

Osinbajo to Announce Presidential Bid after APC Convention

● Secures go-ahead of his spiritual father

Adedayo Akinwale in Abuja

Vice President Yemi Osinbajo has concluded plans to announce his presidential ambition immediately after the All

Progressives Congress (APC) national convention, slated for Saturday, February 26.

Sources close to Osinbajo's strategy team hinted at the weekend that in spite of the

ongoing campaigns against his currently rumoured bid for the presidency by some interests in the South-west, where he hails from, Osinbajo had made up his mind to give the presidency

a shot.

Even more instructive, inside sources claimed, was the fact that Osinbajo had received the blessing and the charge to go ahead with his ambition from

his spiritual father and General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Pastor Enoch Adeboye.

The source said, "Take it to the bank, he will run and he

is declaring soon after the APC convention. All is set, including premium consultations already done. The coast is clear and the

Continued on page 10

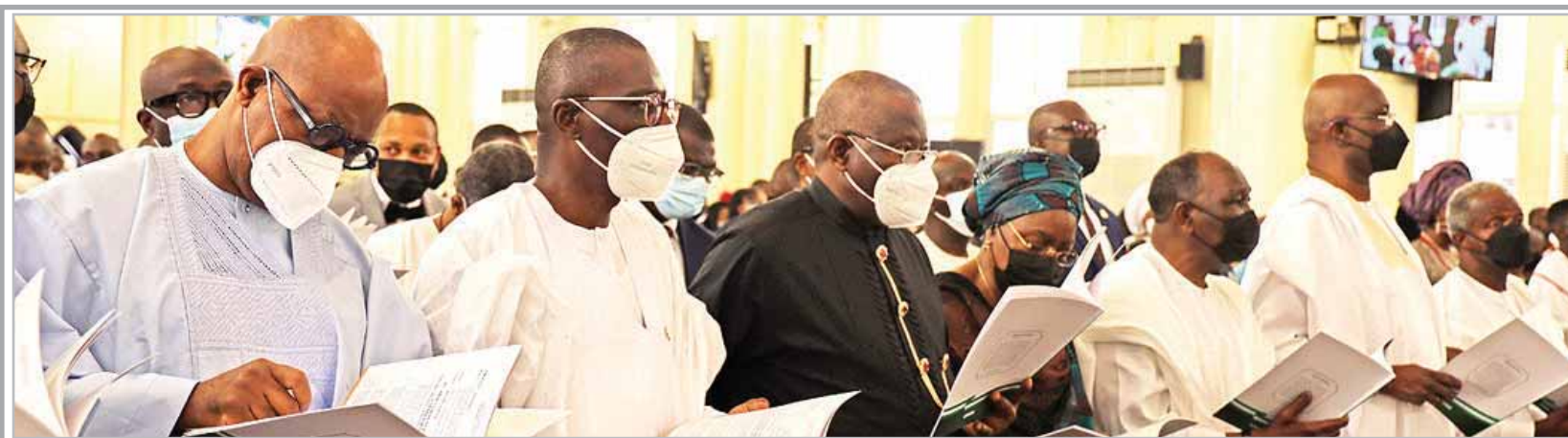
Five Days After, Three Crewmen in SEPCOL's FPSO Explosion Found Alive...Page 5

THIS DAY

Monday 7 February, 2022
Vol 27. No 9799. Price: N250



www.thisdaylive.com



FINAL FAREWELL TO SHONEKAN...

L-R: Ogun State Governor, Dapo Abiodun; Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-olu; Former President Goodluck Jonathan; Mrs. Victoria Gowon; Former Head of State, Gen. Yakubu Gowon (Rtd); Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha and Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, (SAN), during the funeral Church Service in honour of former Head of Interim National Government, Chief Ernest Adegunle Oladeinde Shonekan held at the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina Lagos yesterday

MUBO PETERS

Fitch: Nigeria's Oil Sector Weak Performance May Slowdown Economic Growth

Emmanuel Addeh in Abuja

Fitch Solutions, an affiliate of global rating agency, Fitch, has predicted that Nigeria's weak performance in the oil and gas sector may continue to slow down the country's

Continued on page 10

Amended Electoral Bill Bars Ministers, Commissioners from Contesting in Primaries

● Bill prescribes sanctions for erring parties ● Advises aggrieved potential aspirants to approach federal high court for relief ● Says judicial pronouncement can't stop primary or general election

Chuks Okocha in Abuja

Should President Muhammadu Buhari sign the new Electoral Act amendment bill recently forwarded to him by the

National Assembly into law, all political appointees in his government would no longer be eligible, either as voting

Continued on page 10



MOUKA'S WORTHY SCHOLARSHIP...

L-R: CCO, Mouka, Mr. Dimeji Osingunwa; Emmanuel Chima, of Starbiz Lynk Ventures, a Business Partner; CEO, Mouka, Mr. Raymond Murphy, and Managing Director, Femi Fapohunda, at the company's scholarship awards ceremony where business partners received over N111,000,000 worth of scholarships and educational materials, held in Lagos...recently

Africa Requires Stronger, Better, Visionary Leadership to Grow, Say Buhari, Ahmed... Page 6



glo

BATTLE OF THE YEAR NIGERIA

DANCEUNLIMITED

WATCH THEM DANCE TO MEGA MILLIONS

SHOWING EVERY SATURDAY AT 8PM

500MB N150

2GB N450

6GB N1,400

ON glo TV

DIAL *777# TO CHOOSE A DATA PLAN GET THE GLOTV APP AT MYGLOTV.COM



Guaranty Trust Bank Ltd
RC 152511



QuickCredit

For Everyone



Keeping QuickCredit accessible.

Just dial ***737*51*51#**

If you ever need a hand and we'll be right there for you.



Also Available on GTWorld & Internet Banking,
Click on Quick Loans to Apply.

Terms & Conditions Apply

* The monthly interest rate of 1.5% is derived from 18% per annum.



+234 700 GTCONNECT (+234 700 482566328) | +234 701 897 4994 (WhatsApp only)
+234 1 448 0000 | +234 803 900 3900 | +234 802 900 2900

Connect with us





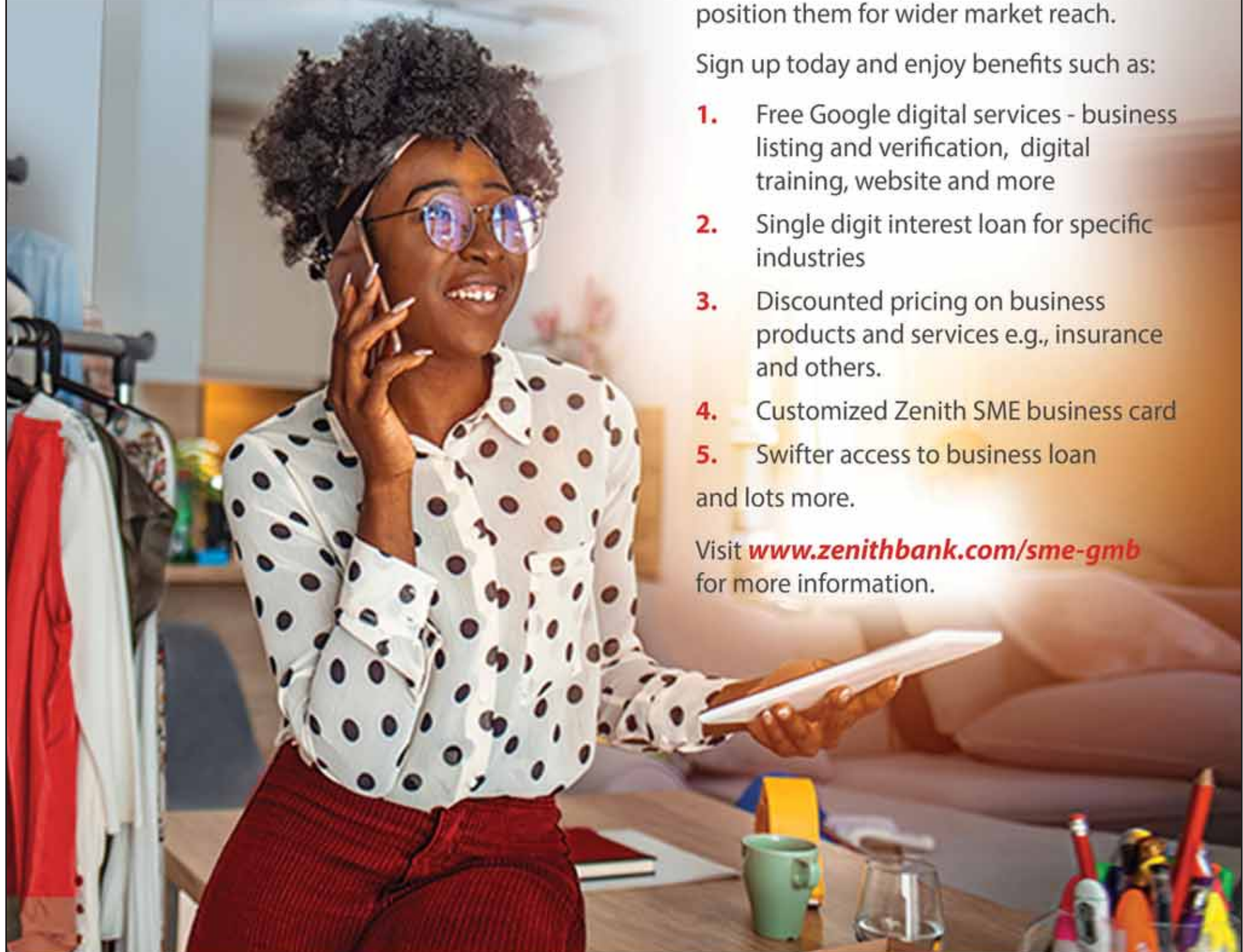
SME Grow my Biz

SME Grow my Business by Zenith is more than a bank account. It provides micro, small and medium enterprises a veritable platform to manage their businesses and position them for wider market reach.

Sign up today and enjoy benefits such as:

1. Free Google digital services - business listing and verification, digital training, website and more
2. Single digit interest loan for specific industries
3. Discounted pricing on business products and services e.g., insurance and others.
4. Customized Zenith SME business card
5. Swifter access to business loan and lots more.

Visit www.zenithbank.com/sme-gmb for more information.



Bank the Eazy way with ***966#** NO DATA REQUIRED
EazyBanking



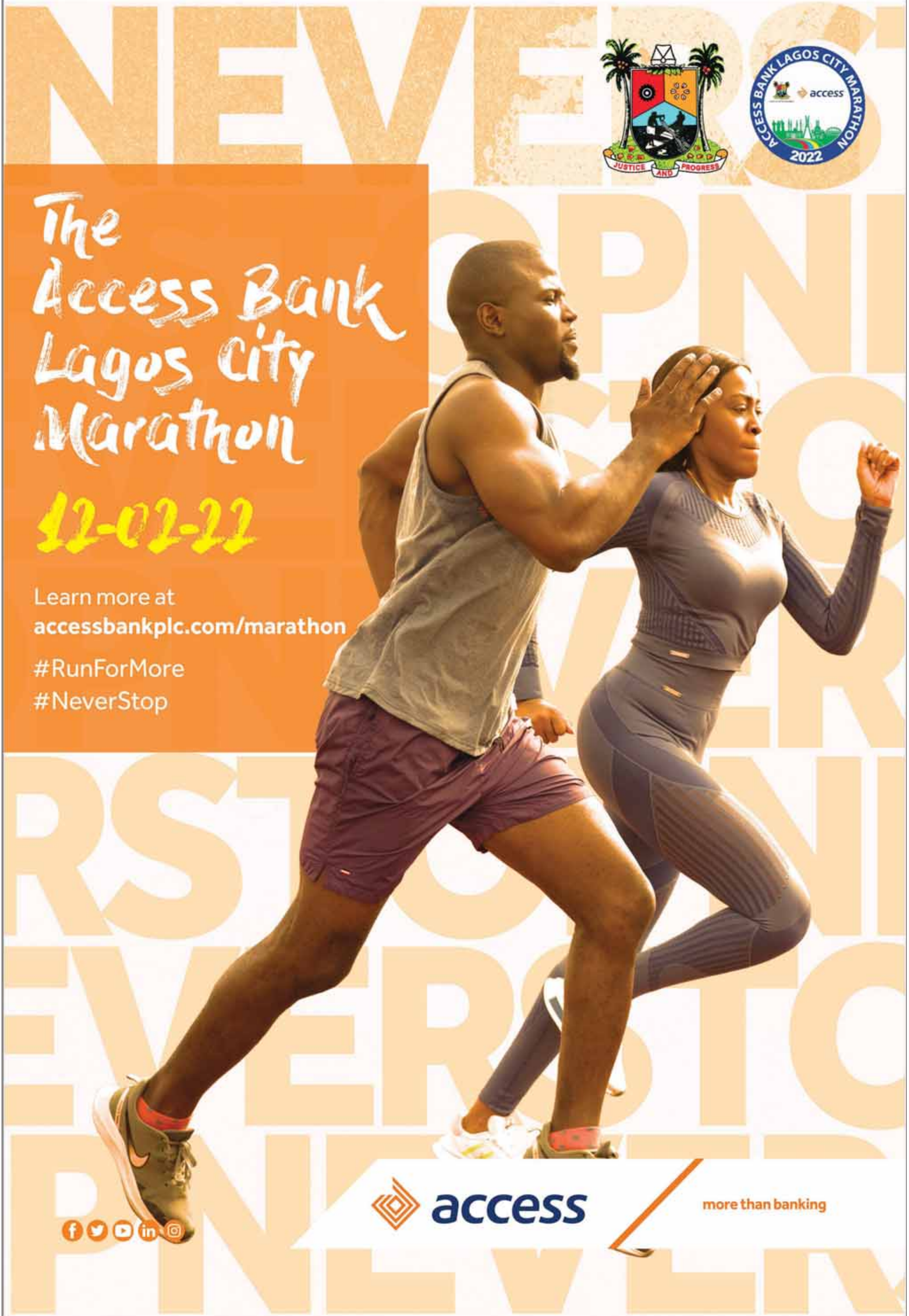
For enquiries and feedback, kindly contact **ZenithDirect**, our 24hr interactive Contact Centre:



+234 1 278 7000, 0904 085 7000, 0700ZENITHBANK
zenithdirect@zenithbank.com

Zenith Intelligent Virtual Assistant (ZiVA) -
0704 000 4422 (WhatsApp)

www.zenithbank.com



The Access Bank Lagos City Marathon

12-02-22

Learn more at accessbankplc.com/marathon

#RunForMore
#NeverStop



more than banking



NIGERIA-ETHIOPIA BILATERAL MEETING...

President Muhammadu Buhari (left) and Ethiopian Prime Minister, H.E. Abiy Ahmed, during the bilateral meeting on the sideline of the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads and Government of African Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia...yesterday

Five Days After, Three Crewmen in SEPCOL's FPSO Explosion Found Alive

● *Seven persons still unaccounted for* ● *Vessel contained 60,000 barrels at the time it caught fire*

Emmanuel Addeh in Abuja and
Peter Uzoho in Lagos

Five days after a Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) facility belonging to Shebah Exploration and Production Company Limited (SEPCOL) exploded in Warri, the company yesterday announced that three crew members aboard the ship had been found alive.

A statement by the company signed by its Chief Executive Officer, Ikemefuna Okafor, indicated that one unidentified body was also noticed floating around the vessel, Trinity Spirit, located at Ukpokiti field (OML 108).

The statement said, "We can confirm that three crew members have been found alive in the community and our priority is to ensure that they receive the appropriate medical attention they need."

"Furthermore, in the early hours of Sunday, 6th February 2022, one dead body was discovered in the vicinity of the FPSO. The identity of the dead body is yet to be ascertained."

An earlier update provided on Saturday by the company had confirmed that the fire had been extinguished, while the search for whereabouts of the crew on board was ongoing.

The incident on the FPSO, with a capacity to process up to 22,000 barrels of oil per day, inject up to 40,000 barrels of water per day and store two million barrels of oil, took place around Excravos, Warri South-west, Delta State.

Trinity Spirit is the primary production facility for OML 108, which covers 750 square km (290 square miles) of water off the Niger Delta, ranging from a depth of 30 metres to 213 metres, according to SEPCOL's website.

THISDAY checks showed that the huge facility was built in 1976 (46 years ago), with a carrying capacity of 274774 Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT). SEPCOL, now in receivership, in 2004 acquired all 40 per cent of ConocoPhillips equity interest in OML 108 owned by a combination of Nigerian and overseas corporate entities, which include Abbeycourt Trading Company Limited (ATCO), Abbeycourt Petroleum Company Limited, and Allenne Limited.

The FPSO serves as the primary production facility for OML 108 and it is also a government approved terminal for lifting operations for all the facility's production.

At the time the massive fire erupted on-board the vessel, it was learnt that about 10 persons were within the facility, but with three crew members found, at least seven of the persons on board were yet to be accounted for on Sunday. In the statement, SEPCOL reiterated that the fire burnt out completely as of last Thursday, thus enabling closer inspection of the vessel.

A Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) with the relevant authorities, stakeholders, and expert organisations, it said, took place on Saturday, 5th February 2022.

"The focus of our joint efforts is to prioritise investigations towards establishing the whereabouts, safety, and security of the seven crew members still missing, clean up and limit damage to the environment, and establish the cause of the explosion," the statement added.

The company appreciated the assistance provided by the Clean Nigeria Associates, the Chevron team, other stakeholders and people in the community, particularly the fishermen, who it said had been of immense help

since the incident occurred.

Furthermore, the management of SEPCOL urged members of the public to continue to keep away from the area while its crisis management team monitored developments in the investigations and updated stakeholders with new information accordingly.

Although the details were yet to be made public, The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) in collaboration with other relevant

stakeholders had also embarked on a Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) to the facility.

NUPRC said, "The commission will further deploy its incident management strategy while also ensuring that the removal of the FPSO is carried out professionally to prevent an escalation of the incident."

"The commission will continue to ensure that all safety and environmental measures are strictly adhered to in the management

of the incident."

FPSO serves as the primary production facility of for OML 108 and it is also a government approved terminal for lifting operations for all the asset's production.

Meanwhile, Reuters quoted the Minister of State, Environment, Sharon Ikeazor, as saying at the weekend that the oil storage vessel was holding around 50,000 to 60,000 barrels of crude oil at the time of the incident. Ikeazor said

the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) had called the oil industry operators and the Clean Nigeria Associates, a cooperative responding to oil spill incidents, for support.

It also quoted Chairman of the host fishing community, Ikusemuya Igbekele, as disclosing that two bodies were seen lying dead in front of the vessel, while three crew members jumped into the sea with life jackets and had been taken to the hospital.

Coalition Kicks against N3tn Fuel Subsidy Payment in 2022

● *Urges FG to fix Nigeria's porous borders*

Emmanuel Addeh in Abuja

A coalition of civil society organisations (CSOs) under the aegis of Civil Society Group for Good Governance (CSGGG) at the weekend kicked against the proposed N3 trillion to be budgeted for payment of fuel subsidies this year.

In a joint briefing organised by President of the Group, Mr. Dominic Ogakwu, in Abuja, the civil society representatives called on the federal government to immediately work towards fixing the country's porous borders, which have become avenues for smuggling the product outside the country.

The coalition stated, "A key area of concern is Nigeria's fuel subsidy bill, which is growing faster and bigger than what our country's economy can carry. If you will all recall, it was stated recently that the country needs to spend a princely N3 trillion on subsidy in 2022."

"In the light of this humongous sum, we join well-meaning Nigerians in calling on the

federal government to speed up the rehabilitation of the refineries to improve availability of products locally and reduce importation."

The group urged the government to ensure that the right policies were put in place to improve the country's domestic refining capacity and meet local demand before subsidy removal was implemented.

It stressed that if there was no subsidy, organised labour would not threaten fire and brimstone whenever government took steps to remove under-recovery. It said the operations of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) were hindered by payment of fuel subsidy.

According to the coalition, "One urgent measure that needs to be addressed is our country's borders which have remained largely porous. Without a doubt, some unpatriotic elements are cashing on this gap to divert and smuggle our subsidy-coated fuel to neighbouring countries."

"This ugly trade is putting unnecessary burden on

government's scare resource. It is still unbelievable that we are consuming over 65 million litres of petrol every day."

"Only the existence of subsidy can explain this. Nigeria has one of the cheapest fuels per litre in the entire West African sub-region. Our cheaper fuel is very attractive to smugglers and something drastic needs to be done to address this ugly trend and hopefully crash the quantity consumed daily, hence a cost reduction of subsidy claims."

It called on the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) and other relevant security agencies to pay special attention to the land borders in order to mitigate the smuggling of Nigeria's petroleum products to neighbouring countries.

In addition, the group called on those aiding and abetting the smuggling of petroleum products to desist from sabotaging the country, as Nigeria continued to bleed from the openings.

With the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) and the transitioning of NNPC to a limited liability

company, the group noted that it expected nothing less than more transparency, more accountability, and more performance and more value to Nigerians.

"Nigerians can no longer tolerate the inefficiencies of the old NNPC in this new dispensation," it maintained.

However, the coalition commended NNPC and its leadership, especially Chief Executive Officer, Mallam Mele Kyari, for sustaining what it said was a hitch free supply and distribution of petroleum products over the past four years, despite the difficult operating environment attributable to the activities of pipeline vandals and smugglers. It noted that NNPC's sustained commitment to transparency, as evident in the monthly publication of its operations and financials, was highly commendable.

Specifically, it stated that the publication of the annual financial statements for 2019 and 2020 also showed that NNPC had improved her performance in delivering value to Nigeria.



ICAN VISITS OSINBAJO...

L-R; 2nd Deputy Vice President (DVP) ICAN, Alh. Haruna Yahaya; 1st DVP, ICAN, Dr. Innocent Okwuosa; Vice President, ICAN, Mallam Tijani Mus Isa; Past President, ICAN, Senator Kola Bajomo; ICAN President, Mrs. Comfort Eytayo; Vice President of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo; ICAN Member, Mr. Yemi Adetunji; ICAN Council member, Chief (Mrs.) Hilda Ozor; ICAN Members, Mrs. Tope Omage; ICAN Registrar/CEO, Dr. Yemi Oyeniyi, Prof. Ahmed Kumshe; and Senior Manager Technical Services, ICAN Mr. Odunayo Adebayo, during a courtesy call on the Vice President by ICAN in Abuja at the weekend

Africa Requires Stronger, Better, Visionary Leadership to Grow, Say Buhari, Ahmed

Deji Elumoye in Abuja

President Muhammadu Buhari and Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed have stressed that Africa's growth and development would require strong, visionary leadership that caters for the needs of the people.

According to the duo, such leadership would effectively strengthen institutions that encourage peaceful co-existence, while providing disincentives to conflicts and

coups.

At a meeting yesterday, between both leaders in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, headquarters of the African Union, Buhari, according to a statement issued by Media Adviser to the President, Femi Adesina, commended the efforts of the Prime Minister in maintaining peace and unity in the country, and dedication to ensuring fairness and justice in development.

He said: "You are leading a country that is large

and diversified, just like Nigeria, and I know the sacrifices required to make desired impact, especially in maintaining peace."

Buhari urged the Ethiopian leader to stay focused on keeping the country together, in spite of the difficulties, assuring that Nigeria would continue to support efforts in

peaceful co-existence and unity.

The president said Ahmed had provided strong leadership for the country, encouraging him to sustain the good work in ensuring even development.

On his part, the Prime Minister thanked Buhari for supporting the country over the years, on national and personal endeavours,

particularly in encouraging unity and stability.

He noted that the African continent had been slow in growth due to conflicts, adding that the larger economies, like Nigeria and Ethiopia, should provide the leadership that will deepen progress and prosperity on the continent.

According to the Prime

Minister, the resurgence of coups on the continent could further weaken institutions and reverse the gains of democracy, while appreciating Buhari for his position on zero tolerance for military interference in governance.

Ahmed said collective and visionary leadership would move Africa forward.

BPE to Exempt Three Firms from Post-privatisation Monitoring

Ndubuisi Francis in Abuja

The National Council on Privatisation (NCP) chaired by the Vice President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, has approved the exemption of three privatised enterprises from the routine post-privatisation monitoring activities of the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).

They include Federal Superphosphate Fertiliser Company (FSFC), Kaduna; Cement Company of Northern Nigeria (CCNN), Sokoto and Ikoyi Hotel (now Southern Sun), Lagos.

In a statement, BPE's Head, Public Communications, Ibeh Uzoma Chidi explained that the exemption followed the firms' ability to fulfil their covenants as identified in the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) contained in the Share Sale and Purchase Agreement (SSAP) signed with the BPE. The BPE had sought for NCP's approval to exempt the companies during the Council's recent meeting at the Presidential Villa, Aso Rock, Abuja.

In its request, the Bureau noted that it had carried out a review of the enterprises in line with its mandate to manage post-privatisation issues of privatised public companies and was satisfied that the core investors ensured compliance with the covenants.

