and reliable news sources.

We use the Politifact style of rating, the promise meters have six ratings. The first three provide a broad picture of whether the official is making progress; the final three indicate whether he or she kept the promise.

NOT YET RATED — Every promise begins at this level and retains this rating until we see evidence of progress — or evidence that the promise has stalled.

IN THE WORKS — This indicates the promise has been proposed or is being considered.

STALLED — There is no movement on the promise, perhaps because of limitations on money, opposition from lawmakers or a shift in priorities.

COMPROMISE — Promises earn this rating when they accomplish substantially less than the official's original statement but when there is still a significant accomplishment that is consistent with the goal of his original promise.

PROMISE KEPT — Promises earn this rating when the original promise is mostly or completely fulfilled.

PROMISE BROKEN – The promise has not been fulfilled. This could occur because of inaction by the executive or lack of support from the legislative branch or other group that was critical for the promise to be fulfilled. A Promise Broken rating does not necessarily mean that the executive failed to advocate for the policy.

Promise ratings change when circumstances change. For some promises, it's possible that the status could initially go to In the Works, but then move back to Stalled if we decide the proposal has hit a lull, and then go back to the In the Works. Similarly, a promise could be rated Promise Kept, but if the official reversed course, the promise would then be rated Promise Broken.

N.B. – Readers should understand that for the purpose of this scorecard, and in order to draw a conclusion at the end of the 9th Assembly, we decided to rate/re-rate using just the 3 final verdicts namely– Compromise, Promise Kept, and Promise Broken.

You can access the digital meter via <https://www.advokc.ng/legislative-tracker>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On June 7, 2023, the 9th House of Representatives of the National Assembly bowed out after what many people called a busy legislative session. Led by Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, a long-standing member of the House of Representatives with previous experience as the House Majority leader.

Unlike the previous House of Representatives which had at the helms of affairs, an opposition speaker whom President Buhari described as an “unpatriotic Nigerian” - Yakubu Dogara -, the inauguration of the 9th Assembly heralded an entirely different leadership which had a much cordial relationship with the executive arm of government. Despite promising to “shake table” during his tenure as the speaker, the Gbajabiamila-led HoR was consistently accused of being a ‘rubber stamp’ assembly.

Notwithstanding, the 9th Assembly recorded some progress as far as lawmaking is concerned in the country. Its role in the passage of the Electoral Act Amendment Bill, Climate Change Bill, and the Petroleum Industry Bill was in line with its pledge in the Legislative Agenda. The House also recorded huge success in the number of bills it passed throughout the legislation session. At the end of the 9th Assembly, 2,232 bills were presented before the house, out of which about 2,000 were passed.

However, the House’s oversight duty were not effective as more public officials continued to disregard invitation for questioning. Also, the anti-corruption pledge of the House was marred with the non-amendment of the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) 2007 as promised in its legislative agenda document.

Similarly, the 9th House of Representatives equally failed in fulfilling its pledge to ensuring oversight of the security sector budget, an important pledge when one considers the rising insecurity across the country.

Therefore, this scorecard presents a data-driven evaluation of the Gbajabiamila-led House of Representatives contract with citizens. Further, it details the performance of the 9th Assembly by assessing the fulfilment of the Legislative Agenda actions as promised by the lawmakers. AdvokC tracked and rated (*either Promise Kept, Compromise, or Promise Broken*) a total of 30 of the most important promises made by the 9th Assembly in the Legislative Agenda Document. The assessment was based on six (6) important sectors.

More importantly, a score out of 100% will be assigned to each category to reflect the level of promise fulfilment.

