

A/Ibom Assembly probes killing of 4, destruction of farmlands by herdsmen

Iniobong Ekponta | Uyo

WORRIED by attacks by suspected armed Fulani herdsmen in which no fewer than four people have been killed and farmlands destroyed in parts of Akwa Ibom State, the state House of Assembly has

launched full investigation of the incidents.

The dreaded herdsmen killed two persons in Mkpatt Enin Local Government Area, one in Ukanafun Local Government Area and another in Mbiabong area of Uyo Local Government, thus forcing residents to embark on protest, seeking the intervention of the government.

Chairman of Ukanafun, Elder Uko Idiong and his Mkpatt Enin counterpart, Mr. Ekanem Brown, had appealed to the protesting local residents to remain calm, stating that reprisals could snowball into major crises that may impede the socio-economic lives of the people.

At the plenary on Thursday, the 26-member

Assembly rose in unison in condemnation of the security breaches by the herdsmen in Akwa Ibom, noting that if left unattended to, could have a negative effect on agricultural development in the state.

The plenary chaired by the Speaker, Mr. Aniekan Bassey (Uruan) took a swift action when the issue was brought

before the House by Dr. Charity Ido (Ukanafun), who appealed to the lawmakers for quick intervention to stop further killings by herdsmen who allegedly killed one Lucky Udoakpan in Nkek community in her local government, Ukanafun.

She lamented that "if urgent steps were not taken to curb the menace of herdsmen in

Akwa Ibom, people will continue to die and the state government's agricultural revolution truncated."

"Governor Udom Emmanuel is saying that everyone should return to the farm, but we are afraid of doing so because of the activities of herdsmen. I urge the House to take actions that will prevent a reoccurrence," she added.

Court jails two for internet fraud