BPE stated that it had developed standard processes and procedures for delisting privatised enterprises which all privatised enterprises were bound to comply with before being recommended for delisting.

In assessing the now delisted enterprises, BPE said it reviewed all the data submitted by the Core Investors in Line with their KPIs as indicated in the SSPA and followed up with an on-the-spot assessment of the companies to validate the data submitted which showed excellent performance.

FSFC was incorporated in September 1973 with an installed capacity of 100,000 metric tons per annum and privatised in 2005. It was handed over to the core investor, Messrs HEIKO Consortium in January 2006, while Ikoyi Hotel also called Nigerian Hotels Limited which was established in 1932 and owned 100 per cent by the federal government, was privatised through Assets Sale to BETA Consortium Limited with a bid price of \$13,867,000.000 and handed to the investor in 2003.

The Cement Company of Northern Nigeria Plc (CCNN), Sokoto was commissioned in 1967 with the federal government owning 45 per cent shares of the company.

Nigeria's Debts Unsustainable, Says Ex-Senate Committee Chair

Hammed Shittu in Ilorin

A former Chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions, Senator Rafiu Adebayo Ibrahim at the weekend expressed concern over the country's rising debt profile, saying it was unsustainable.

Speaking with journalists at Ojoku, his country home in Oyun local government council area of Kwara State, shortly after being honoured with a chieftaincy title as 'Bobaselu of Erin-Ile' by the Elerin of Erin-Ile, Oba Abdulganiyu Ajibola Ibrahim Olusokun 11, to mark his 80th birthday and 40th year on the throne of his forefathers, Ibrahim stated that, "the people are worried about the backlog of loans and the ones obtained since 2015 till date."

Ibrahim noted that the country's debts have increased

astronomically since 2015.

"Such development has increased debt level profile of Nigeria from 2015 till date and this is unsustainable for overall economic stability of the country," he added.

Nigeria's debt profile according to the Debt Management Office (DMO) stood at over N38 trillion as at September 2021, representing a N5 trillion increase from the N33 trillion it was as of December 2020.

Experts had warned of a looming financial crisis as a result of the rising debt, a fear that government had allayed.

The former lawmaker who represented Kwara South senatorial district of the state during the 8th Senate added that, the continuous granting of such multiple loans would have serious effect on the future economic stability of the country.

He said: "Let me tell you

as per loans, it is clear that the debt level of Nigeria as of today from where it was in 2015, is not sustainable. And I will not like to degrade the 9th Assembly but my belief is that the 8th Senate did not do the same way the current 9th National Assembly is doing now".

Ibrahim added: "I am very certain that we were thorough during the 8th Senate as stakeholders were involved in the passage of bills into laws. I know that the 8th Senate had the conscience of the nation, we always digging it deep with collaboration of all sectors, private sectors, the regulators the civil societies organisations, international bodies before we passed any bills into law."

On the expectations from his new chieftaincy title, the Bobaselu of Erin-Ile said it was a call for service.

He added: "I am very delighted and thank God

Almighty and especially, I want to thank the Royal Majesty, Elerin of Erin-Ile, Oba Abdulganiyu Ajibola Ibrahim Olusokun for this honour and I thank him so much.

"I believe with this, it is a responsibility that I will bear and my family especially my political family led by the former Senate President, Dr. Bukola Saraki.

"The only thing for me is to let me continue with what I have been doing before. I always say it without mincing words that my politics, the person that I found to be mentor, his politics I learnt is about empathy to the people, passion for community development, sacrifice for the people."

The former lawmaker however said that, he would recontest for the Kwara South senatorial district come 2023 so as to provide more good representation.

NIN-SIM Linkage: SERAP Urges Buhari to Rescind Approval of Access to Subscribers' Details

Udora Orizu in Abuja

The Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) has urged President Muhammadu Buhari to urgently review and rescind his reported approval for security agencies to access peoples' personal details via NIN-SIM linkage without due process of law.

SERAP also urged Buhari to send executive bills to the National Assembly to repeal and reform all laws that are

inconsistent and incompatible with Nigerians' rights to privacy, dignity and liberty.

The organisation's position followed reports that some security agencies had received presidential approval to access personal details of Nigerians via the database of the National Identity Management Commission in the course of carrying out their duties.

In the letter dated February 5, 2022, and signed by SERAP Deputy Director, Kolawole

Oluwadare, the organisation warned that if the president's reported approval was not rescinded, millions of law-abiding Nigerians may feel that their private lives are the subject of constant surveillance.

The letter, read in part: "The power to access individual's details raises serious concerns as to their arbitrary use by the authorities responsible for applying them in a manner that reduces human rights and democratic principles by the

monitoring and surveillance of millions of Nigerians.

"It is crucial to rescind the approval, and respect the autonomy of individuals to receive and share information of a personal nature without interference from the authorities, if unintended adverse consequences are to be avoided.

"The right to privacy allows Nigerians to hold opinions and exercise freedom of expression without arbitrary or illegal interference and attacks.

How to protect your account with **SIM lock**



Here are 8 easy steps to lock your SIM and protect your account in case of a phone theft:

1. Go to settings click on 'Security'
2. Select 'Set up to SIM card lock'
3. Enter the default SIM PIN (Default PIN for Glo, MTN, Airtel and 9mobile is 0000)
4. Click on 'Change SIM PIN'
5. Enter old SIM PIN and press OK
6. Enter new SIM PIN
7. Confirm the new four digit PIN
8. Select 'OK' and exit

Protect your phone to protect your account, stay scam free.

ARISE ▶

BEYOND STREAMING

Instagram Facebook Twitter @ARISEPLAY

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

WWW.ARISEPLAY.COM

THE MUSKETEERS

SERIES 1

© 2020 BBC STUDIOS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



VISIT THE WEBSITE;
DOWNLOAD THE APP &
SUBSCRIBE TODAY

WWW.ARISEPLAY.COM

@ARISEPLAY



Made for Love

Our gift to you this season is the **UBA Digital Experience** on web and it was made just for you.

You can bank anywhere, anytime and on any device.



To get started, visit internetbanking.ubagroup.com

#UBADigitalExperience

PAGE TEN

Dele Momodu Declares Presidential Ambition in Hometown, Ihevbe, Edo State

● Vows to take over from Buhari

Adibe Emeyonu in Benin City

The Publisher of Ovation International Magazine, Dele Momodu, yesterday declared his presidential ambition in his home town, Ihevbe, Owan East Local Government Area of Edo State.

He also stressed that he was the most qualified among those aspiring to take over from Buhari.

Momodu who was received by a large crowd of Ihevbe

people, said his presidential ambition was derived from the fact that though he was never a governor, senator, minister or president, he had sat on table with the high and mighty.

According to him, "For long I have been interacting with presidents, ministers, governors because I know that one day, I will be president."

He, therefore, challenged whoever has a better credential than him to come out and present it.

"All I want to be is president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Today is a day to say it finally before my people. Anybody who think he is more qualified than me should come out and say so," he added.

The renowned journalist and publisher who went down memory lane recalled that his homecoming was 49 years after he lost his dad.

He promised that his coming into politics was majorly to serve the people and change

the narrative of the average Nigerian as far as deliverables are concerned.

In a chat with journalists, the former Senator, representing Edo North Senatorial district, Senator Yisa Braimah, asserted that the presidential hopeful was the locality's best choice for Aso Rock in 2023.

Braimah, a chieftain of the People Democratic Party (PDP), said "This is a glorious entry. The whole of Ihevbe community has turned out en-masse to

receive their illustrious son. A man who has achieved so much in the media.

"Dele Momodu has declared his intentions to run for presidency. We love his home coming and we have resolved to send him forth to rescue Nigeria for us."

Welcoming Momodu, the traditional head of Ugba village in Ihevbe community, Pa. Rufus Aigbebole described him as a son in whom they are well pleased.

He said: "It is a thing of joy, and something that will always remain in our memory for long to have you in our midst today, particularly when I am still alive as the village Head of your immediate community of Ugba.

"I will now have message of hope to deliver to your loving father (Oboh Momodu) and others when I eventually pass on to the great beyond to meet them there someday."

FITCH: NIGERIA'S OIL SECTOR WEAK PERFORMANCE MAY SLOWDOWN ECONOMIC GROWTH

economy in the coming years. In its latest report on the state of the Nigerian economy, the rating agency stated that from its analysis, the new Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) might not markedly impact the country in the near term.

Forecasting an average annual decline of 0.5 per cent in the next four years, the group added that given the rapid pace of population growth in Nigeria, it expected that average incomes would continue to stagnate in the country.

Fitch stated, "While the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), which was finally signed in 2021, will create a more stable operating environment, we doubt that it will have a significant effect on investment this year. It will take time for foreign firms to launch any new projects.

"Indeed, despite the new bill, our oil and gas team

expects that oil production will gradually fall over the coming years. We predict an average annual decline of 0.5 per cent between 2023 and 2026. All told, fixed investment spending will contribute just 0.6 per cent to headline growth in 2022."

The report projected that the poor performance of the oil sector, which is Nigeria's key foreign exchange earner, would keep headline growth weak over the coming years.

The rating agency said, "We expect that real GDP growth will average just 2.9 per cent between 2023 and 2026. Headline growth will be even weaker in per capita terms. Given the rapid pace of population growth in Nigeria, we expect that average incomes will continue to stagnate."

However, despite the slowdowns, Fitch predicted that economic growth in Nigeria would pick up slightly from an estimated 3.1 per cent in

2021, to 3.5 per cent in 2022, primarily driven by increased oil production, which will boost export growth. But the firm stated that it expected that growth would slow to 2.9 per cent in 2023, and over the medium term, that the combination of poor economic performance and rapid population growth per capita income would essentially stagnate.

It said, "We at Fitch Solutions expect Nigeria's economy will expand by 3.5 per cent in 2022. This would be the eighth consecutive year in which Nigeria has underperformed the aggregate growth figure for Emerging Markets (EM). We expect growth of 4.8 per cent across EMs as a whole."

"Even so, 3.5 per cent growth would represent an acceleration compared to the 3.1 per cent growth for 2021, and be Nigeria's best performance

since 2014."

Accordingly, Fitch solutions predicted that the volume of Nigeria's oil production would rise by 4.1 per cent in 2022, which would be a significant improvement compared to 2021, when it estimated that output fell by 8.1 per cent as a result of low investment and OPEC+ cuts.

The report said, "But with the OPEC+ agreement now ending, we think that output will rise, though it will remain below the recent peak recorded in 2020."

"Since oil makes up almost 90 per cent of Nigeria's exports, increased production will boost the country's export earnings. Indeed, given rising agricultural exports, we expect that exports will rise by 11.6 per cent in real terms in 2022."

"Whereas net exports subtracted 1.0 percentage points (pps) from headline growth in 2021, we think that

the component will add 1.8pps to headline growth in 2022."

According to the agency, the slow but rising oil production would also fuel strong private consumption growth, spurring private consumption spending to rise by 3.5 per cent in 2022, in line with the outturn in 2021.

The report explained, "This will contribute 2.2pps to headline growth. Continued FX shortages and slow productivity growth in the agricultural sector – which employs almost 35.0 per cent of the workforce – will prevent a sharper acceleration. Indeed, over the past seven years, private consumption growth has averaged just 0.7 per cent."

"We expect that government consumption will rise by 3.0 per cent in 2022. The government passed an ambitious budget in late 2021, but recent experience suggests that implementation will be very weak."

"We are, therefore, sceptical

about plans to significantly increase public infrastructure spending. Indeed, some projects were probably included in the budget for political reasons before the 2023 election, and we expect that very little real progress will be made. Given the small scale of Nigeria's federal government, public spending will contribute just 0.4pp to headline growth."

It emphasised that the government's failure to raise living standards would probably result in increased social tensions over the coming years, projecting that the febrile political environment can result in violence surrounding presidential elections scheduled for 2023.

"Our current forecasts assume that the vote passes peacefully, but a series of violent clashes – as happened in 2011 – could pose a headwind to real GDP growth," it projected.

AMENDED ELECTORAL BILL BARS MINISTERS, COMMISSIONERS FROM CONTESTING IN PRIMARIES

delegates or aspirants during the conventions or congresses of their political parties.

The implication is that some key ministers in Buhari's cabinet, said to be nursing presidential ambitions would be barred from seeking the nominations of their parties.

What this therefore, means is that ministers, commissioners and other political appointees are expected to resign ahead of their parties' primaries in order to be eligible to contest in the primaries.

Top on the list of the aspiring appointees to be affected by this new amendment are the Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Amaechi; Minister of Interior, Rauf Aregbesola; and Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Fashola. They are believed to have presidential ambitions, even though they have yet to declare their interests.

But by the provision at issue, political appointees are also barred from voting as delegates in a convention or seeking nomination in the primaries of their political parties.

Unlike what was obtainable in the past when most APC ministers and commissioners took leave of absence to contest their party's primaries and later went back to their jobs after they lost, that grace is no longer available.

However, with the new amendment, if signed by the President, they would henceforth be required to vacate office completely before being eligible to contest.

The bill also advises aggrieved aspirants to seek redress at the Federal High Court if they suspect the political parties did not comply with the relevant provisions in the selection of candidates.

According to Clause 84 of the re-committed bill, "No political

appointee at any level shall be a voting delegate or be voted for at the convention or congress of any political party for the purpose of the nomination of candidates for any election.

"Where a political party fails to comply with the provisions of this Act in the conduct of its primaries, its candidate for election shall not be included in the election for the particular position in issue.

"Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act or rules of a political party, an aspirant, who complains that any of the provisions of this Act and guidelines of a political party have not been complied with in the selection or nomination of a candidate of a political party for election, may apply to the Federal High Court for redress.

"Nothing in this section shall empower the courts to stop the holding of primaries or general election under this Act, pending the determination of a suit."

But there appears to be a lacuna in the new law, which

may encourage infringements on the inalienable rights of citizens to vie for elective offices.

The Supreme Court had pronounced at different times that any law inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution is ultra vires and, to that extent, null and void.

Sources believe the clause is meant to clip the wings of the governors, who, through appointments, often control those who become automatic delegates and determine the outcome of congresses.

Sources further claimed that the idea was originally from the House of Representatives, pushed by a principal officer from Lagos as an agenda to serve some interests. The senate was said to have concurred, just to keep the "one house" refrain of the National Assembly.

But the fear being expressed by many is that, with a clause that clearly breaches the provision of the constitution, the president might be forced to veto the electoral act amendment bill again. If this happens, a

new electoral law may not be ready for the 2023 elections.

The National Assembly had recently transmitted the new Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill to Buhari for assent, through the Clerk of the National Assembly, Olatunde Ojo. Before the latest transmission, Buhari had in December 2021, vetoed the former amendment bill, leading to a recommitment by the National Assembly.

There have been misgivings about the new amendment, fuelling speculations on whether or not the president would sign it into law. The latest speculation was stoked by rumours that some governors, especially, those of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), were not comfortable with the new amendment and had planned to prevail on the president to also veto it, as he did in the last one.

The harmonised version of the Electoral Bill recently passed by the legislature was considered the final agreed version by both Senate and

House of Representatives on the amendment to Clause 84 of the bill.

In this clause, the direct, indirect and consensus modes of primary election by political parties were included. This was after the controversy that trailed the different versions initially approved by the two chambers.

The senate had in its re-amended bill approved direct, indirect, and consensus primaries for the nomination of candidates by political parties, while the House only provided direct and indirect modes, saying the president did not speak about the consensus option, when he vetoed the previous bill.

But President of the Senate, Dr. Ahmad Lawan, while presiding at plenary, stated that both chambers had agreed to give a clear and sufficient definition for each mode of primary, and how they would be conducted.

Lawan explained that for the consensus method, the two chambers produced a clear-cut

definition on how a consensus candidate would emerge.

Buhari had declined assent to the first amendment bill over the provision of direct primary as the only mode of choosing candidates by political parties.

The bill earlier passed by the National Assembly on November 18, 2021, provided: "A political party seeking to nominate candidates for elections under this bill shall hold direct primaries for aspirants to all elective positions, which shall be monitored by the commission."

But Buhari, in declining assent, disclosed that he would only give assent to the bill if the lawmakers provided options for the conduct of primaries by political parties.

The president also cited several disadvantages of the provision to the system, including security and possible manipulation by incumbent officeholders, who might be seeking re-election, as well as political parties' inability to muster funds for it.

OSINBAJO TO ANNOUNCE PRESIDENTIAL BID AFTER APC CONVENTION

journey is looking good. I believe prof is also motivated by the increasing level of support from across the country, especially, the youths of this country.

"From the north to the south, tell me where he has visited recently and the charge has not been that he should contest? He has capacity, competence and knows what the issues are. Importantly, he can also sell them – I mean the issues. So, why will he not run? Why should the bitterness and envy of some minions stifle him?"

Osinbajo, who sources said was unfazed by the growing allegation of betrayal and the push for him to stand down his ambition for his former principal and supposed benefactor, Asiwaju

Bola Tinubu, who had since declared his intention to run, was said to have described the attacks against him as the real motivation to take his chances.

The source added, "In fact, none of such bothers him. But he has done one thing though, he has called his supporters and pleaded with them never to talk down on Tinubu or engage in a mud fight with his support groups, even in the face of obvious provocation."

Although Osinbajo has refused to officially talk about his aspiration, despite the growing support for him to succeed Buhari, he is said to have been holding high level consultations with prominent Nigerians, many of whom have encouraged him

to give the aspiration his best shot possible.

THISDAY gathered that Osinbajo's motivation to run for the presidency in 2023 stemmed from the first time he acted as president, when Buhari was away on medical leave to London, during which he took far-reaching decisions in the national interest. It was further gathered that taking active charge during the period provided the vice president both the confidence and impetus to desire to succeed his current boss.

An APC member, who is favourably disposed to Osinbajo's aspiration, stated, "It may be right to admit he stands a really good chance to succeed President Buhari after eight years as his

deputy. He is an insider, who has had the opportunity of seeing things from high and serious vantage position, especially, having acted before on behalf of his boss.

"Although that may not be enough to get the presidency of Nigeria, because I believe and I know there are some politics directly connected to being the president of Nigeria. But, how well Osinbajo fits into that conversation is another debate altogether. From the list of those currently strutting the turf, he stands a really good chance, except the election is not his to lose.

"But, file this away, he is contesting and would declare after the APC convention. I am

aware of that. There's actually no stopping him. The supports have been sweeping and encouraging and for him, this opportunity might just be once and might never come his way again. Sincerely, he has nothing to lose throwing his hat in the ring. After all, he is already a frontline aspirant."

Asked if it was true that Adebayo had given his blessing, the party chieftain, who would rather maintain anonymity, stated, "I am not privy to that, but it's also a simple logic. Osinbajo is a pastor in Redeem and Baba Adebayo would never leave one of his own to support someone else. I also believe he must have hinted him. Honestly, the days ahead will be interesting."



TINUBU RETURNS...

All Progressives Congress National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, on his arrival last night in Lagos after a short trip abroad

Insecurity: Presidency Faults *Financial Times* Report

● *Insists no area under control of bandits* ● *FG to procure more equipment for military*

Deji Elumoye and Kingsley Nwezeh in Abuja

The Presidency, yesterday, faulted a report on security challenges in the country, published in the January 31, 2022 edition of *Financial Times* of London Newspaper, saying banditry has been caged to the level that no territory in the country was under terrorists control.

In another breath, the Minister of Defence, Maj. Gen. Bashir Magashi (rtd), said at the weekend that the federal government was committed to providing more platforms for the military to sustain the tempo of operations in order to contain insurgency, banditry and other security challenges across the country.

However, in a letter to the Editor, *Financial Times*, by presidential spokesman, Mallam Garba Shehu, the Presidency expressed its concern over the wrong perceptions contained in the article: "What is Nigeria's Government For," authored by David Piling.

According to the one-page letter, the presidency stated: "The caricature of a government sleepwalking into disaster (What is Nigeria's government for? January 31, 2022) is predictable from a correspondent, who jets briefly in and out of Nigeria on the same British Airways flight he so criticises."

"He highlights rising banditry in my country as proof of such slumber."

"What he leaves out are the security gains made over two presidential terms. The terror organisation Boko Haram used to administer an area the size of Belgium at inauguration; now, they control no territory."

"The first comprehensive plan to deal with decades-old clashes between nomadic herders and sedentary farmers – experienced across the width of the Sahel – has been introduced: pilot ranches are reducing the competition for water and land that drove past tensions."

"Banditry grew out of such clashes. Criminal gangs took advantage of the instability, flush with guns that flooded the region following the Western-triggered implosion of Libya. The situation is grave. Yet as with other challenges, it is one that the government will face

down." Meanwhile, Magashi, speaking at the end of the 2021 West African Social Activities (WASA) of the Army Headquarters Garrison, in Abuja, said President Muhammadu Buhari's continuous support for the armed forces added impetus to the ongoing efforts by the Nigerian armed forces in the fight against insurgency.

"It is based on the support of the federal government that the ministry had continued to strive relentlessly to keep the services by providing various grades of equipment and ammunition. We shall continue to make efforts to ensure that more platforms are prescribed to sustain the tempo of operations."

"I wish to state that you must imbibe good maintenance culture so as to make this equipment readily available, when needed for operations. It is worthy to mention that training is the best welfare that can be given to officers and soldiers and I am very appreciative of the efforts of the Chief of Army Staff for ensuring that all the training exercises for the year 2021, were successfully conducted," he said.

The minister said the conduct of the training for the military had proven to be result-oriented, adding that several personnel, who were trained and deployed for operations had performed creditably well.

He reassured the Nigerian army that the ministry would continue to accord the welfare of officers and soldiers and their family a priority.

Magashi also commended the officers and soldiers for their sacrifices towards ensuring enduring peace in the country, adding that 2021 was an eventful year characterised by challenges, sober moments and records of successes.

He recalled the gallant performance and sacrifices of the Nigerian army personnel in counterterrorism, counter insurgency and other operations across the country.

In his remarks, the Commander, Army Headquarters Garrison, Maj. Gen. Sanusi Dahiru, said WASA was an enduring tradition of the Nigerian army, during which officers, soldiers and their families come together to socialise in a relaxed mood.

Dahiru said the event also

served as a vehicle to enhance esprit de corps and the spirit of brotherliness within a command and avenue to appreciate personnel for their individual and collective contributions towards the success of the command.

He said the command diligently provided

operational, administrative and logistic support to the army headquarters departments, formations and units, as well as successfully executing all training activities.

He appreciated the chief of army staff for exemplary leadership, passionate and selfless commitment to the

welfare of personnel, assuring them that the garrison would do its best to sustain the tempo of achievements in 2022.

"I wish to state that the personnel of the command are poised to carry out the activities with renewed vigor and commitment in terms of professionalism, responsiveness

and commitment in the discharge of the constitutional duties," he said.

The event featured cultural display by different ethnic groups and a tug of war, which featured the female members of the National Youths Service Corps (NYSC) serving in the garrison.

Female Genital Mutilation on the Rise in Nigeria, UNICEF Warns

● *Says COVID-19 may contribute to increased FGM by 2030* ● *NHRC expresses concern over protection gaps in national, international frameworks*

Omon-Julius Onabu in Asaba, Michael Olugbode in Abuja and Amby Uneze in Owerri

The United Nation Children's Fund (UNICEF) yesterday warned that female genital mutilation (FGM), otherwise called female circumcision, was on the rise in Nigeria especially among girls aged below 15 years.

This, the global agency said was a "worrying trend" in the country.

According to UNICEF, the rates of FGM have risen from 16.9 per cent in 2013 to 19.2 per cent in 2018, stressing that the practice remained pervasive in Nigeria.

This was contained in a statement by UNICEF to commemorate the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM.

In the statement signed by UNICEF's Representative in Nigeria, Peter Hawkins, the organisation reeled out statistical evidence on the worrisome development in the country.

"Female genital mutilation (FGM) remains widespread in Nigeria. With an estimated 19.9 million survivors, Nigeria accounts for the third highest number of women and girls who have undergone FGM worldwide."

"While the national prevalence of FGM among women in Nigeria aged 15-49 dropped from 25 per cent in 2013 to 20 per cent in 2018, prevalence among girls aged 0-14 increased from 16.9 per cent to 19.2 per cent in the same period, according to NDHS figures."

"An estimated 86 per cent of females were cut before the age of five, while eight per cent were cut between ages five and 14."

"As the world today commemorates the International Day of Zero Tolerance of FGM, 68 million girls worldwide were estimated to be at risk of female genital mutilation between 2015 and 2030."

"As COVID-19 continues to close schools and disrupt programmes that help protect girls from this harmful practice, an additional two million additional cases of FGM may occur over the next decade."

"Millions of girls are being robbed of their childhoods, health, education, and aspirations every day by harmful practices such as FGM."

It further stressed the need for increased action to end the practice of FGM in the country, saying it has no health benefits to the girl-child.

"It is deeply harmful to girls and women, both physically and psychologically. It is a practice that has no place in our society today and must be ended, as many Nigerian communities have already pledged to do," he said.

The UNICEF representative in Nigeria observed that the prevalence of FGM was highest in the south-east with 35 per cent and south-west with 30 per cent and lowest in the north-east with six per cent.