LEGISLATIVE INTERVENTIONS - TIMELINE

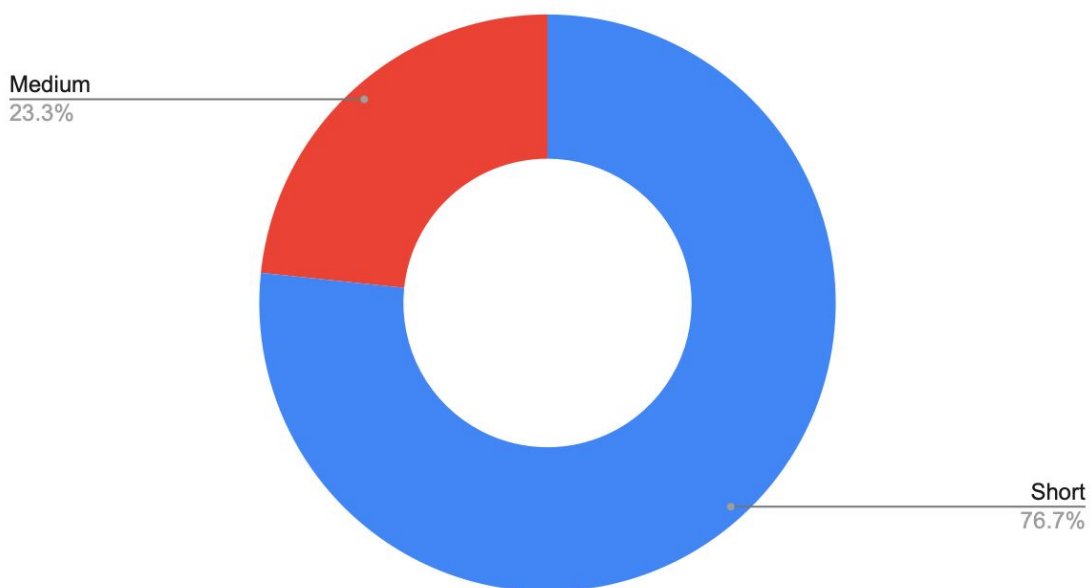
7

INTERMEDIATE
LEGISLATIVE
ACTIONS

23

IMMEDIATE
LEGISLATIVE
ACTIONS

Set Timelines



In the revised Legislative Agenda document, the legislators thoroughly explained its “Legislative Priorities and Interventions” in section two (2) of the document.

In developing this document, the legislators collaborated with several stakeholders in the public and private sector. Further, the Speaker of the Ninth Assembly, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila noted that they listened to people from different walks of life and also take into consideration, various constituencies before setting the timelines for each interventions in the document.

For each sectors that was included in the legislative agenda document, there are three (3) distinct timeline set for its actualization by the legislators in the green chamber.

Immediate Legislative Actions: these sets of legislative actions according to the legislators are actions that will be achieved between June 2020 - May 2021.

Intermediate Legislative Actions: these are vital legislative actions that the legislator aimed to achieve between June 2021 - May 2022.

Long Term Legislative Action: they also important legislative intervention that the legislators pledged to fulfil before the end of the Ninth Assembly. Thus, the timeline for these promises are set for June 2022 - May 2023.

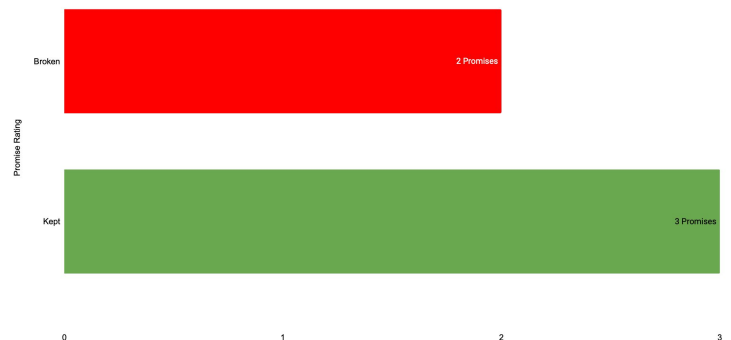
SECURITY



The House of Representatives showed a reasonably positive performance in the Security sector. They demonstrated commitment and progress in strengthening national security agencies, providing legislative support, and enhancing intelligence gathering.