He disclosed that: "UNICEF is initiating a community-led movement - 'The Movement for Good' - to eliminate FGM in five Nigerian states", namely Ebonyi, Ekiti, Imo, Osun and Oyo, states with very high prevalence of the harmful practice.

"The Movement for Good" will reach five million adolescent

girls and boys, women - including especially pregnant and lactating mothers - men, grandparents, and traditional, community and religious leaders, legislators, justice sector actors, and state officials through an online pledge to 'say no' to FGM," he revealed.

FGM is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. It reflects deep-rooted inequality between the sexes and is an extreme form of discrimination against girls and women.

It is nearly always carried out on children and is a violation of children's rights. The practice also violates a person's rights to health, security and physical integrity; the right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment; and the right to life, in instances when the procedure results in death.

"The International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM reminds us that we are not alone in this work and that we need to accelerate efforts - especially with families and communities - to achieve a Nigeria safe for girls and women and finally free of FGM," Hawkins said.

Also, UNICEF officer-in-charge of Enugu Field Office, Mrs. Maureen Zubie-Okolo noted that world leaders could save \$1.4 billion annually if the practice of FGM was stopped.

Speaking on the year's theme: 'Accelerating Investment to end FGM in Nigeria,' Zubie-Okolo, noted that there was no proven health benefits of the FGM practice.

Represented by Mr. Victor Atuchukwu, the UNICEF child protection specialist, Zubie-Okolo

said over four million girls were at risk of genital mutilation even as COVID-19 disruptions could add two million cases of FGM by year 2030.

UNICEF's Child Protection Specialist, Enugu Field Office, Mr. Atuchukwu, while speaking at a media dialogue organised by the agency in collaboration with the Broadcasting Corporation of Abia (BCA) to mark the year 2022 International Day of Zero Tolerance to FGM, decried the spate of FGM in the south-east geo-political zone of Nigeria and urged state governments to key into UNICEF's intervention strategies such as establishment of community-based child protection facilities and consensus building towards FGM abandonment.

"It is worthy of note that all South-East states have domesticated the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act hence the need to build consensus, establish grassroots technical committees with a view to ending FGM," he said.

In his remarks, Director-General of BCA, Mr. Anyaso O. Anyaso called for collective investment of human and other resources in the fight against FGM so as to enable the female folk to fully utilise their potential to socio-economic development of society.

Meanwhile, as the world commemorates the day of zero tolerance for the practice of FGM, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has lamented that there are numerous protection and supervisory gaps in national and international frameworks, as it affects the survivors of FGM.



ANYIM VISIT'S ADEBANJO...

L-R: Former Director General NIMASA, Dr. Ferdinand Agu; Director, Centre for International Advanced and Professional Studies, Prof Anthony Kila; Afenifere Leader, Chief Ayo Adebajo; and former Senate President and 2023 presidential aspirant, Senator Pius Anyim, during a courtesy visit to Pa Adebajo in Lagos ...yesterday

NDLEA Seizes 22,160kg Codeine, Meth, Others at Lagos Seaport, Mushin Raids

Michael Olugbode

Over 22,160 kilograms of Codeine syrup, Methamphetamine and Skunk have been seized at the Apapa seaport and a notorious drug den, Akala, Mushin, Lagos in two major operations in the state by operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency

(NDLEA).

A statement from the agency yesterday, disclosed that while a total of 14,080kg codeine syrup (8,080 litres) and 4,352.43kg cold caps used to conceal the former in a 40ft container imported from India, were intercepted on Wednesday February, 2, 2022 at the Apapa port, Cannabis/Loud/Skunk imported from

Ghana and Methamphetamine weighing 3,727.72kg were seized in an early morning raid at Akala, Mushin where it stated that 17 suspects including five females were arrested on Thursday February, 3rd. The seizure at the Lagos seaport followed intelligence from foreign partners and cooperation of other port stakeholders.

"At Akala, NDLEA Strike Force operatives in their numbers with support from the military stormed fortified warehouses in the drug den and evacuated bags and bottles of cannabis, loud, skunk, skudchies and methamphetamine as well as the 17 suspects for further investigation," it added.

It further stated that, "a female drug kingpin, Mrs. Jemilat Seriki, who was one of the owners of 12,385 pellets of Loud imported from Ghana and intercepted at Eko Atlantic beach, Victoria Island Lagos on Saturday 27th November 2021, has been arrested by narcotic officers after weeks of manhunt.

"Mrs. Seriki, a.k.a Iya Ilorin admitted being one the owners

of the consignments seized, adding that her bags of drugs had 'Jah Bless' written on them. When eventually identified and sorted, she has 16 bags with the inscription containing drugs weighing 668.85kg.

"In Niger state, a 64-year-old former Divisional Police Officer of Idanre Police station, Ondo state, who was dismissed from service for drug offences, Mr. Monday George Chika, has again been arrested with an accomplice, Emmanuel Eniola, 40, with 280 blocks of compressed cannabis weighing 168kg.

"They were arrested on Sunday 30th Jan. in Mokwa, Niger state, after their Toyota Avalon car marked EKY 429 BZ (Lagos) loaded with the substance at Idanre and heading to Kanji, Borgu area of the state was intercepted," it added.

According to the statement, at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Ikeja Lagos, attempts by some traffickers to export different quantities of Methamphetamine to Brazil and United Kingdom

were scuttled by narcotic officers at the airport.

"The first bid was made on Friday 28th January through the SAHCO export shed where operatives intercepted 0.80kg of Meth concealed in relaxer plastic container heading to the UK. A suspect, Akuta Chioma Lucy who presented the consignment for search had been arrested for further investigation.

"The second attempt was on Friday 4th February during the outward clearance of passengers at Gate 'C' Departure hall of the airport when an intending male passenger on Ethiopian Airline going to Brazil, Onyeaghal Chidi was intercepted with 500grams of Meth concealed inside three plastic hair relaxer containers.

"Also at the airport, a male passenger, Iliyasu Yushau Yushau, coming from Kampala, Uganda via Nairobi, Kenya was intercepted by operatives with 268 debit cards belonging to Access Bank, GTBank and Zenith Bank, during the inward clearance of passengers on the flight on Sunday 30th January,"

it added.

According to the statement, in Edo State, operatives on Friday, February, 4, stormed the Igbogiri forest, Orhionwon LGA and destroyed four dry season Cannabis farms measuring 3.067718 hectares, following the evacuation of 20 bags of compressed blocks of Cannabis weighing 269.5kg stored in a bush at Uzebba, Owan West LGA, the previous day and the arrest of Afadama James, 42, with 348kg cannabis at Owan, Ovia North East LGA on Wednesday February, 2nd.

Chairman/Chief Executive of NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Retd) commended officers and men of the Strike Force, Apapa seaport, MMIA, Lagos, Niger, Edo, Borno, Plateau, Kwara, FCT and Delta Commands of the Agency for the successful interdiction operations that led to the seizure of thousands of kilograms of illicit drugs from across the country in the past week. He charged them and their compatriots in other commands not to rest on their oars.

It's Dangerous to Allow Governors Determine Fate of Nigerians, Says Abia PDP

Emmanuel Ugwu-Nwogo in Umuahia

The Abia State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has expressed worry over the reported moves by some governors of the All Progressives Congress (APC) to work against the president assenting to the amended Electoral Act.

The State chairman of the party, Hon Asiforo Okere told journalists in Umuahia that governors were taking Nigeria for a ride and warned of the danger of leaving the fate of the entire nation and its democratic governance in the hands of governors who are guided by selfish interests.

He regretted that the continued delay in signing the amended electoral act into law by President Muhammadu Buhari was being masterminded by state governors, saying the APC kept "changing the goal post and finding fault with every aspect of the electoral act."

"We should not allow governors determine the fate of Nigerians. We should make laws that will stand the test of time in order to strengthen our democracy (so that) we won't continue to talk about nascent democracy," he said.

Okere, who is a former Speaker of Abia House of Assembly, stated that state chief executives should be made to understand that, "laws are made for Nigeria, not governors" and that "laws are made for tomorrow not just for

today," adding that governors only think of protecting their interests while in office.

On the electoral setbacks suffered by Abia PDP in the last general election, the party chairman vowed that PDP would never relent in its efforts to recover all the legislative seats it lost to the opposition parties in the 2019 general election.

"We are not relenting; we are forging ahead," he assured, adding that the state party leadership would soon embark on local government tours "to assess the strength of our party at the grassroots".

In the 2019 poll the ruling party suffered setbacks mostly in Abia North zone where it lost all the National Assembly seats as well as a significant number of state assembly seats to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

Okere, who emerged the Abia PDP chairman on August 2020 had on assumption of office promised to recover the lost seats. He has so far succeeded in the Aba federal constituency which had been held by the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) since 2015 but a by-election after the death of Hon Osoy Prestige gave PDP the chance to regain control.

The Abia PDP chairman restated his commitment to realise his vision of strengthening the ruling party "as never before, adding that the party was marching to the next general election season with confidence.

Amnesty Programme Empowers 1,500 More Ex-agitators

Blessing Ibunge in Port Harcourt

An additional 1,500 ex-agitators have benefitted from the Presidential Amnesty Programme's (PAP) single-digit interest loans by the Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL).

The programme had trained 400 ex-agitators on its special Train, Employ and Mentor (TEM) programme.

However, the training of the fresh 1500 ex-militants, which took place at designated centres in Delta, Rivers, Bayelsa and Akwa Ibom was in continuation of a programme for NIRSAL loans which PAP commenced last year.

The initiative was part of efforts of PAP to raise the economic prospects of people of the Niger Delta region by attracting financial support

for small and medium scale enterprises.

At the training in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, the Interim Administrator, PAP, Col. Milland Dikio (rtd), said the focus was to facilitate and enhance single digit interest loans for entrepreneurs in the region.

Dikio who was represented by the Head of Reintegration, PAP, Mr. Alfred Kemepado, said the training would help the beneficiaries of the loan to grow their businesses and mitigate risks.

Dikio in a statement signed by his Special Adviser, Media, Neotaobase Egbe, advised beneficiaries to use the loans to become successful entrepreneurs, warning that diverting the facility would create more hardship for them and further plunge the region into extreme poverty.

At the Yenagoa and Port Harcourt Centers, Dikio who

spoke through his Special Adviser on Projects, Mr. Godwin Ekpo, urged beneficiaries to form cooperatives and focus on agriculture.

Dikio said: "The facilitators were very engaging and it just gives us hope and we are hopeful that once we are done with these set and we go into the next batches, the subsequent things we will do with these people will yield result.

"We have asked them to form themselves into cooperatives, look at the agriculture value chain, production, processing, packaging and logistics end to see where they fit in.

"A lot of them have shown interest and I am hoping that maybe by tomorrow they will form themselves into different clusters in the value chain of several products.

"We are saying to everybody that cares to hear that the Niger

Delta is ready for development. Come back to the Niger Delta, come back and invest here. We are ready to receive you and we are ready to support you."

A senior Reintegration Officer in PAP, Mr. Benjamin Appah, who stood in for Col. Dikio in Warri, explained how the beneficiaries were drawn across the region for the various centers.

He said: "The names were compiled across impacted communities, PAP success stories, PAP cooperatives and the documented bonafide beneficiaries of the Amnesty Programme. We received the names through their camp leaders, their cooperatives and the post training units.

"We also gathered from the success stories of people who have been previously empowered by the amnesty office and are doing well in their businesses."



YOU CAN HAVE THEM ALL WITH OUR Personal Term Loan

Benefits

- Access up to N10 million
- Flexible repayment plan over 48 months
- Repayment from salary domiciled with the bank
- No collateral required

Visit www.polarisbanklimited.com or any of our branches closest to you to get started.



0700 POLARIS (0700 765 2747), 0806 988 0000,
01 297 9500, 01 448 2100
yescenter@polarisbanklimited.com
@polarisbankltd



www.polarisbanklimited.com
Member NDIC (DIS)

COMMENT

Editor, Editorial Page PETER ISHAKA

Email peter.ishaka@thisdaylive.com

FROM RAW MATERIALS TO PROCESSED GOODS

There are benefits in adding value to primary products before export, writes **Benedict Elujoba**

The President of the Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Mr. Akinwumi Adesina, at the recent Mid-Term Ministerial Performance Review Retreat of the President Muhammadu Buhari administration, which held in October 2021, presented what he proposed as a road map for Nigeria's economic recovery.

Among the many recommendations, the need for the federal government to significantly boost productivity and revenues from its non-oil sector, with appropriate fiscal and macroeconomic policies that will enhance international competitiveness was particularly instructive. He stated further that "Significant support should be directed toward boosting industrial manufacturing capacities." Nigeria, he opined, should also move rapidly to the top of selected value chains, such as automobiles, computers and electronics, textile and garments, and food manufacturing, transport, and logistics.

According to data from the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC), some of Nigeria's major non-oil export products include cocoa beans, sesame seeds, cigarettes, cashew nuts, finished leather, soya bean meal, cocoa butter, among others.

A critical look at the above list, which aligns with similar data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), shows that Nigeria's major non oil exports comprise mostly of raw agricultural produce.

In the last three years, only one manufacturer and exporter of finished goods has consistently remained among the top three non-oil exporters in Nigeria. This company, British American Tobacco (BAT) Nigeria, manufactures and exports cigarettes from Nigeria to Liberia, Guinea, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger Republic and other countries in the West Africa sub Region.

Consequently, this company has been chosen as a reference to demonstrate the benefits that accrue to a country when it establishes manufacturing capacities for the export of finished goods. An assessment of the additional benefits that have accrued to Nigeria on account of BAT's investments in a manufacturing plant in Nigeria, as elucidated herewith, evidently substantiates the position that the success of Nigeria's economic diversification and growth are pivoted on integration to the production and export of finished goods.

The investment in manufacturing for the production and export of finished goods drives economic development and opens up a nation's economy in several ways. Such investment is also a major driver of foreign direct investment (FDI) and also engenders the activation of idle local capital into more productive use. Our reference company, BAT Nigeria, has fetched Nigeria about \$185 million to date (including the initial investment of \$150m in 2001) by the building and expansion a state-of-the-art-factory in Ibadan.

More so, the establishment of manufacturing/processing facilities attracts further investments and capital inflows as other industries are often established at different stages of the value chain to provide inputs to the manufacturer. In the case of BAT's factory in Ibadan, this has attracted further FDI of over \$30million through A.R Packaging Nigeria Limited (formerly NAMPAK Cartons), established essentially to provide packaging services to BAT. This company too has created new jobs and built capacities on its own right, for the benefit of Nigeria.

The job creation opportunities that result from the establishment of value adding industries are immense. These occur simultaneously with development of new competencies and capacities among citizens of the



THE INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING FOR THE PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF FINISHED GOODS DRIVES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OPENS UP A NATION'S ECONOMY IN SEVERAL WAYS

polity including both technical and managerial skills.

Expansion of the value chain also means that indirect jobs are also created when a country transitions to the production of finished goods. BATN has so far created over 350,000 direct and indirect jobs, since the establishment of its manufacturing plant and subsequent upgrade to the manufacturing hub for the West Africa sub-region. The contrast is stark when it is imagined that only the raw material inputs were aggregated from local farmers and then exported by a trading company.

Governments earn revenues through various taxes, duties and levies that corporations pay into their coffers. But the amounts paid are in turn dependent on the revenues that accrue to the taxpaying entities. Companies that produce value added products earn far higher revenues than those at the primary raw material stages. Such companies are able to earn a premium for their expertise along with earnings that accrue from processing operations. Therefore, a country's earnings from taxes and levies are bolstered by the level of industrialization and the volume of value added products it produces and very importantly, exports. Our reference company demonstrates this as Nigeria has earned over \$90million in direct and indirect taxes from BATN since the company began manufacturing and exporting finished goods from Nigeria. The earnings would be just a minute fraction of this if BATN exported only tobacco leaves.

Industrialised economies are also able to compete better in international trade. A country like Nigeria in dire need of foreign exchange earnings will only achieve it through improved returns from repatriated export earnings. Our reference company again proves this as on the average, BAT repatriates over \$110 million yearly to Nigeria from exports of its products to the West African sub-region.

This alludes to how much more Nigeria's foreign exchange earnings would be if the major non-oil exports such as cash crops were processed into finished goods before export. It also speaks to how many more jobs would be created and the technical competences that will be bolstered in the process.

The crux of this discussion is to show that when value is added to primary products before export, the benefits to the nation increase geometrically. However, it must also be noted that the challenges to manufacturers are legion and stifling. From inadequate power supply, lack of infrastructure (roads, rail, etc) to suboptimal port services, the list is endless. They drive up the costs of exports and make them less competitive. The federal government needs do a lot more in the quest to improve the ease of doing business in Nigeria. An enabling business environment will make the country a haven for investors and manufacturing businesses.

The federal government though, has previously set up initiatives to accelerate Nigeria's export performance. A prime example is the Export Expansion Grant, (EEG), which is managed by the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC). The EEG aims to support active exporters in expanding their international businesses. It is meant to incentivise Nigerian exporters to expand export volume, value and improve global competitiveness of Nigerian products.

While successes were recorded initially with its implementation, the Chairman, Non-oil Export Group, (NEG), Ede Dafinone, in a public forum, last year, lamented that government had not funded the EEG for the past seven years.

Elujoba is of the Centre for the Promotion of Enterprise and Business Best Practices

LIMITS OF EXECUTIVE TIME-WASTING

Tunde Olusunle writes that the thank you visit to President Buhari by Dapo Abiodun was unnecessary

If you are very familiar with the person of Onyema Ugochukwu, one of Nigeria's most respected journalists who also served as pioneer Chairman of the Niger Delta Development Commission, (NDDC), you will know he is a gentleman to the core. For the littlest thing you do for him, Ugochukwu tells you "thank you." It could also be "I appreciate." You'll think he's an "oyinbo" man. And this is not minding the fact that he's striding steadily to the ranks of Nigeria's octogenarians. Indeed, this unassuming, urbane, cerebral and versatile personality typically sees off his guests to their cars, irrespective of whether they are older, as old, or younger than him.

When he served as Executive Director in-charge of Manpower Development, (ED, MD) and later Publications (ED, P) of the Daily Times of Nigeria Plc, Ugochukwu, had a very busy schedule. In addition to his official brief which involved personnel management and capacity building, he was also a Member of the Nigerian Stock Exchange, (NSE) and the Nigerian Council for Management Development, (CMD), respectively. He also led the Lagos chapter of the alumni association of his alma mater, the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, (UNN). There was therefore, very understandable human traffic in and out of his office. And he was never tired of playing the good host.

One of those days at the Kakawa, Lagos multi-floor headquarters of the Daily Times, Ugochukwu received a "big man" guest from the elevator. Not too long after, he had to see off another VIP, at the disembarkation point of the elevator. On these twin

visits within the span of a few minutes, Ugochukwu noticed that he ran into a colleague of his, going in, and coming out of the elevator, all by himself, each time he had business around the place. A curious Ugochukwu asked him, out of concern: "I hope everything is okay. I've seen you going into and coming out of the elevator so quickly within minutes this afternoon." Ugochukwu was shocked by the reply he got from his colleague, who said: "I had to quickly check something with the women selling drinks outside our premises. I think my messenger has been cheating me for sometime now. Whenever he's not at work, a bottle of CocaCola costs less than when he is on duty. I've caught him by the wrist today!" An exasperated Ugochukwu replied: "Jesus! You've been going up and down the lift all because of that, because of the price of Coke? But you are wasting executive time. This is unheard of." Ugochukwu's colleague was mute, brow-beaten like a schoolboy who had just been spanked for misconduct by his teacher as both men walked the corridor of the executive floor, quietly, each of them making a detour at the wing of his office. For Ugochukwu, the time spent by his colleague, hopping in and out of the elevator like an excited child, could have been productively deployed in doing other more tangible things.

This incident, particularly the kernel of Ugochukwu's admonition to his colleague during that memorable incident, has been playing around my mind, since I saw the images and videos of the recent visit of Dapo Abiodun, governor of Ogun State, and a team of elders who paid a visit to

President Muhammadu Buhari, last week. Also on that delegation was our venerable, octogenarian Olusegun Osoba, a most highly regarded journalist, administrator and former governor of Ogun State; Chairman of the Ogun State council of traditional rulers, Oba Babatunde Ajayi; Salimot Badru, a former deputy governor and Suleiman Adegunwa, a foremost industrialist. The delegation was in Aso Villa, to convey the gratitude of the people of Ogun State, to the President, for visiting the state on Thursday January 13, 2022.

On the occasion of Buhari's visit, Abiodun's colleagues particularly from the south west, rallied round him, to receive the president. Kayode Fayemi of Ekiti State, Rotimi Akeredolu (Ondo), Babajide Sanwo-Olu (Lagos), Gboyega Oyetola (Osun) and Rauf Olaniyan (Oyo State deputy governor), joined in solidarity. In the name of joining their colleague to host the president that day, therefore, a virtual public holiday was declared in the states of jurisdiction of these governors. For a fact, practically nothing gets done in most Nigerian states, when the governor is away.

Former Ogun State governors led by Osoba, Gbenga Daniel and Ibikunle Amosun, as well as the caretaker chairman of the All Progressives Congress, (APC) and Yobe State governor, Mai Mala Buni, were also on the welcome party. In the last two years, Buni by the way, has been floating across the country on his ad hoc assignment, practically abdicating his core responsibilities in Damaturu, as the state drifts in autopilot. Buni is in good company though, because some of his colleagues have long relocated

their vitafoam mattresses to Abuja, appropriating meaty chunks of the federation allocation accounts due to their states at source, some dreaming and posturing as Buhari's anointed successor.

I'm told the idea of post-visit "appreciation" excursions by governors to the president, has become gold standard, especially since the advent of the incumbent government. To this effect, Abiodun is actually a blaze-trailer in this circumstance, and not specifically, a trail-blazer. By the way, I served in the State House for eight full years, my office architecturally and officially contiguous to the President's. I should remember a thing or two about the extant customs and traditions of Aso Rock. I'm not sure I remember that such a practice was the vogue under the hands-on Commander-in-Chief, I worked with. He was for a fact, a mobile secretariat himself. A telephone call from his immediate host, would have sufficed, in his own case. Both Abiodun, and his host on the Abuja mission, the president, are culpable, in my view. The perpetuation of official inanities in any guise, does not in any way legitimise such idiocy. I consider the Abiodun visit to Buhari, a total waste of executive time, the type Ugochukwu upbraided his colleague about, three decades ago.

Abiodun's thank you visit to Buhari, may not have been his first trip, in the run up to the actualisation of that presidential visit to Ogun State. From my little knowledge of governmental bureaucracy, Abiodun must have toured Abuja at least twice before the Abeokuta visit of the president.

Dr. Olusunle, poet, journalist, scholar and author, is a Member of the Nigerian Guild of Editors

TACKLING PREVENTABLE DISEASES

The authorities could do more to contain many cheap deaths

Data from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) reveal that at least 32 people died of Lassa fever in the first three weeks of 2022. These deaths arose from 170 confirmed cases within the period. Although the NCDC says the case fatality rate (CFR) of 18.8% is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2021 (25.0%), it is a shame that Nigerians are dying from this preventable disease, and in such large number. Named after a Nigerian village where it was first discovered in 1969, Lassa virus is transmitted to man by infected multi-mammate rats and humans become infected from direct contact with the urine and faeces of the rat carrying the virus.

Even though cholera had killed more people than COVID-19 in Nigeria, according to NCDC, it

THE LINGERING OUTBREAK OF LASSA FEVER RISKS BEING TREATED AS A LESS PRIORITY BY NIGERIAN POLICYMAKERS DUE TO THE SOCIAL CLASS AND LOCATION OF THE VICTIMS

was treated as less deadly and wasn't a national emergency. The demographics of the affected, of course, influenced the direction and measures of intervention

devised by the government. Unlike cholera cases, which have been more rampant in rural and poor parts of the country, COVID-19 has wrecked higher social classes, including policymakers. The lingering outbreak of Lassa fever risks being treated as a less priority by Nigerian policymakers due to the social class and location of the victims.

Fortunately, with effective coordination, the disease can be contained quickly but the real challenge is to work towards its total eradication from Nigeria. We hope the authorities will take both preventive and long-term measures this time around so that we do not continue to lose our citizens to the virus that has become another national emblem of shame.

The federal government should deploy the



National Orientation Agency (NOA) for a public awareness campaign on the issue. Experts have advised that people should ensure their food (cooked or uncooked) is properly covered while regular handwashing should be adhered to. The bush around the home should also be cleared regularly while windows and doors of the house should be closed especially when it is nighttime. The public should also be adequately enlightened on the dangers posed by rats in their homes.

The absence of primary health care system for preventable diseases such as yellow fever, Lassa fever, polio, cholera, and measles has contributed to cheap deaths in our country. Yet, the first anchor in any strategy to improve the wellbeing of the people is to provide them with an unimpeded access to functional primary health care system. The basic objective of all developments is to get the people to enjoy healthy and creative lives. It is no use sermonising when the people lack access to basic primary health care.

According to WHO, no human should die from preventable diseases, yet what kills most Nigerians are diseases that are easily preventable. To address this challenge, there is an urgent need for public enlightenment on healthy living. On yellow fever, for instance, the interruption of regular mass vaccination campaigns in Nigeria has contributed mainly to its resurgence. While it may no longer be news that tobacco kills and harms the health of millions of Nigerians, even when statistics may not be readily available, many of our young people are introduced to smoking every day, indicating a failure of the system put in place to enforce the National Tobacco Control Act 2015.

More surveillance, more awareness, more resources and better coordination will be necessary to reduce deaths from these preventable diseases. Covid-19 has stretched public attention and resources. It is important that we do not allow necessary focus on the pandemic to distract attention from the more localised epidemics, especially Lassa fever.

THISDAY

EDITOR SHAKA MOMODU

DEPUTY EDITORS WALE OLALEYE, OBINNA CHIMA

MANAGING DIRECTOR ENIOLA BELLO

DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR ISRAEL IWEGBU

CHAIRMAN EDITORIAL BOARD OLUSEGUN ADENIYI

EDITOR NATION'S CAPITAL IYOBOSA UWUGIAREN

MANAGING EDITOR BOLAJI ADEBIYI

THE OMBUDSMAN KAYODE KOMOLAFE

THISDAY

THISDAY NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/CHAIRMAN NDUKA OBAIGBENA

GROUP EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ENIOLA BELLO, KAYODE KOMOLAFE,

ISRAEL IWEGBU, IJEOMA NWOGWUGWU, EMMANUEL EFENI

DIVISIONAL DIRECTORS SHAKA MOMODU, PETER IWEGBU,

ANTHONY OGEDENGBE

DEPUTY DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR OJOGUN VICTOR DANBOYI

SNR. ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR ERIC OJEH

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR PATRICK EIMIUHI

CONTROLLERS ABIMBOLA TAIWO, UCHENNA DIBIAGWU, NDUKA MOSERI

DIRECTOR, PRINTING PRODUCTION CHUKS ONWUDINJO

TO OUR READERS

Letters in response to specific publications in THISDAY should be brief (150-200 words) and straight to the point. Interested readers may send such letters along with their contact details to opinion@thisdaylive.com. We also welcome comments and opinions on topical local, national and international issues provided they are well-written and should also not be longer than (950-1000 words). They should be sent to opinion@thisdaylive.com along with the email address and phone numbers of the writer.

Letters to the Editor

LAGOS, MSMES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Being the nation's commercial and industrial hub, the Lagos State Government rightly recognizes the Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as sure catalysts for socio-economic growth. This is because they are responsible for employment generation, wealth creation, empowerment, innovation, income generation and prosperity.

Consequently, the development of MSMEs is being consciously driven in the State through initiation and implementation of policies that create and foster a positive business environment. This is aimed at enhancing technical and non-technical entrepreneurial skills and improves access to networks and financial services in the State.

Till date, the administration of Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has made vital interventions in advancing the course of MSMEs in the State with a view to achieving its vision of transforming Lagos into a 21st century economy. The government has established and commissioned the first of its kind, Eko Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Fashion HUB 1 in Alade Market, Allen Avenue, Ikeja. The facility is an end-to-end fashion production center equipped with modern industrial textile and fashion machines.

The Fashion HUB is designed for the public to use for a stipend especially for those who cannot afford to own their own machines and let shops from landlords. It is being managed by an expert in the fashion industry.

In order to strategically harness the potential of local entrepreneurs toward developing the State economy, the government conceived the idea of the Lagos Corporate Assembly. It is a forum where the governor and other top government functionaries meet with the business community to receive feedbacks from the Organized Private Sector (OPS)

on policy implementation, regulations and projects as they impact on business prosperity of the State. The aim is to further use such feedback for planning, regulations and policy formulation.

Also, in a bid to promote locally made products, the Lagos State Export Promotion Committee was set up at the state level. It comprises members from both public and the private sectors.

A major mandate of the committee is the promotion of non-oil export in Lagos State. This is in line with the policy to diversify the economy away from oil and build a formidable economy. The committee is to assist in development and promotion of export product-oriented industries.

In order to assist the industries in the State to pursue and obtain necessary export incentives; collection and dissemination of information on products that are available for export.

As part of efforts to further encourage the MSMEs through the provision of industrial workstations, the Imota Light Industrial Park has also been conceived to provide built up factory units for small scale industrialists, particularly those in the food value chain.

The facility has provision for 44 factory units of various sizes, including ancillary facilities such as the administrative building, fire service state, gate house, clinic, water booster station and canteen.

The Sanwo-Olu administration has equally continued to sustain and maintain the existing State's small scale industrial estates situated in Matori I and Matori II and Isolo as well as the industrial shed at Sabo in Ikorodu.

In furtherance of the need to provide additional work space for MSMEs, the government is at the verge of establishing another small scale industrial estate in Gberibe in Ikorodu Local Government.

Regular sponsorship of MSMEs Exclusive Fair is one veritable vehicle being used to support MSMEs in the State. The Institution of MSME Exclusive Fair was conceptualized to build a strong public-private support system that would enhance the capacity of MSMEs for economic diversification.

At the Fairs, top government officials usually intermingle with diverse MSME operators in order to get necessary information on their prospects and challenges.

The Fairs regularly focus largely on quality improvements in the MSMEs' production processes and outputs so as to encourage the development of globally competitive products and services.

The main goals include offering indigenous producers increased leverage for market access and global visibility, encouraging quality comparison and innovative improvements for local and international competitiveness, promoting MSMEs linkages with trade support and market facilitation channels, especially e-commerce and facilitating linkages for investment opportunities and export development.

Till date, the Fairs have been able to achieve increased patronage and global visibility of locally made products in Lagos State, healthier and more supportive business environment, stronger and more sustainable enterprises as well as increased business networks, sales opportunities and market access for small indigenous brands.

Over 3000 local MSMEs entrepreneurs have so far taken part in the Fairs with over 20 regulatory agencies providing institutional support, while over 10,000 daily visitors (buyers, investors and prospective entrepreneurs) are being targeted.

Tayo Ogunbiyi, Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Ministry of Information & Strategy, Alausa, Ikeja

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS OF TERRORISM AND COUNTER-TERRORISM IN NIGERIA JANUARY 1 -31, 2022



January 1st

a Leaders of terror gangs, Alhaji Auta and Kachalla Ruga neutralised in Gusami Forest and Tsamre Village in Birnin Magaji LGA, Zamfara.

b Zamfara police command rescue 21 Islamiyya school children abducted by criminals



January 2nd

a Christian Association of Nigeria, Kaduna confirm that 120 students of Bethel Baptist High School have been released by their abductors

b Terror in Kaduna as terrorist attack leads to several missing persons and deaths in Chikun, Igabi and Zangon Kataf LGA



January 3rd

Abou Maryam , new ISWAP commander confirmed neutralised by Nigeria's Air Force operations



January 4th

a ISWAP claims responsibility for an attack on military post in Marte, Borno State

b Nearly 100 hostages; mostly women and children rescued more than two months after kidnap by armed groups in Northwest Nigeria.



January 5th

Nigerian Government gazettes declaration of bandit groups as terrorists



January 6th

Nigerian Army shuts Song cattle market after intelligence reveals that terrorists were trading in rustled cattle



January 7th

Nigerian troops neutralise Boko Haram members in Mobbar, Borno.



January 8th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters confirms that 11,000+ Child fighters surrendered in 2021



January 9th

4 persons kidnapped in Rafindaji community, Gulida Chieftdom, Abaji Area Council FCT, Abuja



January 10th

ISWAP attacks Tukur Yusufu Buratai Institute for War and Peace (TBI),Biu LGA, Borno State



January 11th

a Nigerian Army redeploys General Officers Commanding (GOCs),senior officers

b Criminals attack three communities in Niger and Plateau states ; burn houses while several are feared dead



January 12th

a 3 Students of Plateau Polytechnic rescued by Military Unit ; Operation Hadin Kai

b Military's special forces rescue 26 kidnap victims on the BirinGwari - Kaduna road



January 13th

"Guzamala, Abadam LGAs remain under Boko Haram control" - Governor Babagana Zulum



January 14th

Boko Haram abduct police officers at Police Training College in Gwoza LGA, Borno



January 15th

Armed Forces Remembrance Day ; Chief of Defence Staff, Gen. Lucky Irabor asks widows of fallen heroes, Nigerians, not to mourn but thank God that such men lived



January 16th

4 kidnapped students from University of Lafia, Nasarawa State freed after four days



January 17th

Nigeria's Army dislodges IPOB / ESN enclaves in Anambra forest



January 18th

a Terrorist make attempt to levy several communities in Zamfara State

b Security agencies rescue abducted Plateau Monarch, arrest suspected kidnapers



January 19th

Delta State Government donates 5 armoured carriers to army, police



January 20th

Boko Haram terrorists raze Church, abduct girls in Village near Chibok



January 21st

United Nations (UN) appoints Nigeria's Gen Olufemi Sawyer as Commander, military mission in South-Sudan



January 22nd

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) commends humanitarian effort, partnership with Nigerian Military



January 23rd

"University of Maiduguri (UNIMAID) now safer for students to learn" Aliyu Shugaba, Vice Chancellor UNIMAID



January 24th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters confirms military units have eliminated another wanted ISWAP Commander, Mallam Ari in Borno



January 25th

a Troops of 401 Special Forces Brigade, 19 Brigade Baga destroy planned site for ISWAP Caliphate in Borno

b Security Operatives neutralise ISWAP Fighters at Kainji National Park, New Bussa in Borgu LGA, Niger State.



January 26th

Troops of 25 Task Force Brigade Damboa, Borno State identify, destroy Boko Haram/ ISWAP night market at Gumsuri



January 27th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters improves access for citizens, journalists to get information about fight against terrorism



January 28th

Troops of 5 Brigade attack Boko Haram hideout in Douro near Damasak, Borno State. Several terrorists neutralised



January 29th

Troops of 120 Task Force Battalion, Sector 2, Joint Task Force (JTF), Operation Hadin Kai neutralise terrorists at Goniri, Yobe



January 30th

Several feared dead as criminals attack Atak Mawai village, Zangon Kataf LGA in Kaduna. Destroy properties



January 31st

Nigeria, United Kingdom security chiefs meet in London to advance security collaboration

Source:
Community Reports, Broadcast Media and Private Investigation

Stories have been verified by independent, non-partisan domestic and foreign journalism institutions. Dates of event may differ due to incident recording and reporting times.



BEYOND STREAMING

WWW.ARISEPLAY.COM

@ARISEPLAY

For more information contact:
info@ariseplay.com

VISIT THE WEBSITE; DOWNLOAD THE APP, SUBSCRIBE
AND START YOUR STREAMING EXPERIENCE TODAY.

THE MUSKETEERS



MOVIES TRENDING ON ARISEPLAY

7 TO 13 FEBRUARY 2022: THE MUSKETEERS

All for One and One for All: The Musketeers is a swashbuckling world of adventure and action, packed with exciting heroes, adventure and romance. This BBC version is a contemporary take on the classic characters created by Alexandre Dumas in his much-loved novel. Set on the streets of 17th-century Paris, the Series follows honourable Musketeers Athos, Aramis and Porthos as they fight for justice in a dangerous world. Stream the complete box-set of 3 Series now, exclusively on ARISEPlay.

The Musketeers – Series 1: The Beginning

The road to honour and glory is a long one that's not even close to straight as these noble guards to the King of France find in their numerous adventures. In Series 1 we meet the young D'Artagnan who joins Athos, Aramis and Porthos in friendship to become one of the Musketeers. As tensions rise between Spain and France, it is the job of the Musketeers and their Captain, Treville to protect the French lands. But, with the Red Guards, under Cardinal Richelieu's control, causing corruption within the kingdom, it is difficult to do so. Meanwhile, the four Musketeers become great friends as they try to leave the past behind and become the soldiers they were meant to be.

The Musketeers – Series 2: The Pits and Falls

Fully-fledged Musketeers Athos, D'Artagnan, Aramis and Porthos continue their missions to protect the King and his people. However, new dangers arise when a new baddie, Comte de Rochefort becomes King Louis XIII's advisor following the Cardinal's death. Not to mention, Aramis tries to hide the secret that he is the real father of the anointed prince of France. With 10 episodes, we go on several adventures with the musketeers to uncovers secrets and avoid traps.

The Musketeers – Series 3: The Dying Days

Athos, D'Artagnan and Porthos have spent the past five years on the war front fighting the Spanish. Aramis has been at a monastery helping to care for orphaned children. Through the course of battle, The Musketeers fall together again and return to Paris. The Maquis de Feron has been given Rochefort's position as the King's advisor and has control over Captain Marcheaux and his Red Guard. King Louis XIII is still dying but not even Queen Anne is aware.

These MOVIES and more are available to ARISEPlay subscribers:



THE MUSKETEERS SERIES 1



THE MUSKETEERS SERIES 2



THE MUSKETEERS SERIES 3

POLITICS

Group Politics Editor NSEOBONG OKON-EKONG

Email: nseobong.okonekong@thisdaylive.com

08114495324 SMS ONLY

MONDAY DISCOURSE

Electoral Bill and Cons of Consensus Option

Udora Orizu writes on the cons of the consensus option approved by the National Assembly in the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill



Buhari



Lawan



Gbajabiamila



Yakubu

Members of the Senate and House of Representatives at the plenary last week passed the harmonised Clause 84 of the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, which allows political parties to adopt three modes of primaries, direct, indirect and consensus.

In July 2021, Clause 52(2) split the 9th Assembly Senators and House of Representatives members along party lines in the course of considering the clauses of the entire report. The contentious clause saw most of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) Senators and House members rejecting the calls for electronic transmission of election results by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) while the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) members voted for electronic transmission of poll results.

Eventually the Bill was passed in the House, with the controversial Clause 52(2) intact. As outrage trailed the lawmakers decision, with many Nigerians accusing them of plotting to delegitimise future elections, the lawmakers reconvening after their two months annual holiday heeded to public demand for the electronic transmission of electoral results in the new act. The lawmakers however, as suggested by the House Speaker, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila resolved that political parties should adopt direct primary as mode of electing their candidates for elective offices.

Gbajabiamila, while hosting a delegation of the Nigerian youths on a thank-you visit for his role on direct primaries, led by the Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Sunday Dare, said direct primaries would bring more accountability and adequate representation as political office holders would

not be restricted to pleasing a group of people selected as delegates, but work for the interest of the generality of party members, and by extension, the electorate.

He said he observed that many Nigerians, especially the youths, were desirous to participate fully in the election of those that would represent them, right from the grassroots level, hence his resolve to champion direct primaries.

The Speaker, while noting that said some members of the political class might not be comfortable with the arrangement, but that the majority of the masses were in support of direct primaries, which he said would give them the opportunity of deciding who would represent them.

The proposed legislation, was however not assented to by President Muhammadu Buhari. Buhari cited the provisions of Clause 84, which made

direct primary compulsory for all political parties in electing candidates for elections, as his reason for declining assent.

Bowling to Buhari's Demand

In Nigeria there exist three arms of government that include the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. These arms of government function on the principle of separation of powers, however, it is common knowledge that the main power resides with the Executive arm, particularly, the Presidency.

So, when President Buhari spoke during an exclusive interview on Channels TV, January 5, it was no surprise that the legislature known to always heed to majority of the President's requests, included his suggestion of consensus as an option in the electoral Bill.

Buhari had in the interview stated his readiness to sign the Electoral Act Amendment Bill after the National

Assembly makes the necessary adjustments.

He said such changes must include the addition of consensus candidates, indirect primary options to the mode of selecting a candidate for an election, as against the initial direct mode as the only option to conduct primaries by political parties.

His words: "Personally, I do not support direct primary because I want people to be given a choice. You can't give them one option and think that you are being democratic. Let them have three options, there is the consensus. I didn't tell the legislators what I didn't like. All I said is that there should be options and once that is done, I will sign. We must not insist that it has to be direct; it should be consensus and indirect."

The Senate had earlier passed the three modes of primaries, but the version of the House of Representatives did not include the consensus arrangement. The Federal Lawmakers, resuming plenary after its Christmas and New Year break, cowered on their last year's decision to override the President's veto, by recommitting the bill, adding other options, as advised by the President. The harmonised version accommodated the direct, indirect, and consensus modes of primary election.

The House Speaker, Gbajabiamila who presided over the session said: "You will recall that this House last week looked into the complaints and added the provision of indirect primaries to our law. Unfortunately, on the other side, the Senate added both Indirect and consensus which necessitated the possible need for a conference committee of both houses. The leadership of the

The lawmakers created some tough conditions for political parties that choose to adopt the consensus option, one of which is to obtain written consent from any aspirant withdrawing from the race, the option is still seen as undemocratic, and subject to abuse by politicians given the Machiavellian nature of politics in Nigeria

Continued on page 19

Why APC Should Settle for Akume as National Chair

Sufuyan Ojeifo proposes that the All Progressives Congress should concede its national chairmanship to Senator George Akume from Benue State to rival the choice of Dr. Iyorchia Ayu, his kinsman, as national chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party

In this dispensation, I honestly crave for a repeat of the political contestation between the late Chief Tony Anenih and Chief Tom Ikimi in Edo State during the ill-fated Third Republic. This could spice up the 2023 political contestation between the governing All Progressives Congress (APC) and the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). The political actors can deliberately inspire a feeling of *de javu* by recreating the 1992/1993 scenario when the defunct Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the National Republican Convention (NRC) produced their national chairmen not only from Edo State but also from the same Esan ethnic nationality.

Anenih, who stepped in the saddle consequent upon Ambassador Babagana Kingibe's resignation as national chairman to seek the SDP's presidential ticket, was from Uromi while Ikimi of the NRC is from Igueben. Both towns were not too far away from each other. That scenario brought out the best of politicking in Edo State. The fact that the leaderships of the two political parties were domiciled in the state put considerable pressure on the party leaders and their respective structures. Both Anenih and Ikimi tried to outwit each other in the battle for control of Edo to prove who, between them, owned the land?

But that question was resolved in favour of Anenih who, using the governorship election as a battleground, produced Chief John Odigie-Oyegun as governor of the State on the SDP platform. The battle for control saw the Iyasele (Prime Minister) of Esanland tame the Oduma (Lion) of Igueben and Akinrogun (Brave warrior) of Ile-Ife in a bruising political fight that saw SDP's candidate, Odigie-Oyegun, defeat NRC's candidate, Chief Lucky Igbinedion. The battle was quite interesting. It provided an opportunity for both Anenih and Ikimi to put either of the parties on a significant one-state lead while leaders in other states battled to deliver their states to their respective parties. It would be very interesting if the APC can deliberately take steps to recreate this scenario prelude to the 2023 general elections.

The proposition supra is helped by the fact that the PDP had, on October 31, 2021, settled for a Tiv man, Dr Iyorchia Ayu who was Senate President in the ill-fated Third Republic and Minister under the junta and the administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo, as its national chairman, through consensus that was ratified at its last national convention. It was a seamless process that somewhat boded well for the party.

Why can't the APC toe the same path by intentionally micro-zoning the position of national chair to the North Central? It could deliberately further micro-zone it to Benue State to enable a former two-term Governor of the State, three-term senator and current minister of special duties and intergovernmental affairs, George Akume, to emerge as the party's



Ayu



Akume

consensus candidate to ignite political contestation with Ayu right from Benue State?

First, consensus will serve the party better. It will save the party the efforts that it would normally deploy in reconciling disparate aspirants and their supporters in the event of a fractious national convention. Second, an Akume consensus option will throw into the mix a re-enactment of the Anenih-Ikimi political contestation. This time round, it will be Akume-Ayu's political face-off to determine who is more popular politically and electorally, and in fact, who between them the people would follow when it comes to choice of a preferred leader.

Arun through the vital political statistics of these two men shows a scenario that is as intriguing if not more intriguing than the Anenih-Ikimi situation. Both Akume and Ayu are Tiv. In fact, a grapevine hinted that it is a fence that separates the houses of both men in Gboko. Both had been in the Senate; both had been ministers; in fact, Akume is a serving minister in Buhari's government. Whereas, Akume had been governor of the state for two terms; Ayu was never governor of Benue. That gives Akume an edge over him. And, also, whereas, both had contested and won elections, Akume's electoral outings—two governorship contests and four senatorial contests, to boot—also clearly outclass Ayu's single electoral outing from 1991-1993.

Beyond this ethnic pigeonholing, what in terms of external influence, political gravitas, electoral charm and national network of allies can either of them leverage to win the sympathy of Nigerians and those watching Nigeria's political landscape from outside for their respective

parties? How robustly can the duo deploy their personas in getting the support of Nigerians? While Akume's political pedigree as a grassroots politician, who throws the doors of his house wide open to both the rich and the hoi polloi to ingress and egress, places him at an advantageous position to most possibly enjoy national association in a contest of popularity and acceptability, Ayu's writ-large elitist politics has always created a gulf between him and the people. That was, perhaps, the reason he could not sustain his quest for elective offices beyond his senatorial outing in the ill-fated Third Republic. He would thereafter play the big-league prebendal politics in which ministerial positions are shared in Abuja to cronies and associates who claim leadership of the parties in the states. That was why he was able to get appointed as Minister of Education 1993-98 under the junta, then Minister of Industry between 1999 and 2001, Minister of Internal Affairs from July 2003 to 2005 and Minister of Environment from June 2005 to December 2005 under the Olusegun Obasanjo administration.

Akume at 68 and Ayu at 69 qualify as elder statesmen in their own right. They have the sagacity derived from political experience to navigate the political terrain and carry along their party leaders and members for the 2023 political contest, that is assuming the APC settles for Akume. But a quiet opinion sample of the temperament of both men has returned positive responses in favour of Akume, who many described as though sedate, yet highly fecund. His capacity for political accommodation was also underscored in the opinion sample. This character appraisal contrasts sharply with Ayu's elitist "arrogance" that is fueled purport-

edly by his academic accomplishments and this disposition might not augur well for him within the precincts of the opposition PDP where he needs to exercise self-restraint in close personal or open wider interactions.

Ayu, having already assumed the driver's seat of the PDP, courtesy of the consensus arrangement that threw him up, the only thing APC can do to counter and diminish his choice is to push Akume forward as its battle axe to contain him at home. It will be quite interesting to see the battle for the soul of Nigeria in 2023 begin from Benue, which occupies a strategic place in the politics of North Central zone. The northern identity of Benue in the geographical context, cannot be denied just as the fact that the State is predominantly Christian. Both Ayu and Akume, if the scenario is consummated by the APC's acquiescence in generating northern consensus around Akume, will be projected on the same religious card, just as Anenih and Ikimi.

Remarkably, Ayu has the national chair of the PDP already in his kitty. To get over-engaged in the business of deconstructing and interrogating his essential place in the politics of Nigeria is neither here nor there as he is already a fait accompli for the opposition party, at least between now and the time the party's presidential candidate would emerge. Akume, on the other hand, and quite a number of aspirants from the northern region who are jostling for the APC topmost job are staking their reputations in the race to lead the party. Interestingly, it is a star-studded field comprising mostly former governors, including Senator Umaru Tanko Al-Makura from Nasarawa, Senator Abdulaziz Abubakar Yari from Zamfara, Senator Ali Modu Sheriff from Borno, and Senator Kashim Shettima also from Borno.

A race by Akume with all of these political giants in the APC will put the party under considerable pressure. Is it the contemplation of President Muhammadu Buhari and the leadership of the party to cause tension and, in the corollary, stress out the party on the eve of an election year? The contemplation and consideration now should be how to surmount and/or calm the raging storm of aspirations, ambitions and desperation through consensus. That should be the conversation to undergird the process. The APC is not new to this option. It was the option that has produced all its national chairmen from inception till date: Chief Bisi Akande, Chief John Odigie-Oyegun, Comrade Adams Aliyu Oshiomhole and even Hon. Mai Mala Buni who chairs a Caretaker Committee that is working round the clock to midwife the birth of a substantive national chairman.

NOTE: Interested readers should continue in the online edition on www.thisdaylive.com

Electoral Bill and Cons of Consensus Option

House and the Senate met Monday and in the interest of speedy passage and also to deepen our democracy, the House and the Senate have decided to add, I believe the consensus provision but with certain provisos and those provisos hopefully we will agree and consider them today to protect all aspirants for all positions so that we will all have an even playing field."

To be fair to the lawmakers they acted in the interest of Nigerians, particularly the adoption of electronic transmission of election results in the new bill. However most citizens saw the decision from direct to indirect and then, consensus as the parliament's usual way of pleasing the Executive arm of government.

Content of Clause 84(9) for Consensus Candidate

On Consensus Candidate the bill in 84(9)(a) provides, "A political party that adopts a consensus candidate shall secure the written consent of all cleared aspirants

for the position, indicating their voluntary withdrawal from the race and their endorsement of the consensus candidate."

It goes further in paragraph (b) that, "Where a political party is unable to secure the written consent of all cleared aspirants for the purpose of a consensus candidate, it shall revert to the choice of direct or indirect primaries for the nomination of candidates for the aforesaid elective positions."