Overall, 5 promises were tracked in this sector with 3 promises rated **“Promise Kept”** and the other 2 rated **“Promise Broken”**

Security



60/100

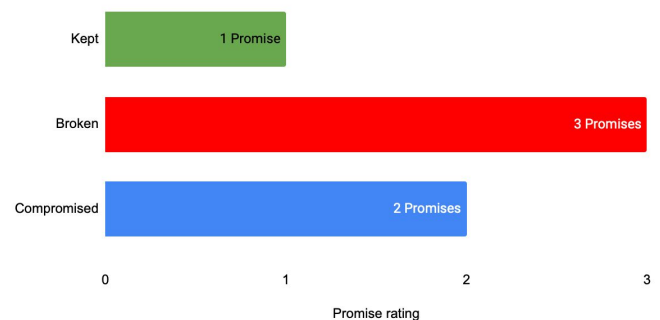
AGRICULTURE



The House of Representatives exhibited shortcomings in addressing the needs of the Agriculture sector. However, commendations are in order for their efforts in providing relief to debtors affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is important to note that their failure to deliver on their promise of ensuring security, stability, and support for farmers will have adverse consequences on productivity within the sector.

We tracked agriculture-related promises from the Legislative Agenda Document, and only 1 of those promises was rated **"Promise Kept"** with 2 rated as **"Compromise"** and the other 3 rated as **"Promise Broken"**.

Agriculture



16.7 /100

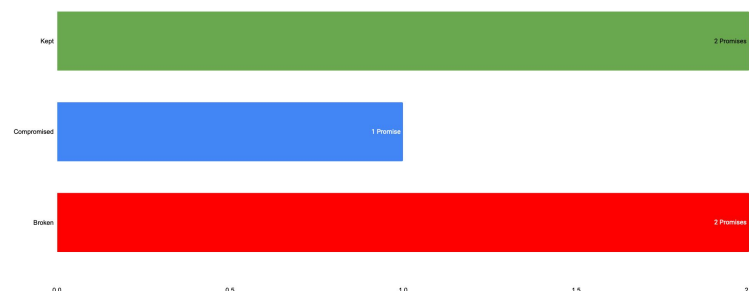
ECONOMY



The Gbajabiamila-led House of Representatives has achieved success in some areas such as providing COVID-19 relief measures and reviewing federal tax laws, their performance in other areas, such as passing the Petroleum Industry Bill, amending the Fiscal Responsibility Act, and reviewing the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission Act, has been compromised or broken. Overall, their performance on the economy, as promised in the Legislative Agenda Document and tracked by AdvokC was below average.

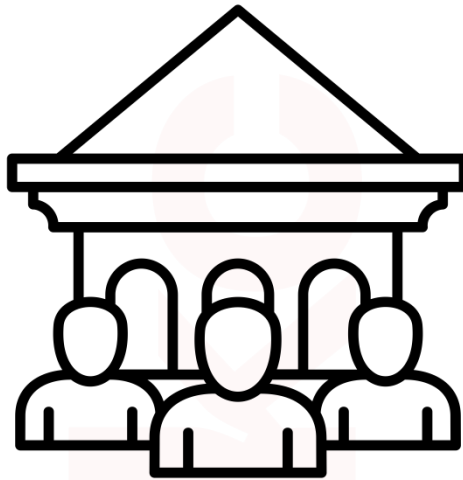
5 promises were tracked here, of which 2 were rated **“Promise Kept”** another 2 were rated **“Promise Broken”** and 1 was rated **“Compromise”**

Economy



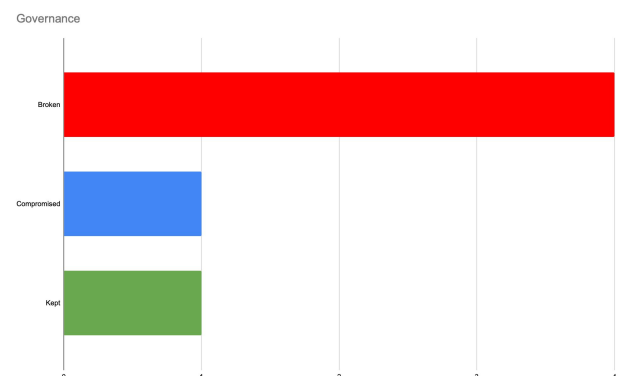
40/100

GOVERNANCE



The Legislative Agenda Meter report highlights an abysmal performance by the House of Representatives in this sector. With just 1 of the 6 promises rated as **"Promise Kept"** the Gbajabiamila-led HoR failed Nigerians in this regard. 1 promise was also rated **"Compromised"** and the other 4 rated **"Promise Broken"**

It is pertinent to note that an excellent performance in this sector will go a long way in addressing the challenges to strengthen governance and uphold the principles of accountability, transparency, and good governance in Nigeria.



16.7

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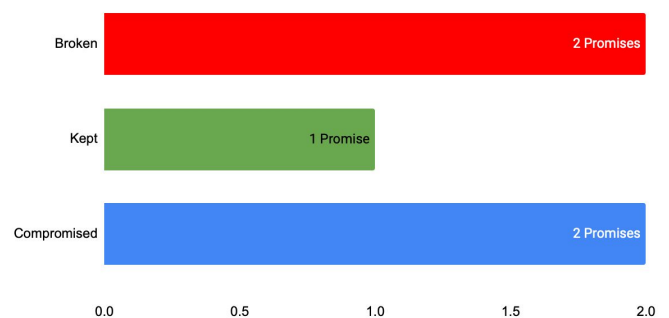
HEALTH & EDUCATION



The Gbajabiamila-led HoR failed to deliver here.

With 2 promises rated **“Promise Broken”**, 2 rated **“Compromise”**, and just 1 rated **“Promise Kept”**, they demonstrated a lack of progress and proved that there is a pressing need for stronger commitment and decisive action to address the challenges faced by the education system and health sector. Efforts should be directed towards increased funding, improved infrastructure, and the comprehensive enhancement of training programs in both sectors. These shortcomings have hindered the overall development and accessibility of quality education & healthcare services in Nigeria.

Health & Education



20/100

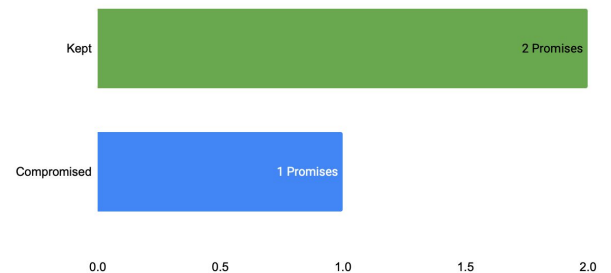
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT



The House of Representatives performance in the Environment and Climate Change sector, as assessed by the Legislative Agenda Meter, is positive. None of the three (3) promises tracked were rated **“Promise Broken”**, 2 were rated **“Promise Kept”** and One promise was rated **“Compromise”**, signaling inadequate implementation.

The HoR showed meaningful progress in protecting the environment and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Energy & Environment