The Bill states in paragraph (c) that, "A Special Convention or nomination Congress shall be held to ratify the choice of consensus candidates at designated centres at the National, State, Senatorial, Federal and State Constituencies, as the case may be."

Cons of Consensus Option

Though the lawmakers created some tough conditions for political parties that choose to adopt the consensus op-

tion, one of which is to obtain written consent from any aspirant withdrawing from the race, the option is still seen as undemocratic, and subject to abuse by politicians given the Machiavellian nature of politics in Nigeria.

From the sentiments espoused by Niccolo Machiavelli in his book *The Prince*, it is clear that he believed that politics and conventional morality cannot go together. Despite the return of democratic rule in Nigeria, the political arena of 21st century in the country has a deadly resemblance to that of 13th century political Europe.

As every election season approaches, Nigerian politics becomes dangerous, with politicians displaying, a winner-take-it-all, end justifies the means attitude, to the detriment of the citizens.

With 2023 general election fast approaching, this piece of legislation if assented to by President Muhammadu Buhari might lead to series of litigations

by aspirants at the level of party primaries. Also, the option takes away the only real power the people have, which is to vote in their preferred candidate. Furthermore, there are reasons candidates should be subjected to elections because once you adopt consensus, you subvert popular will and so members of the party are not given the opportunity to nominate candidates. Nomination, therefore becomes the exclusive preserve of political big wigs in the party to determine who a candidate is.

What Next?

Briefing journalists shortly after plenary, last Wednesday, the spokesman of the House of Representatives, Hon. Benjamin Kalu expressed optimism that once the Bill is transmitted to Buhari in seven days, he will look at it as quickly as possible. Despite concerns on the inclusion of consensus option, Nigerians are hopeful that this time, President Buhari will not hesitate to do the needful and assent to the Bill.

**Announcing
the launch of**

**ARISE▶
MOVIE
BOX**

ARISEPLAY'S CONTENT SUBMISSION PLATFORM

With **MOVIEBOX**, you can now submit your content for qualification to benefit from our extensive marketing bundle. Once selected your content will be published on the **ARISEPlay** platform to our audience.

Are you a film owner, producer or director looking to give your creation the exposure it deserves? Then checkout MOVIEBOX today.

For more information visit:

MOVIEBOX.ariseplay.com



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA OFFICIAL ENERGY, OIL AND GAS EVENT



Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation



FORMERLY NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM SUMMIT

REVITALIZING THE INDUSTRY: FUTURE FUELS AND ENERGY TRANSITION

27TH FEBRUARY - 3RD MARCH 2022 | ABUJA, NIGERIA

(STATE HOUSE BANQUET HALL, ASO VILLA | INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE)

Held under the leadership of H.E. Muhammadu Buhari GCFR,
President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR		GUESTS OF HONOUR			HOST
 H.E. Muhammadu Buhari GCFR President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria		 H.E. Prof. Yemi Osinbajo GCON Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	 Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan Senate President, Nigeria	 Right Hon. Femi Gbajabamila Speaker, House of Representatives	 Chief Timipre Sylva Honourable Minister of State, Petroleum Resources, Federal Republic of Nigeria
 H.E. Muhammad Sanusi Barkindo Secretary General, Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	 H.E. Dr. Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu Former Minister of State, Petroleum Resources, Nigeria	 Mr. Mele Kolo Kyari Group Managing Director, NNPC Limited	 H.E. Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima Minister of Mines & Hydrocarbon, Equatorial Guinea	 H.E. Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh Ghana Minister for Energy	 H.E. Abubakar Aliyu Honourable Minister, Ministry of Power, Nigeria
 Engr. Simbi K. Wabote Executive Secretary/CE, Nigerian Content Development & Monitoring Board (NCDMB)	 Mrs. Rolake Akinkugbe-Filani Advisory Board Member, Africa Energy Chamber	 Mrs. Elohor Aiboni Managing Director, SNEPCo	 Mr. Rick Kennedy Chairman, Oil Producers Trade Section/Managing Director, Chevron Nigeria Limited	 Mr. Osagie Okunbor Chairman/Managing Director, Shell Companies in Nigeria/Managing Director, SPDC	 Mrs. Dolapo Kukoyi Managing Partner, Details Solicitors
 Mr. Abdulrazaq Isa Chairman, IPPG/Waltersmith Petroleum Oil Ltd	 Ms. Iroghoma Ogbeifun Managing Director, Starz Investment Ltd	 Mrs. Oghogho Effiom Regional Director, Africa, Society of Petroleum Engineers	 Mr. Philip Mselbila Managing Director/CEO, Nigeria LNG Limited	 Mr. Richard Laing Chairman/Managing Director, ExxonMobil Companies in Nigeria	 Mr. Michael Zhuang Managing Director, Huawei Nigeria EBU

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS & SPONSORS



EVENT PRODUCERS:



REGISTER NOW: WWW.NIGERIAENERGYSUMMIT.COM

For Sponsorship, Exhibition & Delegate Bookings Contact:
+234 706 334 5050, +234 815 944 8287, +234 802 324 1280

FEATURES

Group Features Editor: Chiemelie Ezeobi

Email chiemelie.ezeobi@thisdaylive.com, 07010510430

#ReformIELTS Policy: Movement against Exploitation

The renewed call for an urgent policy reform on the International English Language Testing System, IELTS, a work, study and migration prerequisite for Nigerians in search of opportunities in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United States of America and United Kingdom is at its boiling point, generating hot debates online and more signatories to the petition directed at the UK Home Office. **Yinka Olatunbosun** reports

The on-going outrage against the conditions for the operation of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) in Nigeria is perhaps long overdue. English, being the official language in Nigeria, is the language of business communication and study from elementary to tertiary level.

According to the National Universities Commission (NUC), there are 49 federal universities, 54 state universities and 99 private universities in Nigeria. All of these teach in the English language. But if a Nigerian graduate is planning to relocate or study for a postgraduate qualification in the aforementioned countries, he has to take the IELTS.

Most schools or countries of interest seek scores not less than 6.0. If you are brilliant enough to earn more than that at your first attempt, your beautiful result is only valid for two years.

Many Nigerians find it puzzling that the driver's license expires in five years; an international passport expires in five or ten years but IELTS expires in only two years. While a driver's physical or mental state can change within a few years, it beats one's imagination that a person's tested proficiency in a language can possibly wane at all.

Like everything else in the past two years, the cost of writing IELTS in Nigeria has been reviewed upwards. The test which cost N75,000 in 2020 has been increased by 19.3 per cent. For some years, many prospective candidates have sought after schools that do not make IELTS a prerequisite for admitting holders of undergraduate courses taught in English for their programmes.

It was discovered that many Anglophone countries in Africa have the majority of its population living below \$5.50 per day. According to the World Bank, Nigeria has the highest poverty rate in Africa with 92 per cent of its population living below \$5.50 per day.

On Twitter, the agitation got louder last week as soon as a Port-Harcourt based development journalist and founder, Policy Shapers, Ebenezer Wikina called for a collective action to reform the policy that governs IELTS in Nigeria and perhaps other Anglophone countries in Africa.

"Nigeria is not a French-speaking country but if a Nigerian writes DELF for N16,000, the result is valid for life. But despite being an English-speaking country, I have to write IELTS for N89,500 and my result expires in two years. Do the math! This practice has gone on for over 40 years and we would love for you to lend your voice to this campaign," he tweeted.

Policy Shapers, the advocacy group behind the call for the reform of IELTS practice in Nigeria is pushing a three-point campaign. The first demand is that Nigeria should be placed on the UNVI exemption list.

"Following Nigeria's high score in the EF English Proficiency Index over the years, our inclusion in the UK Home Office's list of majority English speakers will mean Nigerians no longer have to prove their English proficiency anymore," Policy Shapers stated.

Secondly, the group urged the UK to cancel the two-year expiry clause for the IELTS results on the premise that the knowledge of the English language does not expire.

In the event that the two aforementioned demands cannot be met immediately, the group is asking for a 30 per cent reduction and increased validity period,



not less than five years.

Expectedly, Wikina's tweet generated instant reactions and comments online. Many argued against the perishable nature of the proficiency test results.

"If 12,000 Nigerians sit for the IELTS in a year, that is 1,08billion naira. A degree certificate is valid for a lifetime, why not IELTS? The English language exam is more of a money-making than a proficiency test," Ojoolu Ibiloye argued.

Still, others worry about the impact of the cost on Nigerians whose minimum wage is N30,000 or less.

"IELTS is pure extortion. Nigeria, with English as its lingua Franca should not be mandated to write IELTS before working or schooling in the UK. It makes no sense at all. I took up a job in the UK and I didn't have communication issues even without IELTS," General Okwulu Okalisia argued in a tweet.

Weighing in on the matter, the Vice-President, Yemi Osinbajo agreed that there should be a policy change and Nigeria should be recognized as an English speaking country.

"I agree entirely that Nigeria is an English speaking country and we should be beneficiaries of some concessions as opposed to being forced every two years to take the same test especially if you have passed it once before.

"I think this is something that we should really work on. This is a point that we can follow up. I will ask the Minister of Education and the Minister of Youths and Sports as regards what is going on about this," he said.

While the English Proficiency test, IELTS costs N89,500 and the result expires in two years, the cost of the French proficiency test, DELF/DALF ranges from N16,000 to N22,000 and the result is valid for life.

Despite the criticisms against the IELTS policy for Nigerians, many Nigerians justify the proficiency test based on their personal experiences with some graduates of Nigerian universities.

"I know what I saw during NYSC. Fellow corps members that couldn't spell or even write simple letters. We might be lucky to have a solid education but there are many fellow Nigerians out there who fail that exam for a number of reasons," Kele the creator tweeted.

THISDAY also spoke with an author, former Deputy Editor, The Nation Newspapers and social commentator, Mr. Olayinka Oyagbile who shared his insight on what the current IELTS policy indicates and why a reform may be necessary.

"Well, I don't see why Nigerians should be subjected to such exams since we are English-speaking. However, the fact that we are subjected to that also shows the level of confidence that they have in our education system.

"I think some of the things we are subjected to are also part of our self-inflicted problems. For instance, why should a graduate of English or any field in humanities find it hard to construct simple correct sentences? I've encountered native speakers who are poor in the language too," he revealed.

Policy Shapers declared last weekend that the UK Home Office

has responded to the petition written to them in October, 2021. The delay in response had led to the resurgence in the outcry against the IELTS policy. As at press time, over 60,000 persons have signed the petition to reform IELT policy.

The UK Home office through its Simplification of the Rules Task Force on January 26, 2022 replied to the inquiry sent to its office and the Home Secretary, Priti Patel in 2021.

According to the UK Home Office, Nigeria needs to prove that more than half of the population speak English as the first language.

"Apologies for the delay in replying to you, and thank you very much for your correspondence on this matter. To be included on the Majority English Speaking Country (MESCC) list, we must have evidence that most people in the country (more than half) speak English as a first language.

"We rely on publicly available evidence such as official censuses to make this determination along with other academic sources. We may also consult the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office where additional evidence is required.

"Currently, based on the information available to us, Nigeria does not meet the requirement. This list is periodically reviewed and updated, and new countries are added if they are found to meet the requirements.

"We are currently expanding the ways in which applicants are able to prove their English language ability. For example, people applying for a Student visa can prove their English language ability including by- the education provider self-assessing the English ability of the student or having a degree taught or researched in English (confirmed by Ecctis if not taught in a MESCC list country)," it stated.

Policy Shapers is dissatisfied with this response arguing that there are public documents that prove that Nigeria has what it takes to be designated as an English-speaking country.

"One of the most veritable public sources is the annual English Proficiency Index released by Education First. Nigeria was one of the 30 countries out of 112 that ranked 'High' or 'Very High' in English Proficiency in 2021.

"In August 2021, the UK Home Office had told the BBC that 51 per cent English language speakers is its criteria for the inclusion of countries in the MESCC list but in its last message to us, the Home Office uses phrases like "most people in the country" and "more than half" which are very fluid and we plan to follow-up with them on this as well.

"Finally, we appreciate the fact that the Home Office says "The MESCC list is periodically reviewed and updated, and new countries are added if they are found to meet the requirements." but we wonder when the list was last reviewed and we are confident that the next review will see the inclusion of Nigeria and other Anglophone countries in Africa," the group argues.

Policy Shapers has promised to follow up on the matter with the Nigerian government, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in Nigeria, as well as the Simplification of the Rules Taskforce from the Home Office.

Putting IELTS in the global spotlight like this has succeeded in drawing the attention of educational institutions in the affected countries to develop a less discriminatory framework for graduate admissions and other migration issues.

"Well, I don't see why Nigerians should be subjected to such exams since we are English-speaking. However, the fact that we are subjected to that also shows the level of confidence that they have in our education system"

Closing the Gap between Perception, Reality of Drug Abuse

The danger of drug abuse and how it destroys lives of young people was the thrust of this year's edition of the Drug Abuse Awareness Advocacy programme of the Lions Clubs International District 404B2, Nigeria held in conjunction with Silence Initiatives, writes **Mary Nnah**

Surface it to say that drug abuse has been a major problem in Nigeria with the resultant impacts on every facet of the nation's economy.

No wonder stakeholders at this year's edition of the Drug Abuse Awareness Advocacy programme of the Lions Clubs International District 404B2, Nigeria held in conjunction with Silence Initiatives, a non-governmental organisation whose target is to curb the misuse of drugs among youths in Nigeria, Africa and the world, reached a consensus that drug abuse, especially by young people, is a pandemic.

Tagged, "War against Drug Abuse", speakers at the event held on January 26, 2022 at the Lagos State Government Technical College, Ikeja, Lagos, spoke on the general theme, "Share Factors on Drug Abuse: Save Lives", a topic that was basically aimed at raising public awareness on dangers of drug abuse against the general perception by young people.

This is so that the youths, families and the society at large can make informed decisions, better target efforts to prevent and treat drug abuse and as such tackle the nation's drug challenges.

Opining that drug abuse should at this stage be regarded as a pandemic in Nigeria, a Clinical Psychologist, Pillot Gbolahan, said, "Working as a professional and seeing the turnout in terms of the number of clients on a daily basis, is one of the reasons I will regard drug abuse as a pandemic."

"Even though we do not have a number of statistics to show that fact, there is information around that every day we have people who use overdose on drugs. So, in terms of the use itself, we can say is a pandemic because we have people as young as 9, 10, 15, and 17 years old who are currently using drugs."

"If you look at the long-term effects on the human body, and on the society at large, then we can actually call it a pandemic."

Dwelling on the major reasons young people go into drug and substance abuse, Gbolahan, while speaking at the event which was targeted at students of the Lagos State Government Technical College, Ikeja, said, "The honest truth that the reasons for going into drugs for each individual is very different but we can talk about them in consensus things like peer pressure, wanting to feel among; you can also put part of the blame on the media, that is the way the media portray some of these things also play a major part."

He said however that one of the first and major thing that needs to be done to curb the rising incidences of drug abuse is advocacy, letting the youth know that the use of these substances are harmful to their health and more importantly, have a big impact on the society.

He added that, "If we say that the future leaders are those that are coming behind and we have a future where we have the majority of the youth using drugs that means that our future is not secured."

Gbolahan, who noted that the entertainment industry has had a whole lot of negative impact on the youths, especially musically; felt that entertainers also need to help in that area of advocacy.

"There is a huge relationship between visual and auditory when you talk about learning because what you see and hear, has a way of staying with you for a longer time", he added.

Therefore, to rescue the next generation from drug addiction, "we need a lot of help from the entertainment industry, so that rather than for them to be perpetuating malicious acts thereby influencing the youths negatively, they would through their movies and music educate the youths that they can actually be the best version of themselves in terms of talents without doing drugs. That, will go a long way for the next generation".

Speaking on the theme, "Share Factors on Drug Abuse: Save Lives", the clinical psychologist said, "We are sharing facts on drug abuse in a bit to save lives."

"The aim of the presentation is just to give them information and to let them know the consequences of continuous use of a substance or trying to go into substance abuse – it detrimental to the health, it also has some physiological as well as some biological effects on human body."



L-R: Anti-drug abuse advocate, Mr. Sunny Irakpo; District Committee Chairperson on Drug Abuse Awareness & Advocacy Campaign, Lion Folashade Ashafa; District Governor, Lions Clubs International, District 404B2 Nigeria, Lion Kayode Oshinuga; Director of Education Vice Principal Administration, Lagos State Technical College, Mrs. Betiku Esther; Director, Co-Curricular and Gender Unit LASTVEB, Mrs. Osah Gladys and Clinical Psychologist at the Yaba Psychiatry Hospital, Lagos State, Pillot Gbolahan at the event

He said further that the effects of substance abuse are endless. "It can affect the person physically, that is the physical makeup of the person - there is deterioration; it can affect the psychological function of the person, that is in terms of the emotion and how the person is able to function."

"It can also have some biological effects, that is, it can create long term effects on the vital organs of the body and more importantly, affect the mental health of the individual."

District Governor, Lions Clubs International, District 404B2 Nigeria, Lion Kayode Oshinuga said the drug abuse issue has been one of the Lions Club's programme for a long time.

He revealed further that studies recently have related the increase in crime rate to the increase in drug and substance abuse by the youths.

"We felt that if we continue just to tackle the crime, we are only killing the symptom, so we decided to tackle it from the roots", he said, noting that this particular programme was the first in the series of many more initiatives to come in this regards.

"The first thing is to identify them and if we are able to identify them, then we would be able to address it - if we are able to identify them and put them in Rehabs, we would then be able to forward them to the government to do its part", the DG said.

District Committee Chairperson on Drug Abuse Awareness & Advocacy Campaign, Lion Folashade Ashafa in her welcome address expressed joy at the enthusiasm shown by the students over the programme and for the fact that they were being imparted with such knowledge.

She acknowledged that the drug abuse menace was becoming an epidemic in our society, adding that with such initiative by the Lions Clubs.

"You will quite agree with me that we are in serious times with the present menace of drug abuse and its resultant effects on us. Even if we don't want to agree, the actions and reactions of our present-day teenagers is a reality that has come to stay

and unless we face it head-on; we may be heading for an unpleasant future for our immediate family, our environment, and the society at large", she noted.

She said Lions Clubs as an organisation is poised to sensitise teenagers on the dangers of abusing drugs and indulging in activities that would jeopardise the future of us all.

Adding that organisation is committed to making society safe for all and ensuring that the future is secured, she presumed the students have been well informed on the dangers inherent in drug and substance abuse.

Ashafa opined that she was almost sure students would not go out there and be associated with anything that will in the long run affect them negatively.

Youth and Anti-drug abuse advocate, Ambassador Sunny Irakpo, said, "We believe that the young people are the future of this country and if we must go by that assertion, there is a need for us to begin to plant the information that will enable them to succeed and that is why we are here."

Articulating the facts about drug abuse and the effects on young people especially, and how it could be curbed, Irakpo said, "Information is powerful. One of the factors responsible for drug abuse is ignorance. People abuse drugs because they see that their friends are doing it and they just go into it without getting the facts about whatever they are taking."

"So, our responsibility is to bring this information to people, particularly the youths, who are vulnerable. What do you know about drug abuse? What do you know about marijuana, codeine, Colorado, and other drugs that you are taking, which are killing many of our youths today?"

"So my responsibility is to ensure that I bring this information to them. And according to statistics, for every one dollar, you spend on sensitisation, you are saving individuals about 90 per cent of that same money for what they would use in treating themselves, including the governments."

"In other words, if the governments spend \$1 for sensitisation, they are saving themselves about \$10 for treatment of

drug abuse. So, we believe that information is power and the only way that can lead to transformation. And how do we ensure that the information is passed across? It is by collaborating with like-minded organisations to ensure these young people get the message deeply and then we run with it."

Irakpo reiterated that there were multifactorial factors people were abusing drugs. He explained that while some go into it due to peer pressure, others go into it because of poor parentage while yet, others go into it due to environmental factors.

"In the environment they stay, they see people smoking and drinking and they feel it's normal and yet most of them do not know that it is very consequential", he noted.

Irakpo who is the Founder/President of Silec Initiatives, however, stressed that getting into drugs is easy and cheap, adding however that continuing in the habit was very expensive and deadly.

He noted further that from his experience so far, drug abuse happens majorly as a result of peer pressure.

"This is so because the barrier to entry is low. You don't even need money before you can start abuse. Somebody can just pick interest in you and begin to give you those substances without collecting money from you. That is what peer pressure can do."

"So from the number of years that I have been in the field, I noticed that peer pressure is something that is really dealing hard on our youths."

He also identified poor parenting as another major cause of drugs abuse, noting, "a lot of parents are no longer there for their children and they don't give valuable time to their children and this is affecting the family cycle and also the society at large."

He said further that some resort to drug abuse due to family disintegration, and because of that there is a vacuum. While some abuse drugs for the sake of sexual performances and what they do is soak themselves in any form of substance within their reach before they approach a lady.

He said these drug addicts are oblivious that when they start that particular journey, for them to come out of it will usually be difficult.

"So when you look at it holistically, there are different reasons people go into drug abuse and we can help them in different ways to come out of it, which is why we are here today, for them to get all the needed help that the need and we are available for counseling."

In furtherance to curtail drug abuse among youth, Irakpo insisted that there was a need for government to create a reward system for the youths.

"In other words, if the governments spend \$1 for sensitisation, they are saving themselves about \$10 for treatment of drug abuse. So, we believe that information is power and the only way that can lead to transformation"



Government of Bayelsa State

2nd Anniversary of Governor Douye Diri's PROSPERITY ADMINISTRATION

Programme Of Activities

DATE	PROGRAMME	VENUE	TIME
Monday Feb 7, 2022	Flag-off of Medical Outreach	Imiringi	10am
Monday Feb 7, 2022	Education Summit	DSP Banquet Hall	12am
Wednesday Feb 9, 2022	Ground Breaking Ceremony of the New Commissioners Quarters	New Yenagoa City	12noon
Wednesday Feb 9, 2022	Foundation Laying Ceremony of the Smart House DIRI INDUSTRIAL-SKILL & ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING CENTRE	Opolo	2:00pm
Thursday Feb 10, 2022	Inauguration of Igbedi Road		11am
Thursday Feb 10, 2022	Symposium/Book Launch	Gabriel Okara Cultural Centre	1pm
Friday Feb 11, 2022	Flag Off of Dry Season Farming	Otuasega	10am
Friday Feb 11, 2022	Agric Show (Made in Bayelsa Exhibition)	Peace Park	11:30am
Friday Feb 11, 2022	Jumat Service	Central Mosque	1pm
Friday Feb 11, 2022	Interaction with Clergy	DSP Banquet Hall	
Friday Feb 11, 2022	Bayelsa Concert Day	Oxbow Lake Pavillion	6pm
Saturday Feb 12, 2022	Inauguration of Lecture Halls & Laboratories	Bayelsa Medical University	12noon
Saturday Feb 12, 2022	Novelty Football Match (Executive vs Legislature)	Samson Siasia Stadium	4pm
Sunday Feb 13, 2022	Thanksgiving Service	Ecumenical Centre	12noon
Sunday Feb 13, 2022	State Banquet/Anniversary Dinner	Banquet Hall	6pm
Monday Feb 14, 2022	Inauguration of the Media House	Azikoro Road	10am
Monday Feb 14, 2022	Reception of Decampees (Parade of Colours/Regattas)	Oxbow Lake Pavillion	11am
Tuesday Feb 15, 2022	Inauguration of New Yenagoa City Link Road		11am
Tuesday Feb 15, 2022	Inauguration of Igbogene-Okarki Road		1pm
Wednesday Feb 16, 2022	Inauguration of Transport Terminal Building	Igbogene	11am
Wednesday Feb 16, 2022	Women and Youth Empowerment / Meet Bayelsa Children & Youth		2pm
Thursday Feb 17, 2022	Historic drive to Angiama / Flag off of the Construction of Oporoma Bridge		12noon
Friday Feb 18, 2022	Inauguration of Elebele Bridge		11am
Friday Feb 18, 2022	Inauguration of Nembe Unity Bridge		12noon
Saturday Feb 19, 2022	Inauguration of Bayelsa Health Insurance Scheme Complex	BHIS	12noon



Signed:

Hon. Ayibaina Duba

Commissioner for Information, Orientation and Strategy/Chairman, Media and Publicity Committee

RATES AS AT FEBRUARY 4, 2022

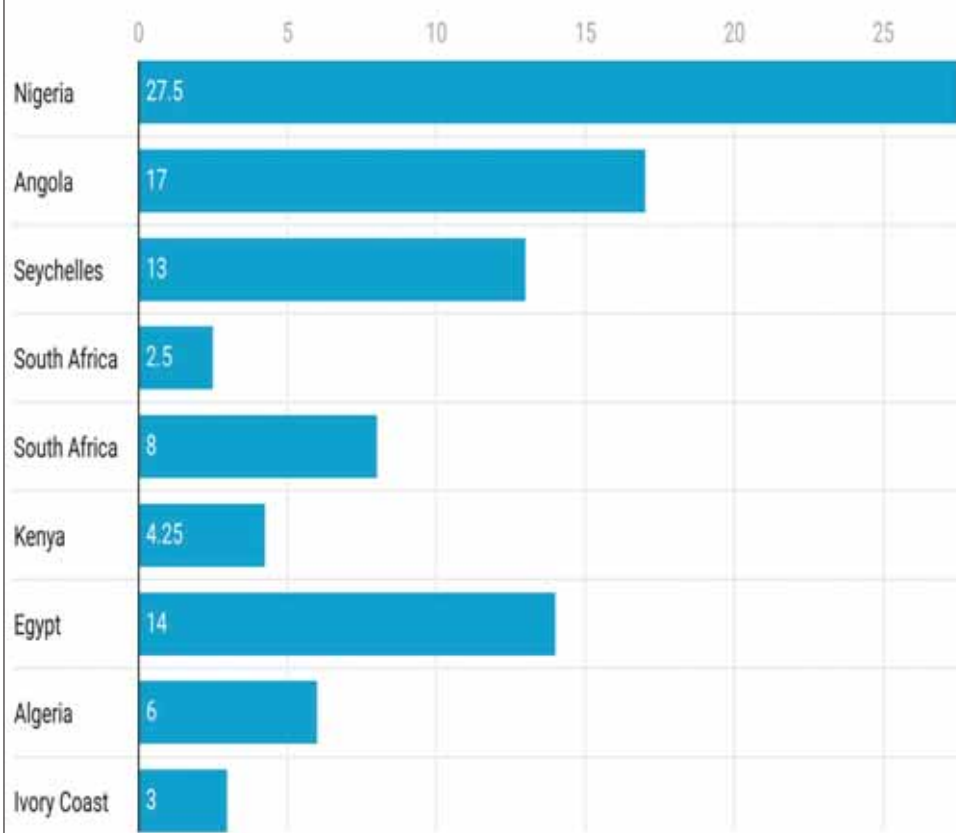
MONEY MARKET		REPO		S & P INDEX		S & P INDEX		EXCHANGE RATE
OBB	9.00%	CALL	4%	INDEX LEVEL	564.02%	1/4 TO DATE	5.82%	N413.03/1 US DOLLAR*
OVERNIGHT	10.75%	1-MONTH	6%	1-DAY	-0.17%	YEAR TO DATE	-15.85%	*AS AT LAST FRIDAY
		3-MONTH	10%	MONTH-TO-DATE	0.19%			

CBN Debited 14 Banks N356bn over 27.5% Cash Reserve Requirement

Restricted Deposit with CBN between 2020-2018 (N'000)

	2020	2019	2018
access	1,548,891,263	1,055,510,452	704,326,780
UBA	1,103,888,000	832,108,000	563,683,000
GTCCO	1,026,634,689	443,636,961	414,667,717
Zenith	1,411,422,000	760,950,000	705,471,000
FBN Holdings	1,311,180,000	836,690,000	519,370,000
Fidelity	432,741,000	304,618,000	219,386,000
Union Bank	356,452,000	296,043,000	281,868,000
Stanbic IBTC	368,987,000	258,389,000	228,572,000
FCMB	311,746,155	208,916,226	146,497,087
Sterling	228,791,000	122,126,000	93,453,000
Wema Bank	246,974,959	137,392,701	58,054,204

Cash Reserve Requirement (%)



Kayode Tokede

For the first time in 2022, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has wielded the big stick and debited Zenith Bank Plc, Providus Bank, First City Monument Bank (FCMB) Limited and 11 other banks N356.1billion for failing to meet its 27.5 per cent Cash Reserve Requirement (CRR) obligation.