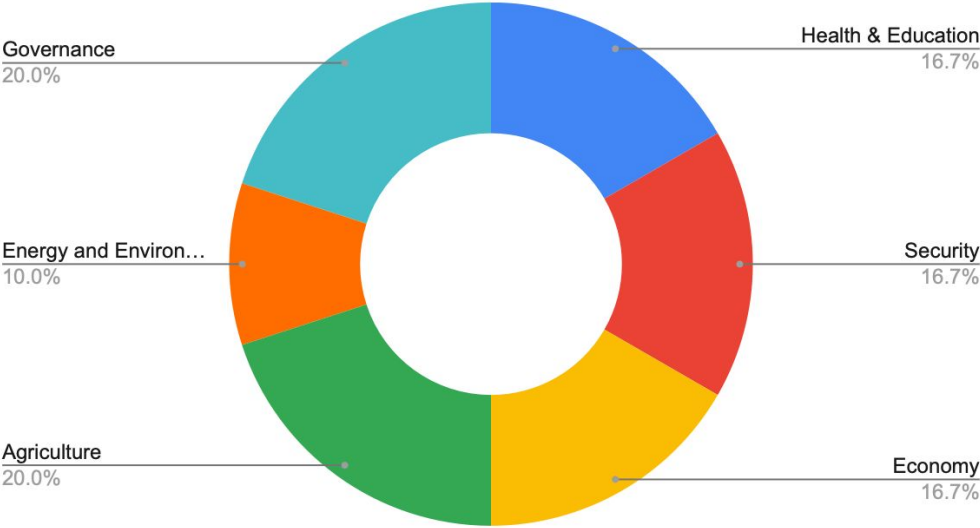


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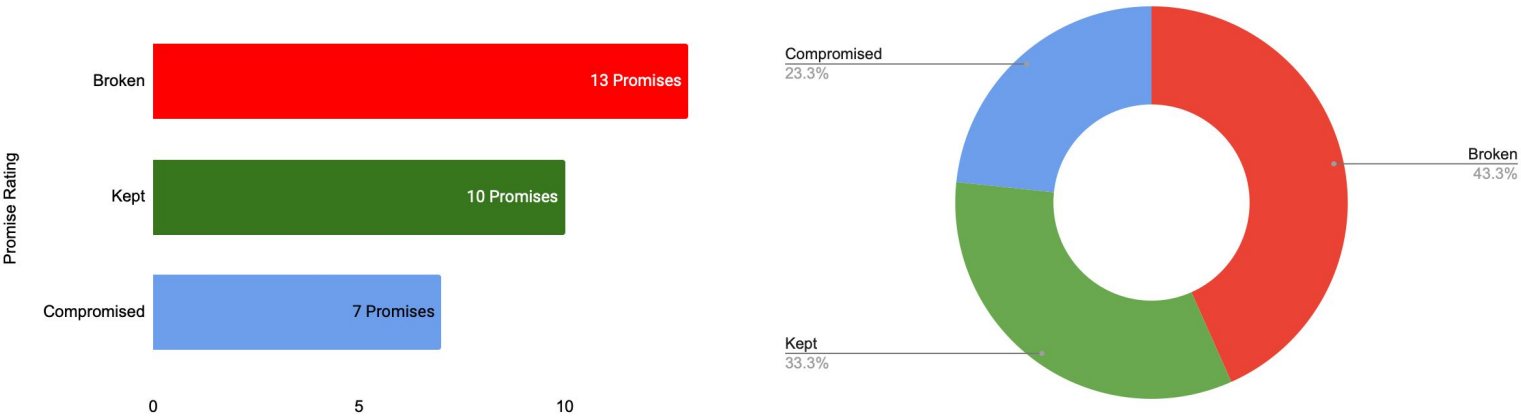
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TOTAL RATING

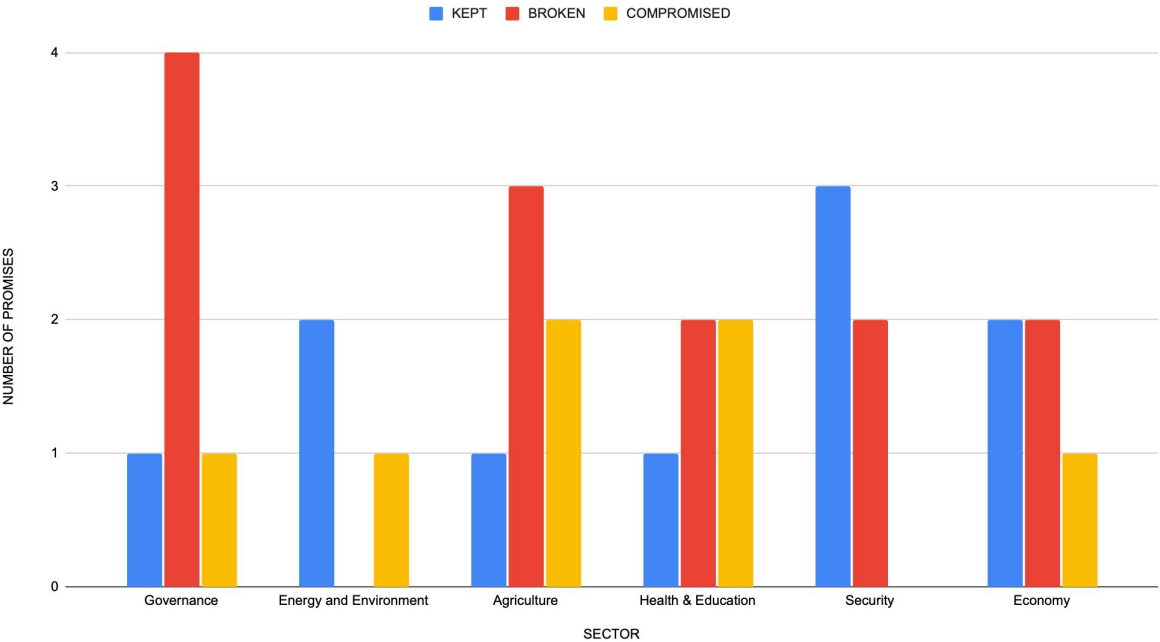
Legislative Agenda Meter - Sector Overview