The fresh debit, which THISDAY reliably gathered occurred last Friday,

has left many stakeholders in the banking very upset as the apex bank recently suspended debiting banks for not meeting the requirement.

According to data obtained by THISDAY, Zenith Bank and Providus Bank were the most hit while Fidelity Bank Plc was the least debited bank by the CBN.

A breakdown showed that Zenith Bank and Providus were debited N170 billion, N40 billion respectively. Others are: FCMB N39 billion, First

Bank of Nigeria Limited N27 billion, Guaranty Trust Bank Plc N20 billion and Citibank N12 billion.

Stanbic IBTC bank, Union Bank of Nigeria Plc and Polaris Banks were debited N10 billion each, Keystone Bank was debited N6 billion, Eco-bank Nigeria N5 billion, Sterling Bank Plc, N3.6 billion, Fidelity Bank N2 billion and Nova merchant bank N 1.5 billion.

The last time CBN debited 16 banks and two merchant banks N175

billion was mid-December 2021.

CBN data showed that Zenith bank was the most debited bank on November 17, 2021, followed by Access Bank Plc and United bank for Africa Plc (UBA).

The breakdown of some affected banks revealed that, Zenith bank-N90 billion, Access bank-N25 billion, Unity Bank Plc- N500 million, FCMB Limited- N5 billion, and Stanbic Bank- N4 billion, Polaris- N3billion and UBA- N25billion.

The CBN had on December 8, 2021 debited seven banks and two merchant banks a sum of N29.6 billion.

Analysts believe cash reserves are historically between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of LCY deposits.

Analysts at Agosto & Co. In a report titled, "Economic outlook for 2022. Our storyline", explained that "At the end of 2021, mandatory CRR of banks stood at about 35 per cent of LCY deposits. Historically, cash

reserves were between five per cent and 10 per cent of LCY deposits. In Ghana and Kenya, there are currently eight per cent and 4.25 per cent of LCY deposits respectively.

"In addition to these mandatory CRR, Nigerian banks hold "special bills", issued by the CBN, that bear interest at 0.5 per cent per annum. These "special bills" are not easily convertible into cash and are, in

Continued on page 29

Akabueze: FG Not Excited by High Crude Prices, Rates above \$63pb Have Negative Fiscal Impact

Dike Onwuamaeze

The federal government has stated that it would not be excited about the rising prices of crude oil in the international market as long as fuel subsidies regime remained in Nigeria's domestic market.

This was stated by the Director General of the Budget Office of the Federation, Mr. Ben Akabueze, during a webinar that was organised by the Financial Institutions Training Centre

(FITC), under its National Economic Development Outlook Series 2022 with the theme, "Rebooting the Economy: The Path to Sustainable Growth."

Akabueze said the decision to retain fuel subsidies in the 2022 budget would compel the federal government to borrow additional N1 trillion to offset its cost while the state and local governments in the country would suffer an estimated loss of N1.5 trillion in revenue.

He said: "Regrettably, for those of us on the fiscal side, the expectation of high oil price does not excite us as long as this subsidy regime remains because crude oil price is the biggest factor in the price of refined oil products. Above the price of \$63 per barrel the impact on us fiscally will be negative with this subsidy regime. Higher dollar revenue will strengthen the external sector but the impact on government revenue is negative."

He also explained that the net impact of the decision to retain fuel subsidy is that the federal government's budget deficit will rise, "but by the way you need to understand that this subsidy cost is borne not just by the federal government but by all the tiers of government because it is charged at the Federation Account level.

"As you heard from the Minister of Finance, the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has

indicated that it would require N3 trillion to cover this subsidy in 2022. Out of which we have (previously) provided N443 billion. So, we have to provide additional N2.5 trillion at the federation level.

"The federal government takes up N1 trillion of the sum and the deficit go up by that number. And because there is no corresponding revenue, debt borrowing will go up by N1 trillion. That is the cost of decision that it appears that the

majority of Nigerians favoured. This is a democracy and government has to listen to the voice of the people."

Akabueze also cleared the illusion in the minds of many Nigerians that high oil prices automatically translate to increased public revenue and savings in the Excess Crude Account.

He added, "The excess crude account does not receive accretion by

Continued on page 26

MARKET DATA AS AT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022

FGN BONDS				BILLS				OTC FX FUTURES			CPs			
DESCRIPTION	Price	Yield	Change (%)	MATURITY	Discount	Yield	Change (%)	CONTRACT TENOR (MONTH)	Contract	Current Rate (₦/N)	MATURITY	Discount	Yield	Change (%)
12.75 27-APR-2023	106.80	6.85	-0.01 ▼	NTB 10-Mar-22	2.98	2.99	0.00 →	1	NGUS FEB 23 2022	427.24	MREP CP XXXVI 11-FEB-22	7.89	7.90	0.11 ▲
14.20 14-MAR-2024	110.28	8.73	-0.01 ▼	NTB 28-Apr-22	4.00	4.04	0.00 →	2	NGUS MAR 30 2022	428.93	UNCP CP VI 2-MAY-22	9.46	9.68	-0.17 ▼
13.53 23-MAR-2025	108.65	10.22	0.12 ▲	NTB 12-May-22	4.00	4.04	0.00 →	3	NGUS APR 27 2022	430.63	NEVE CPI 24-MAY-22	16.86	17.75	-0.12 ▼
12.50 22-JAN-2026	104.05	11.20	0.00 →	NTB 9-Jun-22	3.67	3.72	0.00 →	4	NGUS MAY 25 2022	432.32	DANC CPI II 25-MAY-22	9.43	9.70	-0.12 ▼
16.2884 17-MAR-2027	117.51	11.64	0.00 →	NTB 14-Jul-22	4.30	4.38	0.00 →	5	NGUS JUN 29 2022	434.02				



GRADUATION CEREMONY...

Chief Information Officer; Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited (SCBN), Rachael Asonibare; Founder of Nextwear Technology, one of the 5 winners of the 2021 Standard Chartered Women in Tech Incubator initiative, Bolarinwa Kemisola and Executive Director, Finance SCBN, Dayo Omolokun at the graduation ceremony of the SCWITI Cohort 3 in Lagos... recently

NGX Listed \$4bn FGN Eurobonds, N171.17bn Saving Bonds, N720.04bn Securities in January

Kayode Tokede

The Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) listed Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) \$4 billion FGN Eurobonds, N171.17 billion FGN Saving Bonds and N720.04 billion securities on its platform in January 2022.

The listed securities on the bourse in January are BUA Foods' N720 billion listing by introduction of 18,000,000,000 ordinary shares of N0.50 each at N40.00 per share on the main board and Nigerian Breweries Plc's listing additional 78,929,849 ordinary shares of 50 Kobo each emanating from the company's 2021 scrip dividend option.

The new stocks of Nigerian Breweries were issued to shareholders as part of their dividend payment.

According to the disclosure from the NGX, Nigerian Breweries listed a total of 78,929,849 ordinary shares of 50 kobo on the platform, increasing its total issued and fully paid-up equities to 8,075,831,900 ordinary shares from 7,996,902,051 ordinary shares.

"Additional 78,929,849 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each of Nigerian Breweries Plc were today, Monday, January 24, 2022, listed on the daily official list of the Nigerian Exchange Limited. The additional shares listed on NGX arose from Nigerian Breweries scrip dividend election scheme.

"With this listing of the additional 78,929,849 ordinary shares, the total issued and fully paid-up shares of Nigerian Breweries Plc has

now increased from 7,996,902,051 to 8,075,831,900 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each," the NGX stated in a statement.

According to the NGX, the Eurobonds were issued in three tranches as follows: 6.125% FGN SEP 2028 worth \$1,250,000,000.00;

7.375% FGN SEP 2033 worth \$1,500,000.00; and 8.25% FGN SEP 2051 worth \$1,250,000,000.00.

The NGX explained that it continued to thrive as a multi-asset securities exchange providing access to a diversified range of assets including equities,

fixed income, Exchange Traded Products (ETPs).

The former President, Association of Stockbroking Houses of Nigeria (ASHON), Mr. Emeka Madubiike had while commenting said the intensive listing of federal government bonds implies that the capital

market favours the economy.

According to him: "The stock market has witnessed improvement over the years and it has favoured the nation's economy. This has impacted on the government listings its bonds on the Exchange. For so long stakeholders have been

clamouring on government utilizing the capital market as long-term source for funds. Government is always the largest spender and when the government starts raising money through the capital market, of course, it brings about capital formation."

Lagos, Anambra, Delta, 19 Others Set Pace in NHIS Compliance

Ebere Nwoji

Among the 36 states in Nigeria, Anambra, Delta and Lagos states have set the pace for others in their various levels of compliance with the federal government's National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS).

The states have made significant progress in enrollment of people in the NHIS scheme while others are making little or no effort.

A total of 19 States have adopted the NHIS while others are at their various stages of implementing universal health coverage through establishment of their respective health insurance schemes.

Insurance and health experts believe Health Insurance is one

of the mechanisms for providing financial protection from the costs of using healthcare services, which is a key pillar of universal healthcare.

According to them, the protection it affords is extremely important as research from the World Bank and the World Health Organisation (WHO) showed that 100 million people are pushed into extreme poverty on an annual basis due to healthcare expenses.

While health insurance has been operational in Nigeria for over 15 years, the uptake has remained low.

Speaking at a virtual media training organised by Leadway Assurance for insurance journalists in Lagos recently, the headway Medical Services, Leadway Health, Dr. Temitope Falaiye, stated that

Nigeria spends a relatively small proportion of national income, translating to about 4 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on health against the agreed 15 per cent at the 2001 Abuja Declaration.

Stressing that Out-of-pocket expenditure on health is amongst the highest in the world put at 77.23 percent of total health expenditure and the highest in Africa, Falaiye, added that a voluntary National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) exists in Nigeria but covers less than 5 percent of the population.

According to her, Nigeria's informal economy, which accounts for more than 60 per cent of its total GDP is still largely uncovered.

"To bridge the coverage gap, several states have commenced

the establishment of State Health Insurance Schemes. Presently, about 19 states are at various stages of their implementation journey. Anambra, Delta and Lagos state have particularly made significant progress in enrollment. Private Health insurance accounts for less than 3% of the Nigerian population," she pointed out.

Also speaking, Mr. Gbolahan Oluyemi of the Leadway Capital & Trusts Ltd, while making presentation on Understanding Wills and Trusteeship, advised Nigerians on Estate planning which is the preparation and planning to manage an individual's asset base after their demise or incapacitation.

According to him, "there are different modes of Estate Planning

and they include, Trust, Inter vivos gifts and Wills. A Trust is an arrangement whereby a person transfers an asset to a person (Trustee) to hold in trust for the benefit of a third party (Beneficiary). A Will is a legal document by which an adult expresses how he/she wants his/her assets/property to be distributed after his/her death."

Earlier, Principal Investment & Strategy, Leadway Assurance, Joshua Ogbefun, had charged journalists on the need to deepen insurance awareness and education through their write-ups, saying, though, insurance journalists have tried in this regards, but that they can improve on this to increase insurance adoption and

Worried over Dwindling FDI, NIPC Plans Aggressive Strategy to Reverse Trend

James Emejo and Folalumi Alaran in Abuja

The acting Executive Secretary, Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), Mr. Emeka Ofor, has said the commission will adopt an aggressive approach to woo local and Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) into the country this year.

To this end, he said apart from series of stakeholders' engagements

lined up for 2022, the agency would also partner with the media to improve the business environment through developmental reporting to attract more investments into the country.

The country had experienced drought in investment inflows in recent times, partly due to an unfavourable investment climate occasioned by insecurity and the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, commenting on the

commission's FDI strategic plan for year 2022, Ofor said, "One of the major things we consider the most in NIPC is the projection of Nigeria's image to the world and we take that assignment very seriously because if a prospective investor feels good about your country and location, they will be thinking of investing there."

He said the objective was to ensure that information disseminated is able to projects Nigeria's

image in positive light so as to positively influence investors' decision and provide a balance view of the country.

He said, "We have so many negative stories out there and we need to balance those stories with the real facts about Nigeria, the positive facts about Nigeria."

"We also try to let people know that even where we have challenges, those challenges should be seen as opportunities that an

investor can invest to bring about the change that we desired."

The NIPC boss added, "We consider the press crucial to the work we do which is why we have as part of our plan quarterly engagement which will be slightly different from what we do in the past in the sense that we will showcase Nigeria's investment prospects more to attract investors, project a better image and support investments."

AKABUEZE: FG NOT EXCITED BY HIGH CRUDE PRICES, RATES ABOVE \$63PB HAVE NEGATIVE FISCAL IMPACT

just subtracting the price you get from the budget reference price. It is only when the revenue from oil exceeds what was projected in the budget that you have the excess. But the fact is that we haven't had it for a long time. Last year oil price was in the high \$60 but our revenue collection was N1 trillion less than what we projected even though oil price was significantly above the budget reference price simply because subsidy ate up a significant portion of it."

He also argued that the country's debt service to revenue ratio is high

not because, "we are borrowing too much or that we are paying too much for our debt but because we are generating too little revenue. The other important ratio that we need to look at is the revenue to the GDP ratio compared to some African countries. Nigeria is at least one third of the average in terms of our revenue to GDP ratio. That is what needs to improve."

He also blamed the structural imbalance in the country's economy as one of the reasons why federal revenue ratio to the GDP has always remained very low.

"For instance, agriculture

contributes close to a quarter of our GDP but yields less than one per cent to government revenue because of the structure of that sector that is largely informal and not taxable. These are the things we need to look into. Nigeria's economic problem is largely structural. Even our high inflation is driven largely by structural factors.

"That is why reform is so critical. We need to reform this system. We need strong voices supporting agents of reforms in the government," Akabueze said.

Speaking, the Chief Consultant of B. Adedipe Associates Limited,

Dr. Biodun Adedipe, who made the key presentation during the webinar, said that Nigeria would snatch its economy from circles of recession by ending the era of depending on crude oil as its major source of public revenue, policy inconsistency, over dependence on import and low national productivity.

Adedipe projected that the manufacturing sector would be a major driver of the GDP in 2022.

"There are three reasons why I took the position that manufacturing will produce growth. The first reason is related to the intervention

funds pumped by the Central Bank of Nigeria into the manufacturing sector. The second reason is the positive PMIs report that tells us what the future of that sector will be in terms of expansion. Third, is the steady inflow of FDIs and number four is the import data that showed that half of the country's import in 2021 went to the manufacturing sector," he said.

The Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the FITC, Ms. Chizora Malize, also expected growth to come from the oil and gas sector and the financial sector of the nation's economy.

THE BUSINESS TEAM

Group Business Editor
Eromosele Abiodun

Comms/e-Business Editor
Emma Okonji

Aviation Editor
Chinedu Eze

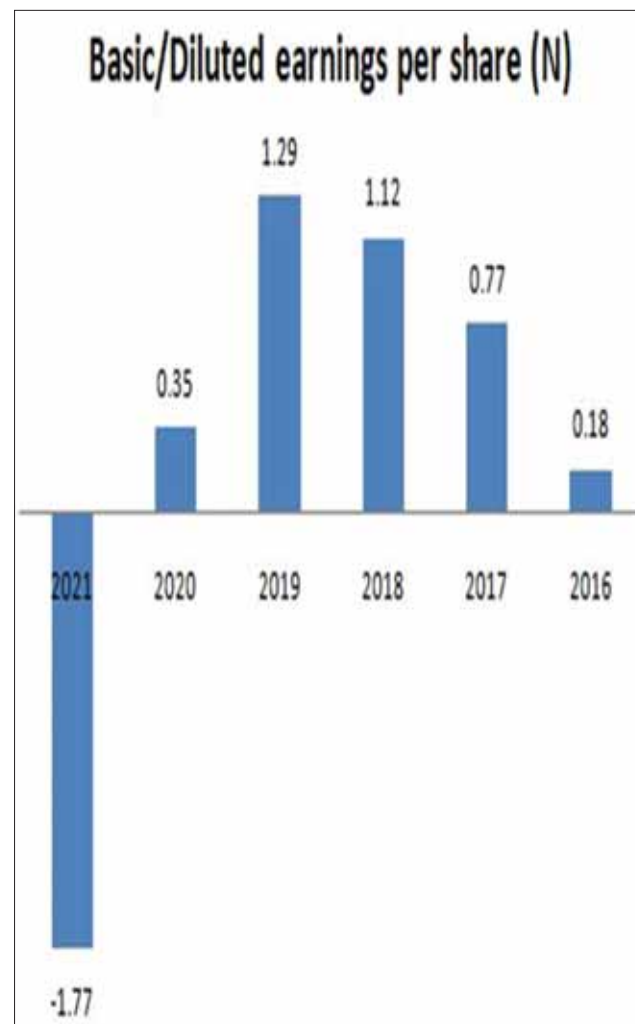
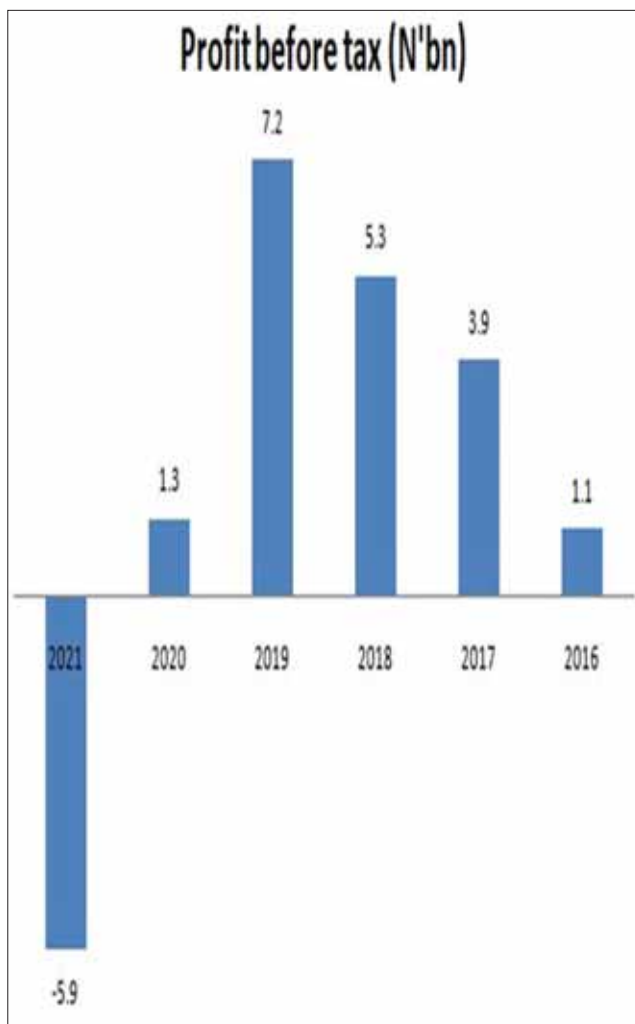
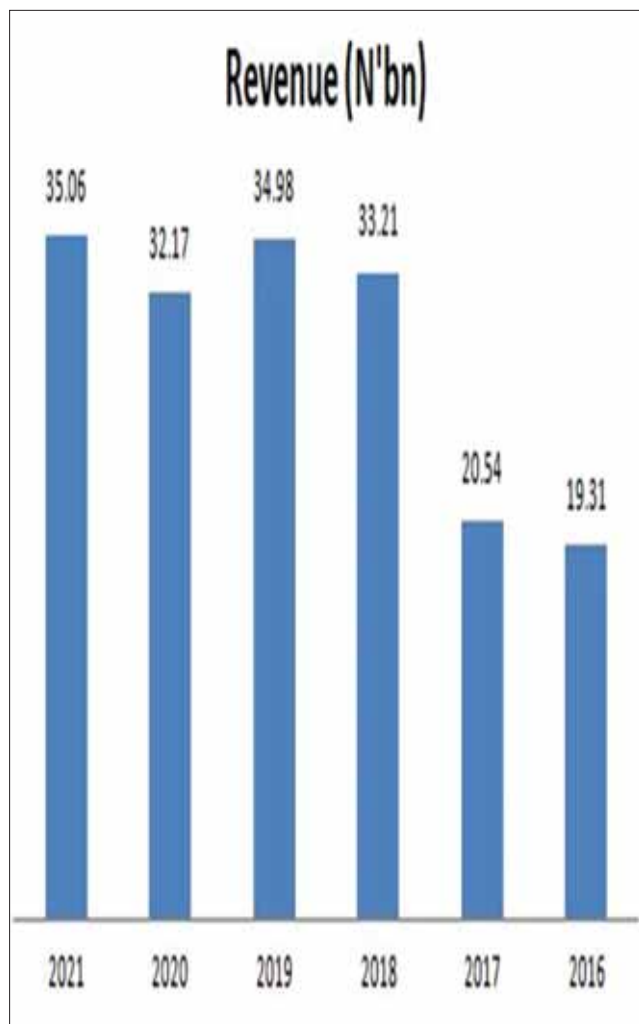
Asst. Editor, Money Market
Nume Ekeghe

Senior Correspondent
Raheem Akingbolu
(Advertising)

Correspondents
James Emejo (Finance)
Ebere Nwoji (Insurance)
Chineme Okafo (Energy)
Emmanuel Addeh (Energy)

Reporters
Nosa Alekhuogbe (ICT)
Peter Uzoho (Energy)
Ugo Aliogo (Development)

Caverton Offshore Support: Walking a Tightrope



Kayode Tokede

On the heels of growing operating expenses and net exchange difference, Caverton Offshore Support Group Plc recorded one of the worst result and accounts in its full year ended December 31, 2021.

Though the support and logistics company listed on the Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) recorded increase in revenue, several mitigating factors such foreign exchange loss due to local currency devaluation by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and cost of operating its 27 aircraft play a critical role in the company's worst performance in over 10 years.