Legislative Agenda Meter



SECTOR BY SECTOR CHART



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 10TH ASSEMBLY

1. Address Infrastructure Decline, Waste of Resources and Accountability

In advancing the fight against anti-corruption, the 10th Assembly must as a matter of national urgency address poor accountability and waste of resources among its members. This can be achieved by ensuring that corruption and stealing associated with constituency projects among lawmakers is addressed.

2. Collaboratively Work to Ensure Passage of Priority Legislation

During the 9th Assembly important legislative bills that address some of the important issues faced by citizens were not passed despite being listed as one of the legislative interventions by the lawmakers. Thus, the new administration should put more efforts in ensuring the passage of the priority legislation by working together across party lines to achieve the set goals.

3. Adequately Address Ethical Standards in the Green Chamber

The house of representatives recorded poor ethical standards after the Covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria. The house embarked on several holidays and also in some cases adjourn sittings due to various reasons. This affected passage of important legislations and missed deadlines of most of its legislative interventions. Aside this, there are records of individual absence during important debates and plenary sessions in the house.

Thus, the new administration needs to address this in order to achieve huge success with passage of legislations that are important to the constituents that vote them.

4. Strengthen Legislative Oversight Functions

It is very important for the house to strengthen its oversight duties which is a primary function of the legislator. During the last legislative session, the legislators despite it promises found it hard to block internal leakages and corrupt acts among its members.

CONCLUSION

Despite the recorded increase in the number of bills passed during the 9th Assembly, the Gbajabiamila-led legislative session could not keep up with its contract with Nigerians at the end of their tenure. While significant success was recorded on some of the legislative interventions, the challenges faced by the administration further cast doubt over the legislators commitments to fulfilling its pledge to Nigerians. Our assessment of the 9th Assembly of the House of Representatives showed that about **43.33%** of the legislature intervention was broken while **33.33%** of the pledge was fulfilled by the legislators, a significant number (**about 23.33%**) of the planned legislative interventions were compromised. Although, we strongly hold that this performance evaluation is important, we, nonetheless, note that this is also a subjective one which was influenced by multiple factors.

Going forward, citizens should also be allowed to play an active role in the implementation of the Legislative Agenda Document because of what it offers the citizenry on their position on particular issues that are facing the country as they hugely impact their respective constituencies. It is evident that the stumbling block in achieving success with regards to these legislative interventions is the poor commitment to it by all the legislators involved in its implementation. The perennial problem of absenteeism, poor accountability and distraction of party affiliation was visible throughout the last legislative session.

What this evaluation has revealed is that issues persist across all sectors of the country. Thus, legislative interventions should not be precluded from the people it affects the most. Therefore, such interventions should be ensnared in national political debates as it not only brings them to the fore, it will also allow citizens engage their representatives on vital issues that are all-inclusive. The recommendations we have offered are clear and are crucial to the successful implementation of the 10th Assembly legislative agenda, thus, it should be carefully considered.

JUNE 2023

Bringing Truth to Politics.

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