Caverton reported a loss of N5.9billion in 2021 unaudited result and accounts for period ended December 31, 2021 from N1.26billion profit before tax reported in prior year result and accounts.

This simply means that the management of Caverton might not be paying shareholders dividend for the first time in four years.

The management had recommended payment of dividend of 10 kobo per share in respect of the year ended 31 December 2020 (2019: 20 kobo per share). Between 2018 and 2017, it proposed a dividend of N0.25 and N0.15 kobo, respectively.

Apparently, the decline in global oil prices led to lesser contracts for Caverton, as most of its clients struggled to survive the economic hardship necessitated by COVID-19 pandemic in the first half of 2021.

It reflected in the company's H1 unaudited results as the management battled to manage its operating expenses amid minimal growth in revenue.

The company in H1 2021 reported N18.07billion revenue, 12.4 per cent increase from N16.08billion reported in H1 2020, while operating expenses grew significantly by 12 per cent to N11.7billion in H1 2021 from N10.5billion reported in H1 2020.

Reduction in finance cost impacted positively on Profit before tax in H1 2021, gaining about four per cent to N924.5million in H1 2021 from N889.14million in H1 2020.

However, in the nine months of 2021, the support and logistics company was able to enhance revenue amid the relaxation of travel restrictions occasioned by the pandemic and increased economic activities that drove recovery in the aviation sector.

OPERATING EXPENSES

But, operating expenses, among other financial parameters continued to amount to put the company's profit at risk.

Revenue reported in nine months ended September 2021 stood at N27.08billion, an increase of 15 per cent to N23.63billion reported in nine months of 2020, while operating expenses grew by 16.3 per cent to N18.27billion in nine months of 2021 from

N15.7billion in nine months of 2020.

Net finance charges thus gained 23 per cent to N3.3billion in nine months of 2021 from N2.67billion in nine months of 2020.

The growth in operating expenses and finance charges dragged Caverton's profit before tax downward to N1.2billion in nine months of 2021, a decline of 27.4 per cent from N1.54billion reported in nine months of 2020.

Meanwhile, the company's in the last quarter (Q4) of 2021 performance failed to reflect steady increase in global oil price as revenue dropped by nearly seven per cent to N7.98billion from N8.55billion reported in Q4 2020.

Amounting operating expenses in Q4 2021 grew by 221 per cent to N9.25billion from N2.88billion reported in Q4 2020.

Caverton's whose business model is such that its logistics services are mostly needed by local and international oil and gas companies in Nigeria when its customers in the oil & gas sectors are making money.

What this means, therefore, is that as global demand for crude oil rises, Caverton had struggle to compete in the support logistics services for local and international oil & gas companies operating in the country.

Currently, Caverton contends with Bristow Helicopters and OAS Helicopters for market share. These two companies are understandably making their own expansion moves with hopes of taking more advantage of the market. More so, Caverton must also ensure to reduce its liabilities and operational costs down.

EXPENSES OUTSHINES REVENUE

For the unaudited December 31, 2021 unaudited results, Caverton recorded N35.06billion revenue from N32.17billion reported in 2020, an increase of about nine per cent. The growth was driven primarily by N33.96billion revenue from helicopter and airplane contracts in 2021 from N30.84billion in 2020.

Helicopter Charter dropped to N956.2million in 2021 from N1.08billion in 2020 to highlight slow activities in the year under review despite ease on COVID-19 restriction movements. With slow activities, Helicopter maintenance contract dropped by 80 per cent to N10.4million in 2021 from N50.9 million in 2020.

From the profit & loss figures, the company reported 48.06 per cent increase in operating expenses to N27.5billion in 2021 from N18.59billion in 2020, driven primarily by 35.13 per cent growth in Aviation fuel, spare parts and consumables to N8.74billion in 2021 from N6.46billion in 2020.

Aircraft insurance premium grew by 29 per cent to N1.69billion in 2021 from N1.32billion in 2020 as Crew salaries also grew by 17.5 per cent to N9.76billion in 2021 from N8.3 billion in 2020 despite slow activities.

Administrative expenses that comprises of employee benefit expense, management expenses, among others dropped by 13.3 per cent to N5.35billion in 2021 from N6.17billion in 2020.

Caverton Offshore Support closed 2021 with net foreign exchange difference of about N3.5billion in 2021 from N2.35billion in 2020.

The breakdown revealed that Exchange gain was at N130.5million in 2021 from exchange loss of N1.35billion in 2020 and exchange loss closed 2021 at N3.6billion in 2021 from N3.7billion gain in 2020.

As regards finance cost, the company reported interest on debts and borrowing of N4.64billion in 2021 from N4.03billion in 2020 as other bank charges rose significantly by 166 per cent to N4.6billion in 2021 from N1.74billion in 2020.

Both the long and short Interest-bearing loans and borrowings grew by 0.4 per cent to N20.92billion in 2021 as against N20.85billion reported in 2020. The short Interest-bearing loans and borrowings moved from N11.11billion to N11.29billion in 2021, while long Interest-bearing loans and borrowings closed 2021 at N9.62billion from N9.7billion reported in 2020.

In all, the company's profit closed 2021 at N5.9billion loss from N1.18billion reported in 2020. The performance related in Earning Per Share for the year, moving from N0.35 to a loss of N1.77 per share.

TRADE, PAYABLES LIFTS LIABILITIES

In the period under review, the company grew its total liabilities by 41 per cent to N64 billion from N40.6 billion reported in 2020, driven by increase in trade & other payables.

Trade & other payables gained 106.7 per cent to N27.94billion in 2021 from N13.52billion in 2020 to push current liabilities up by 47.4 per cent to N43.3billion in 2021 from N29.35billion in 2020.

Meanwhile, non-current liabilities gained 28.14 per cent to N20.77billion in 2021 from N16.21billion in 2020.

The financial position showed a decline of about 28.5 per cent to N15.7 billion in total equity of Caverton in 2021 from N21.96billion reported in 2020. About 46 per cent decline in retained earnings to N7.79billion was responsible in decline in total equity in 2021 from N13.49billion reported in 2020.

However, total assets grew by 18.12 per cent to N79.75billion in 2021 from

N67.5billion reported in 2020.

As current assets grew by 47.1 per cent to N36.93billion in 2021 from N25.11billion in 2020, non-current assets moved from N42.41billion in 2020 to N36.93billion in 2021.

Caverton's capital structure ratios revealed that Net debt/Equity closed 2021 at 1.72x from 0.93x in 2020 as asset turnover dropped to 0.44x in 2021 from 0.48x in 2020.

Working capital closed 2021 at negative N6.3billion from negative N4.23billion in 2020. The negative working capital can affect the company's longer-term investment effectiveness and its financial strength in covering short-term liabilities.

STRATEGY TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

The Chief Executive Officer, Caverton, Mr. Bode Makanjuola in a statement said the loss was caused by the significant reduction in revenue due to several mitigating factors because of the COVID-19 pandemic which resulted in drop in oil production and net foreign exchange loss due to Naira devaluation against the dollar.

"As a result of this our direct costs increased significantly in 2021," he said.

He explained further that, "notwithstanding the loss reported in 2021, Caverton has robust reserves to accommodate this loss and a bulk of the reported loss is a one-time charge on our accounts which arose from high start-up costs of our most recent helicopter contract with Chevron.

"To further boost revenues, the Group has been exploring further opportunities within and outside the oil and gas sector. In addition to growing our market share in the oil and gas logistics sector, our primary focus for the year will be on third party training and maintenance.

"Our Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility and our Caverton Aviation Training Centre (CATC), both in Lagos, officially commenced business operation in the 2nd half of 2021. Prospects for training and maintenance is extremely positive as we are in advanced contract negotiations with a number of government and private institutions across Sub-Saharan Africa."

"CATC full flight simulator gained full certification by EASA, (European Union Aviation Safety Agency), in October 2021. The EASA's mission is to promote the highest common standards of safety and environmental protection in civil aviation.

"The Agency develops common safety and environmental rules at the European level. With global certification by an internationally recognized body CATC is now suitably qualified to undertake simulator training on the AW139 helicopter for Pilots from Nigeria and any part of the world and we expect this to not only boost the Group's revenue in the coming year, but also reduce capital flight from Nigeria."

Fidelity Bank's Agribusiness Financing, Solution to Nigeria's Food Crisis

Fidelity Bank Plc's massive investment in Nigeria's agribusiness space, especially the rice value chain, will help Nigeria to resolve its food crisis, writes **Ugo Aliogo**



Caption



Bags of Rice Produced by Gundunwawa Rice Mill

A recent report by the World Food Programme (WFP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) predicts that about 12.9 million Nigerians across 21 states, and the Federal Capital Territory, will face food security crisis in June, unless there was an intervention.

The private sector, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the federal government have for a long time been in the race to empower the non-oil and Agric sector to increase production capacity as well as prevent this looming crisis.

Before 2015, Nigeria had less than 10 functional integrated rice mills with a combined capacity of less than 350,000 metric tons. However, in the past few years we have seen over 60 integrated mills with a combined capacity of over 3 million metric tons. Also, an additional 10 integrated mills are scheduled to be commissioned this year.

Now, the growing numbers of rice mills have been complemented by hundreds of small-scale mills located across the states of the federation. While Nigeria is yet to come out of the woods, the federal government and some corporate Nigeria's efforts in the agricultural sector has in no small way boosted the country's food security and economy at large.

Deeply invested in Nigeria's agribusiness space, especially the rice value chain, leading financial organisation, Fidelity Bank, appears up to the task. The Bank recently part-financed a 16mt/hour rice-milling factory in Gundunwawa, Kano state. Constructed by Gerawa Group of Companies, the Gerawa rice-milling factory is estimated to have the capacity to produce 400 metric tons per day and would provide farmers in Kano, Jigawa and other surrounding states with a steady demand for rice paddy.

Commenting on Fidelity Bank's support for the project, its Managing Director/CEO, Mrs. Nneka Onyeali-Ikpe, who was represented at the event by the Bank's Executive Director, Northern Businesses, Hassan Imam, said, "At Fidelity Bank, we are known for facilitating transactions such as this where the impact is phenomenal and often on a national scale."

On why the bank was supporting the Gerawa rice-milling project, Mrs. Onyeali-Ikpe said that Fidelity Bank was, "pleased to be associated with this project because of its potential to not only improve the lives of many small-holder farmers in Jigawa, Kano and environs but to also develop the country's rice value chain and ensure food security."

As part of several investments in Nigeria's agricultural sector, Fidelity Bank has directly



Fidelity Bank CEO, Mrs. Nneka Onyeali-Ikpe

financed the construction and installation of integrated rice mills across different geo-political zones, estimated of having a combined rice milling capacity above 500,000 MT per annum.

With expansive financing footprints in the critical value chain segments of the agriculture sector, ranging from rice milling to poultry production, dairy processing, etcetera, Fidelity Bank has so far disbursed over N34 billion in direct credit to players in the rice value chain.

A very critical area of interest for Fidelity Bank, between 2019 and 2021, the bank invested over N21.3 billion in credits to businesses operating in the rice value chain. These interventions by the Bank has unlocked financing opportunities for a large swathe of paddy rice farmers with significant contributions in the expansion of national paddy rice output.

Recognizing the importance of the last mile traders in the value chain, Fidelity Bank has also provided low-cost funds to rice traders to purchase rice from indigenous rice millers for sales to the final consumers, helping to stabilize the prices of locally

produced rice. As far back as 2009, the leading financial institution partnered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Olam Nigeria to boost the production volume of Sesame seed and rice in the country for export purpose. The Agric-financing intervention galvanized farmers into large scale farming in Katsina, Jigawa, Benue, Anambra and Ebonyi. Under the scheme, the farmers benefited from the distribution of N500 million in funding.

Aside from funding, the bank recognises the need to empower SMEs with requisite knowledge to grow and sustain their business. Last year, it organised a national capacity building webinar for SMEs in Nigeria, specifically targeting those in trade and commerce, manufacturing, hospitality, education, entertainment, transportation and agriculture. Speaking to this, Mrs. Onyeali-Ikpe, said, "The programme underscores our long-running support for the growth of small businesses which stems from our recognition of MSMEs as critical agents of economic development and transformation in Nigeria and the world at large."

With subject matter experts vast in the knowledge of funding and financial management for SMEs, the bank said the programme would assist Nigerian entrepreneurs develop capacity to unlock their full potentials and take their businesses to the next level of growth.

Fidelity Bank's interventions in Nigeria's agribusiness sector has not gone unnoticed. The Bank's activities have continued to be recognized by operators, funding partners and several other stakeholders. Just recently, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) released list of seven commercial banks involved in the first batch of "100 for 100 Policy for Production and Productivity (PPP)" initiative, with Fidelity Bank being part of the handlers of the first beneficiaries of this initiative.

These interventions are Fidelity Bank's way of supporting the apex bank's efforts as well as aligning its business to the federal government's policy, especially in light of the need to aggressively shift the supply side of the agribusiness space to increase food security, create employment opportunities, expand Nigeria's forex earning base via exports and drastically reduce food price inflation.

FAO and WFP had in a recent report warned that acute hunger was set to soar in Nigeria and 20 other countries in the

"The magnitude of suffering is alarming. It is incumbent upon all of us to act now and to act fast to save lives, safeguard livelihoods and prevent the worst situation."

coming months.

This, according to the report requires urgent action to avert the hunger and risk of famine, saying people in South Sudan, Yemen and northern Nigeria remained most at risk of rising and dangerously high acute food insecurity.

Speaking about the humanitarian situation, in a joint statement released by both UN's organisation, the FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu, said, "The magnitude of suffering is alarming. It is incumbent upon all of us to act now and to act fast to save lives, safeguard livelihoods and prevent the worst situation."

He noted that in many regions, the planting season has just started or was about to start, urging, "We must run against the clock and not let this opportunity to protect, stabilise and even possibly increase local food production slip away."

Yemen, South Sudan and northern Nigeria top the list and face catastrophic levels of acute hunger, with families in pockets of South Sudan and Yemen already in the grip of or at risk of starvation and death, according to the hunger hotspots report.

It stated that although majority of affected countries are in Africa, acute hunger was due to rise steeply in most world regions from Afghanistan in Asia, Syria and Lebanon in the Middle East, to Haiti in Latin America and the Caribbean.

On his part, WFP Executive Director David Beasley, said, "We are seeing a catastrophe unfold before our very eyes. Famine – driven by conflict, and fuelled by climate shocks and the COVID-19 hunger pandemic – is knocking on the door for millions of families."

Consumer Rights' Agency Seeks Operational Standards for Road Haulage

James Emejo and Folalumi Alaran in Abuja

The Executive Vice Chairman/Chief Executive, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC), Mr. Babatunde Irukera, has called for guiding principles for road haulage in the country.

He said the proposed framework should identify, what is acceptable and not tolerable in operation of haulage services to minimise road mishaps.

Irukera, at a joint stakeholders' forum on, "Safe Haulage

Operations for Sustainable Road Usage in Nigeria," which was in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), said such guides would ensure fewer road accidents in the country.

Specifically, he said adopting self-regulation and adherence to the law by major stakeholders and citizens to help protect lives.

The FCCPC boss, said there is the need for authorities to set "operational time" for vehicles to operate as witnessed in developed countries where the infrastructure is better adding that this would

not only address safety but also traffic management in Nigeria.

Irukera said, "The key issues are safety and protection of life even the vehicles. Secondly is durability of the infrastructure-roads and the vehicles and third is traffic management.

"All of these three things are complicated severely by the way we carry on haulage. How can we get to a point where we are self-regulating to make sure that these vehicles do not carry weight in excess of their capacities?"

"Secondly is operational time

for these vehicles to operate even in developed countries where the infrastructure is better, they have time that they operate. Address safety and certainly address traffic management."

He also said that the country should be able to operate speed limiters in haulage including tracking devices and hour counters to monitor how many times a vehicle is in operations.

He added that there should be consensus between industry and regulators in ensuring that appropriate crew operational time

and rest time is observed.

He added, "And the appropriate mechanisms, tools or technologies for implementing these principles would be the next stage and those are quite available."

He further pointed out that within the first nine months of 2021, 441 accidents recorded in Ogun State involved articulated vehicles.

Corps Marshal/Chief Executive, FRSC, Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi described road safety as a shared responsibility and solicited the

cooperation of all transport operators in achieving a sustainable, safer road and its attendant impact of reducing the rate of fatality and actualization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Represented at the forum by Deputy Corps Marshal, Ojeme Ewhrudjakpor, Oyeyemi, also expressed confidence that the partnership with the FCCPC would go a long way in promoting effective road safety that will engender social and economic development in the country.

SON Partners NFIU to Tackle Menace of Fake Products

The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has brokered a partnership with the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) to tackle the menace of fake products in the country.

The Director-General, SON, Malam Farouk Salim, at a sensitisation programme in Lagos, warned that it would no longer be business as usual for purveyors of fake and sub-standard products in the country.

The sensitisation programme is with theme, "The Use of Crime Record Information Management System as a tool to fight the influx of fake/sub-standard products and other related crimes in Nigeria."

Salim, represented by Director, Inspectorate and Compliance, SON, Dr. Omolara Okunola, said the partnership would greatly checkmate high incidence of financially related crimes, especially influx of counterfeit products into the country.

He lauded the efforts of the NFIU to support the standards body towards the effective discharge of the agency's statutory mandate.

He stated that the agency would get its staff properly trained on special applications to fight crime and get rid of counterfeited, fake and sub-standard products coming into the country.

"Our core mandate is to ensure that products and services locally made or imported into Nigeria meet standards and quality benchmarks in line with global best practices. You know, before you can do anything either in production or services, you need to gather the necessary data," Salim said.

The Chief Executive Officer, NFIU, Mr Modibbo HammahTukur disclosed that the influx of fake and sub-standard products into the country would be controlled via effective collaborative efforts and information sharing among the relevant government agencies.

He said NFIU was the central body in Nigeria responsible for receiving, requesting, analysing and disseminating financial intelligence reports on money laundering, terrorist financing and other relevant information.



REWARD FOR EXCELLENCE...

L-R: Marketing Manager, Domino's Pizza Nigeria, Mariam Busari; Winner of the Domino's Soccer League competition, Faruk Manzo; Assistant Brand Manager, Domino's Pizza Nigeria, Chinedu Da-Silva; and District Supervisor, Domino's Pizza Nigeria, Jackson Moses at the prize presentation to the Winner of Domino's Pizza Soccer League Competition in Lagos... recently

PHOTO: ETOPIKUTT

Lafarge Unveils Driving Institute to Improve Drivers' Safety

Kayode Tokede

Lafarge Africa Plc has announced the launch of the Lafarge driving institute in its Ewekoro plant in Ogun State, South West Nigeria.

The Lafarge Driving Institute in the South West is the second of-its-kind created by the building solutions company following the commissioning of the first driving institute in the South East in 2017.

The company has continued to provide drivers who have enrolled in the institute with industry-leading training programs tailored

to the needs of Nigerian heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) such as trucks, trailers and articulated vehicles drivers.

Speaking at the launch of the event, Country CEO of Lafarge Africa Plc, Mr. Khaled El Dokani, stressed Lafarge's commitment to improving health and safety within its operations and ultimately in its wider community.

"At Lafarge, we recognize that we have a job to do in improving road safety and we are committed to investing in safety innovation, both within

our organisation and along our supply chain. We see safety as key to creating sustainable and profitable operations – boosting productivity and increasing operational efficiencies and business performance in a tangible way."

In the same vein, the Chief Finance Officer/Supply Chain Director of Lafarge, Mr. Lolu Akinyemi, disclosed that the new driving institute is proof of the organisation's commitment to propelling socio-economic growth and investment in the country.

Guinness Grows Profit By 903% to N12.97bn

Kayode Tokede

Guinness Nigeria Plc has continued its path to sustained growth with an impressive increase in profit before tax that grew by 903 per cent in unaudited half-year result and accounts for period ended December 31, 2021.

The company reported N12.97billion profit before tax in H1 2021 as against N1.29billion reported in H1 2020.

The results which were released to the Nigerian Exchange Group (NGX), revealed that the foremost Total Beverage Alcohol company in Nigeria and a subsidiary of Diageo reported a significant Profit After Tax (PAT) of N8.820billion, a 287 per cent improvement from N317million loss

reported in corresponding period in the 2020-2021 financial year.

Key drivers that contributed to growth in Guinness Nigeria profits include impressive growth in revenue and reduction in finance cost.

For the period under review, the company's revenue grew by 51 per cent to N109.12billion in H1 2021 from N72.35billion reported in H1 2020, while net finance cost closed H1 2021 at N619.65million, 74.4 per cent below N 2.42billion reported in H1 2020.

The breakdown of revenue revealed that sales in Nigeria grew by 51 per cent to N108.04billion in H1 2021 from N71.53billion in H1 2020, while Export's sales moved from N820.9million in H1 2020 to

N1.09billion reported in H1 2021.

The Managing Director/CEO, Guinness Nigeria, Baker Magunda in a statement, affirmed that the earnings resulted from headline price increases in key brands; a reflection of the resilient consumer demand; and improved outlet coverage.

The company's revenue grew by 51 per cent to N109.1 billion in half-year ended December 2021, as it continued to optimize its product distribution system for all segments. The foremost brewer also reported that the impacts on the revenue during the period was engendered by a number of factors including inflationary pressure, foreign exchange devaluation impacting imported materials and air freight cost increase.

CBN DEBITS 14 BANKS N356BN OVER 27.5% CASH RESERVE REQUIREMENT

substance, interest bearing cash reserves.

"We estimate that cash reserves (including interest bearing cash reserves) were about 50 per cent of LCY deposits at the end of 2021. We do not believe that the CBN will reduce this ratio significantly in 2022, as it continues to see this as a major instrument for maintain "stable" exchange rates."

On his part, Vice President, Highcap Securities Limited, Mr. David Adnori said the CBN is using CRR to control inflation, stressing that the introduction of CRR is a drastic monetary policy to control money supply in the banking system.

According to him: "If CBN fails to maintain its CRR policy,

so much money will flow into the market and further depreciates the naira. Generally, the policy has not favoured banks because the fund is not yielding any interest and of no benefit to the productive sector.

"These are funds banks lend to the real sector to drive business activities, finance working capital of productive sector and boost GDP but the CBN is holding it down. It is not a good development for the nation's economy in general.

"However, CBN has its reasons and releasing these funds, it might result in hyperinflation which can damage the nation's economy. It is like a double edge situation- if you don't do it, the economy is damaged and if you do it, the economy also struggles."

He expressed that the only way CBN can cut CRR is when inflation dropped to a single-digit rate.

The National Coordinator Emeritus, Independent Shareholders Association of Nigeria (ISAN), Sunny Nwosu had stated that the 27.5 per cent CRR has not also yielded the desired economic results after the first phase of Covid-19.

He noted that shareholders are worried about the state of commercial banks and the safety of local portfolio investors' investments following the repeated fleeing of the banking industry by CBN.

Nwosu explained further that the continuous debit of banks under CRR by CBN is putting the banking sector under serious threat and a compelling impotency

toward sustainable intervention in the real sector.

"We urge CBN to seriously have a rethink on CRR and among other things to enhance the performance of the financial sector of the economy. The challenge character of Nigerian economy makes it imperative for CBN to pay interest on restricted deposits.

"Banks restricted deposits with CBN are idle funds. We argue that if these funds are with banks, certainly it will enhance their earnings, loans to real sector and returns for shareholders.

"If CBN can pay at least three per cent interest on the mandatory CRR deposits, it will go a long way in driving the real sector and the payment of robust dividends to

shareholders," ISAN said.

CRR is the minimum amount banks and merchant banks are expected to retain with the CBN from customer deposits.

In early 2020, the apex bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) increased CRR by five per cent from 22.5 per cent to 27.5 per cent over its intention to address monetary-induced inflation whilst retaining the benefits of its 65 per cent Loan Deposit Ratio (LDR) policy.

The monetary policy that was introduced by CBN in 2019 has drawn mixed reactions from stakeholders who have cited a drop in banks profit, among others.

The Governor, CBN, Mr. Godwin Emefiele at the end of January 2020,

MPC noted that: "the committee is confident that increasing the CRR at this time is fortuitous as it will help address monetary-induced inflation whilst retaining the benefits from the Bank's LDR policy, which has been successful in significantly increasing credit to the private sector as well as pushing market interest rates downwards.

"The Committee further encouraged the Management of the Bank to be more vigorous in its drive to improve access to credit through its pursuit of the Loan-to-deposit ratio policy as doing this would help, not only in creating job opportunities but also help in boosting output growth and in moderating prices."



NIGERIAN CONTENT DEVELOPMENT & MONITORING BOARD (NCDMB)

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

1. INTRODUCTION

The Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB), Yenagoa, Bayelsa State is mandated by the law to supervise, coordinate, administer, monitor and manage the development of Nigerian Content in the Nigerian oil and gas industry. In line with its mandate, the Board facilitated the establishment of a Subsea Learning Centre as part of measures to close technology and skill gaps in Subsea Operations in the Nigerian oil and gas industry. In view of the foregoing, the Board is seeking a reputable firm to be engaged as an Administrator for the Subsea Learning Centre located at the Nigerian Content Tower, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICE

DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE PLAN FOR THE CENTRE AND PROVISION OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION THAT WILL ENSURE OPTIMAL UTILIZATION OF THE FACILITY

3. CONDITIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY

All bids must be accompanied with the following:

- i) Evidence of company registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), including Forms CAC2 and CAC7.
- ii) Evidence of Company Income Tax Clearance for the last three (3) years valid till 31st December, 2021.
- iii) Evidence of current Pension Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021.
- iv) Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021.
- v) Evidence of current Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021.
- vi) Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring 31st December, 2021 issued by BPP.
- vii) Sworn affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of

the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars.

- viii) Company's Audited Accounts for the last three years (2018, 2019, 2020).
- ix) Evidence of relevant DPR Permit valid till 31st December, 2021.
- x) Evidence of financial capacity to execute the project by submission of Reference Letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, including a willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project where necessary.
- xi) Company Profile with list of technical personnel of the company, the curriculum vitae of key staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their academic/professional qualifications.
- xii) Evidence of in-depth knowledge of Subsea operations.
- xiii) Evidence of running a training centre.
- xiv) Evidence of quality teaching instructors.
- xv) Evidence of membership of Oil and Gas Trainers Association (OGTAN).
- xvi) All documents for submission must be transmitted with a covering/forwarding letter under the company's letterhead paper, bearing, amongst others, the Registration Number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (preferably GSM No.) and e-mail address.

4. SUBMISSION OF Tender DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of the Expression of Interest, packaged separately in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as Expression of Interest. Thereafter, put the three sealed envelopes together in a bigger sealed envelope, addressed to: **The Manager Procurement, Nigerian Content Tower, Ox-bow Lake, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State** with the name of the project. Furthermore, the reverse of each

sealed envelope should have the name and address of the bidder and drop in the designated Tender Box on Floor 14 not later than **Monday 21st February, 2022 at 12 noon.**

5. OPENING OF BID

The bid will be opened immediately after the deadline of submission, **Monday 21st February, 2022** by 1pm in 14th Floor Conference Room, in the presence of bidders or their representatives. Please, ensure that you sign the Bid Submission Register in Procurement Department, 14th Floor, NCDMB Headquarters Office, Ox-bow Lake, Swali, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, as NCDMB will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongfully submitted bids.

For further enquiries, please contact the Manager Procurement on e-mail: kingdom.unwene@ncdmb.gov.ng

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Bids must be in English and signed by an official authorized by the bidder.
- b. Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be returned un-opened.
- c. All costs will be borne by the bidders.
- d. Only prequalified bidders at technical evaluation will be invited at a later date for Request for Proposal & financial bid opening, while the financial bids of unsuccessful bidders will be returned un-opened.
- e. Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) is not bound to prequalify any bidder and reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liability, in accordance with Section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007.

Signed

Manager Procurement

Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB)

7th February, 2022.

PER WINKLE
 CONDOS
Presents

Investment Opportunity Series

TOPIC

3 reasons Why You Should Invest In Eko Atlantic City

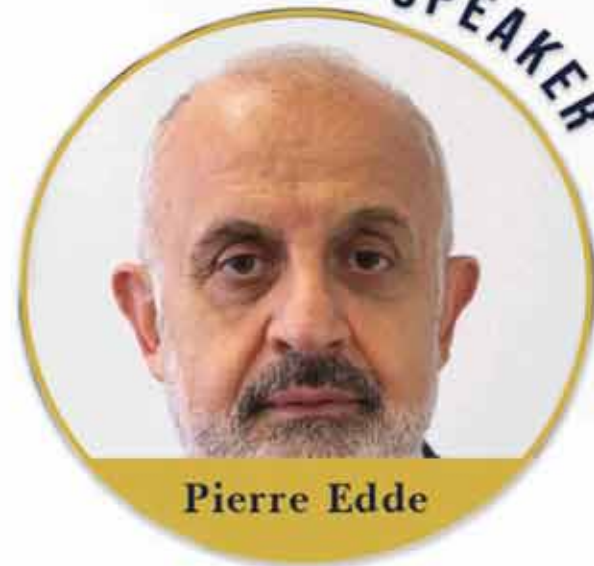
SPEAKER



Chiedu Nweke

**MANAGING DIRECTOR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 PERIWINKLE RESIDENCES LIMITED**

SPEAKER



Pierre Edde

**DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT, SALES & MARKETING
 EKO ATLANTIC CITY**

SPEAKER



Tunde Olatunji

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
 PERIWINKLE CONDOS LIMITED**

HOST




Buchi Emefiene

**PRODUCT AND GENERAL MANAGER
 PERIWINKLE CONDOS LIMITED**

Save The Date

 **Tuesday, February 8th, 2022**

 **11:00am**

**For more information:
 +234-907-230-4789
 www.periwinklecondos.com
 info@periwinklecondos.com
 @periwinklecondosltd**

**Register With The Link Below!
<https://bit.ly/periwinklecondoswebinar>**

CONTINUATION...

S/N	NAMES	INSTITUTION	COURSE	REMARK
1	ABANIWONDA YETUNDE SEMIAT	UNILAG	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
2	ABAYOMI ABDULLATEEF SHANU	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
3	ABDULKADIR ADETAYO MOHAMMED	UNILAG	SYS ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
4	ABDULKAREEM SUMAYAT OLAWUNMI	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
5	ABDULLAH ABDULRASHEED A.	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
6	ABDULMATIN IFETOMIWA SANMI	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
7	ABDULWASIU MUHAMMAD LEKAN	LASU	MGT. TECH.	UNDERGRADUATE
8	ABDUSALAM FATAI ADEKUNLE	UNILAG	MATHEMATICS	UNDERGRADUATE
9	ABIMBOLA BOLAJI ADEBOKOLA	UNILAG	MER. /LAB.	UNDERGRADUATE
10	ABIODUN AJIBOLA MARIAM	UNILAG	ESTATE MANGT.	UNDERGRADUATE
11	ABIONA STEPHEN FRIDAY	LASU	EDUC. AND ENGLISH	UNDERGRADUATE
12	ABRAHAM ALOWONLE MARY O.	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
13	ADALEMO SUNDAY NURUDEEN	UNIPOST	GEOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
14	ADAMS OMOBOLAJI BABAWALE	UNILAG	SYSTEMS ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
15	ADARIJU RASHEED ALADE	OAU	ELECT/ELECT	UNDERGRADUATE
16	ADEBANJO TEMITOPE IDRIS	LASU	CHEM AND POLY ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
17	ADEBAYO ZAINAB ADEYINKA	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
18	ADEBOSIN YOMI ADEOYIN	LASU	TRANSPORT	UNDERGRADUATE
19	ADEBOWALE AYO BALIKIS	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
20	ADEBOWALE OLUWATOMIWA BOLUWATIFE	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
21	ADEBOWALE OMOWUNMI OLUWATAMILORE	LASU	ZOOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
22	ADEFESO ABDULKAREEM PELUMI	LASU	BANKING & FIN	UNDERGRADUATE
23	ADEFUYE OPEYEMI ESTHER	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
24	ADEGBOYE SAHEED AKOREDE	LASU	MGT. TECH.	UNDERGRADUATE
25	ADEKOLA OWOLABI YUSUF	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
26	ADEKOYA IDRIS ADEBAYO	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
27	ADELOWO ADETOUN AISHA	LASU	CHEM AND POLY ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
28	ADEMIJI KEHINDE ABDULGAFAR	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
29	ADEOLUWA ZAINAB ADEROJU	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
30	ADEKEREMI TOBI DAVID	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
31	ADEWALE OMOTOLANI HALIMAH	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
32	ADEWALE SUSAN OMOLARA	UNILAG	ESTATE MGT.	UNDERGRADUATE
33	ADEWUNMI AKINGBOLA TAOFEK	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
34	ADEWUYI OYINKANSOLA M.	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
35	ADU OLUWATOFUNMI OLABISI	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
36	AFOLABI ADERONKE SALMAT MAUTIN	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
37	AFOLABI ALIMAH DEMILADE	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
38	AGABA HABEED TITLOPE	LASU	PROJECT MGT	UNDERGRADUATE
39	AGBABIKA ABDUL-QUADRI O.	FUNAAB	ANIMAL NUTR.	UNDERGRADUATE
40	AGBABIKA MUHDJAMIU IBIDAPO	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
41	AGBABIKA SUMAYYAH ABIDEMI	LASU	ISLAMIC STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE
42	AGBAJE IFEOLUWA ESTHER	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
43	AGBAJE OLUWATIMILEHN ABDULGAFAR	UI	CIVIL ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
44	AGBAJE OYEKUNLE JAMES	LASU	TRANSPORTS	UNDERGRADUATE
45	AGBALAJOBI JEMILAH ADUN	LASU	PUB. ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE
46	AGBOMEJI TAFEK TAIWO	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
47	AGBOSASA IBRAHIM ABIODUN	UNILAG	TET. ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
48	AGIRI DAMILARE IBRAHIM	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE
49	AHISU JULIE OLUWASEUN	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
50	AHMED ABDUL-RAHMAN AYOUBAMI	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
51	AILERU ADEWALE AZEEZ	LASU	MED. AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
52	AINA ADESINA ROBERT	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
53	AJAGBE KAYODE OLANREWaju	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
54	AJALA MOSHOOD OLAKUNLE	LASU	BANKING & FIN	UNDERGRADUATE

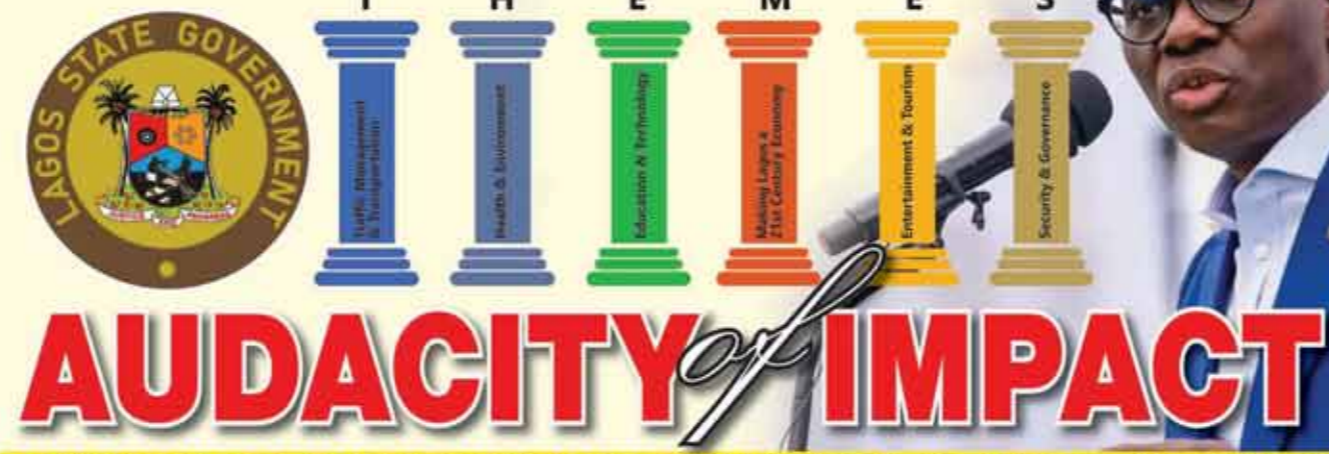
55	AJALOGUN ABDULGANIU OLORUNGBEBE	LASU	CHEMICAL ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
56	AJALOGUN ADIJAT OPEYEMI	AJAYI CROWTHER	MASS COMM	UNDERGRADUATE
57	AJASA MISTURAH OMOBOLARINWA	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE
58	AJAYI MOYOSORE SAMUEL	LASU	COMPUTER ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE
59	AJAYI OLUWATOSIN VICTORIA	LASU	MED AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
60	AJENIFUJA ABDUL QUDUS MAYOWA	UNILAG	MED./ SURG.	UNDERGRADUATE
61	AJETUNMOBI ESTHER OLAITAN	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
62	AJETUNMOBI TAYO EMMANUEL	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
63	AJIBOYE DARE	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE
64	AJISEBUTU ABAYOMI QUDUS	LASU	I.R.P.M.	UNDERGRADUATE
65	AJOSE FAROUK KOLADE	UNILAG	CHEMICAL ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
66	AJOSE LOIS BISOLA	LASU	EDUCATION ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE
67	AJOSE ADEGON HALIMAT MONI	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE
68	AJOSE ELIZABETH MAUTIN	LASU	POL.SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE
69	AJOSEH OLABISI MINASU	LASU	COMPUTER SC.	UNDERGRADUATE
70	AKINLAPA SEVEZUN AYOUBAMI	UNILAG	BOTANY	UNDERGRADUATE
71	AKINLUSI ABDUL-SALAM ADEOLA	UNILAG	MECH. ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
72	AKINOLA DAMILOLA JOHN	UNILAG	SURVEY	UNDERGRADUATE
73	AKINOLA ORIWASE SOLOMON	OOU	CIVIL LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
74	AKINOSO AJAKE MARIAM	LASU	I.R.P.M.	UNDERGRADUATE
75	AKINTOLA AISHA ADEJOKE	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
76	AKINYEMI EMMANUEL AKINBOWALE	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
77	AKINYEMI JESUDUNNI JESUTOROMO	UNILAG	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
78	AKOTHEYON DANIEL SEJIRO	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
79	AKOWANU GANIU OLUWASETO	LASU	COMPUTER SC.	UNDERGRADUATE
80	ALABI JOSHUA OPEYEMI NUNAYON	LASU	MED. SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
81	ALADE NOFISAT ADESEWA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
82	ALAKIJA FRANCIS MOBOLAJI	LASU	MED AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
83	ALAUSSA OLABISI ABIOLA	BABCOCK	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
84	ALAYAKI FAKHTAH OLAOLUWA	UNILAG	RADIOGRAPHY	UNDERGRADUATE
85	ALEBIOSU YEWANDE MARIAM	LASU	BANKING & M.	UNDERGRADUATE
86	ALEJO ADELABI TAOFEK	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE
87	ALFRED AYODELE FRANCIS	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
88	ALIMI ODUNAYO MUKHTAR	LASU	GEO & PLANNING	UNDERGRADUATE
89	ALLI ABDULAH ADEDEJI	ONDO STATE UNIV. OF MEDICAL SCL.	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
90	ALLI OLUWASEUN TEMIDAYO	UNILORIN	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
91	ALLI OMOLARA OMOSIMISOLA	LASU	MED AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
92	ALLISON OLUJAWON REMILEKUN	UNILAG	ESTATE MANAG.	UNDERGRADUATE
93	ALLISON SODIQ OLAITAN	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE
94	ALLIU ADETAYO AMINAT	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
95	AMIDA OLUWATOSIN	LASU	POLITICAL SCIE.	UNDERGRADUATE
96	AMOKUNMOSA RACHAEL IDOWU	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
97	AMOSU SESI SONAYON	UNILAG	FRENCH	UNDERGRADUATE
98	AMUSA IDOWU ZAINAB	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
99	ANDOYI MARYAM ABIOLA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
100	ANIBABA HAFSAH FOLASHADE	UNILAG	GEOPHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE
101	ANIFOWESE TEMITOPE JOSEPH	UNILAG	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE
102	ANIFOWOSHE AMINAT TOLANI	UNILAG	MED AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
103	ANIFOWOSHE MARIAM OLUWAPELUMI	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
104	ANIFOWOSHE RILWAN AYINDE	UNILAG	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE
105	ANIMASHAUN ADAH AKOREDE	LASU	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE
106	ANIMASHAUN MUSA BOLARINWA	UNILAG	SUR&GEOINFR.	UNDERGRADUATE
107	ANIMASHAUN OLAMILESITI ADEOLA	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
108	ANIMASHAUN TAOFIK TOBILOBA	UNILAG	GEO. PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE
109	ANTHONIO MUSTAPHA OLUSOLA	FUNAAB	FUNNAB	UNDERGRADUATE

LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER ON EDUCATION

(LAGOS STATE SCHOLARSHIP BOARD)

Website: www.lagosscholarship.org | Email: lagosscholar@gmail.com | Telephone: 08173331177



PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO 599 STUDENTS OF LAGOS STATE ORIGIN IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN NIGERIA FOR THE YEAR 2019/20 ACADEMIC SESSION

The Governor of Lagos State, Mr Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has approved and released funds for payment of Local Scholarship Awards to students who are indigenes of the State in all Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria. Consequently, The Office of the Special Adviser on Education (OSAE), wishes to notify the general public that the underlisted beneficiaries have been fully paid their Scholarship awards for the 2019/20 Academic Session.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

110	ANTHONIO OLUWAFUNMILAYO AREH OLABOWALE LAMID	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
111	ARIBA IFEOLUWA JIDE	FUTA	COMP. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
112	AROLE LATIFAT FIFEHANMI	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
113	AROLE OLUWABUSAYO ELIZABETH	BOWEN UNIVERSITY	PHYSIOTHERAPY	UNDERGRADUATE
114	AROMASHODUN TAOFEQAH JUMOKE	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
115	AROMASHODUN MARIAM ABIDEMI	UNILAG	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
116	AROWOJIBE TOHEEB OWOLABI	LASU	GEOGR. & PLAN	UNDERGRADUATE
117	AROWOLO OLASUBOMI MABEL SENAMI	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
118	ASHADE TEMITOPE DEBORAH	UNILAG	ELECT/ELECT	UNDERGRADUATE
119	ASHADE TEMITOPE DEBORAH	UNILAG	ELECT/ELECT	UNDERGRADUATE
120	ASHAFA BASHEER OKIKOLA	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
121	ASHALEJO JUMAH TEMITOPE	UNILAG	BUILDING	UNDERGRADUATE
122	ASHIMI FATIAT ADETUTU	LASU	BUS ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE
123	ASHIMI OLANREWaju RASHEED	LASU	PUB. ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE
124	ASHIRU ABUBAKAR ADISA	UNILORIN	TECH. EDUC.	UNDERGRADUATE
125	ASHORE ONISEMO MOJOLAOLUWA	OAU	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE
126	ASUNI ABDULKAREEM OLANREWaju	FUTA	CIVIL ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
127	ATOTA GBENAYON OLASUMBO	LASU	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
128	AVOSEGAMU METONWA NOVIYON AWAH OPEOLUWA ELIJAH	LASU	POLITICAL SCI.	UNDERGRADUATE
129	AWALAJA SAHEEDAT OMOWUNMI	UNILAG	PHILOSOPHY	UNDERGRADUATE
130	AWOLESI YEWANDE ABIOLA	UNILAG	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	UNDERGRADUATE
131	AYENI OPEYEMI	UNILAG	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
132	AYEOLA OLAJIDE ABDULHAFEZ	AFE BAB. UNIV.	CHEM. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
133	AYEOLA ZAYNAB ADEFOAKE	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
134	AYIDEJI OPEMIPO PRECIOS	FUTA	APH	UNDERGRADUATE
135	AYILARA ADEWALE ADESHINA	LASU	HEALTH EDU.	UNDERGRADUATE
136	AYOBAMI AINA WARITH	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
137	AYORINDE RASHEEDAT OLAMIDE	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE
138	AZEEZ AJAKE GANIYAT	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
139	AZEEZ AJAKE GANIYAT	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
140	AZEEZ AJAKE GANIYAT	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
141	AZEEZ HAMZAT OLALEKAN	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
142	AZEEZ OLUWATOSIN SHUKURAT	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
143	BABAYODE RIDWAN YINKA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
144	BADMUS ADENIRAN MUSA	UNILORIN	CIVIL ENGRING	UNDERGRADUATE
145	BADMUS GANIYAT OMOLOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
146	BADMUS OLUWAFUNMILAYO	LASU	POL. SC. EDU.	UNDERGRADUATE
147	BADMUS SHERIFIDEEN GBENGA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
148	BADMUS SULAIMAN AYODELE	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
149	BADMUS WAJUD BABAJIDE	UNILAG	ELECT/ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
150	BAJULAIYE DEMILADE JESSY	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
151	BAKARE FARUQ AKOREDE	UNILAG	MECH. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
152	BAKRE ADEBOLA FARUQ	UNILAG	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
153	BALOGUN ANUOLUWAPO ARIFDEEN	LASU	ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE
154	BALOGUN FATIMAH OLUWATOSIN	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
155	BALOGUN HAMID OLANREWaju	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
156	BALOGUN IDOWU ABDULKABEER	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
157	BALOGUN OLATUNJI YUSUF	LASU	POLITICAL SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE
158	BALOGUN OLAYIDE KABIR	UNILAG	ESTATE MANGMT	UNDERGRADUATE
159	BALOGUN QUADRI ABIODUN	UNILAG	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE
160	BALOGUN QUDUS ISHOLA	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE
161	BALOGUN SAMUEL OLUWATOSIN	LASU	BUS. ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE
162	BALOGUN SULTAN GBOLAHAN	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
163	BANKOLE ABIODUN SHUKURAT	LASU	MASS COMMUNICATION	UNDERGRADUATE
164	BANKOLE SATARAT MOYOSORE	LASU	CHEM. EDU.	UNDERGRADUATE
165	BARUWA MARYAM ABIMBOLA	UNILORIN	MATHEMATICS	UNDERGRADUATE
166	BASHIRU LATIFAT OLAMIDE	LASU	EDUC.MGT.	UNDERGRADUATE
167	BELLO ABUBAKAR OLAYINKA	UNILAG	CIVIL ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
168	BELLO AISHA ADERONKE	LASU	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
169	BELLO AMINAT OYINKANSOLA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
170	BENSAH MICHAEL	LASU	MED.SURG	UNDERGRADUATE
171	BENSON BABAJIDE SAMUEL	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE

172	BISIRIYU TEMITOPE FATIMOH	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE
173	BOKOH SOGOTHO JOSHUA	LASU	PSYCOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
174	BOROKINI RIDWAN ADERELE	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
175	BRAIMOH EBUNOLUWA FOLORUNSO	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
176	BUSARI HAYATTALAY TAIWO	LASU	TRANSPORT/MGT	UNDERGRADUATE
177	BUSARI MORUF	UNILAG	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE
178	CAREW OLAYINKA MARY	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
179	CAULCRICK FUNMILAYO ANIKE	UNILAG	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE
180	COLE BLESSING OGO-OLUWA	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
181	CONDE FIDELIA ADETAYO	UNILAG	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
182	DABIRI ITUNOLA SOFIA	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
183	DABIRI OLUWASEUN CLEMENT	LASU	MUSIC	UNDERGRADUATE
184	DARLEY OYEWOLE OLOYEDE	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
185	DAUDA AISHAT FERANMI	LASU	BANKING & FIN	UNDERGRADUATE
186	DAUDU QAZIN TOYIN	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
187	DAUDU USMAN ADEKUNLE	UNILAG	SYSTEM ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
188	DISU DAMILARE OPEMIPO	O.A.U	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
189	DORISAMU HABBE OLANMILEKAN	ONDO STATE UNIVERSITY	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
190	DORISAMU MARIAM OMOLOLA	LASU	FISHERIES	UNDERGRADUATE
191	DOSUNMU FATIMAH OMOTOYOSI	LASU	BUSS. ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE
192	DOSUNMU OLUWAFIYINSAYEMI J.	LASU	HEALTH EDUC.	UNDERGRADUATE
193	DUROJAIYE JANUJI ABIODUN	UNILAG	SYSTEMS ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
194	DUROSOINI -ETTI ABISOLA AZEEZAT	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE
195	EDUN OLUWAFEMI QUADRI	LASU	MED/SUG	UNDERGRADUATE
196	EGBEWOLA C. OLUWASEGUN	BOWEN UNIVERSITY	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
197	ELEGUSHI AMINAT ADERONKE	LASU	BOTANY	UNDERGRADUATE
198	ELETU KOFOWOROLA SULIYAT	LASU	MASS COM.	UNDERGRADUATE
199	ELIOT VICTORIA OLUWAFUNMILAYO	UNILAG	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE
200	ENIAYEWUN GRACE ADERAYO	UI	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
201	ENIAYEWUN IFEOLUWA PAUL	FUTA	MET & MAT	UNDERGRADUATE
202	ENIFENI IBRAHIM OLUWADAMILOLA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
203	EYIOWUAWI KAFAYAT ABIMBOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
204	FAKOREDE GBOLAHAN MOSES	UNILAG	MECH. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
205	FARONBI AMINAT ADETUTU	LASU	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
206	FASANYA TAIWO RACHAEL	FUTA	AGRIC EXTEN.	UNDERGRADUATE
207	FASHINA OYINDAMOLA AYOMIDE	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
208	FASHOLA LUKMAN O.	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE
209	FASHOLA OLANMILEKAN ABDULMUZ	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
210	FASINU SOLOMON SEWANU	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
211	FOLORUNSHO KAYODE ABAYOMI	UNILAG	EDUCATION & MATHEMATICS	UNDERGRADUATE
212	GAFAR OLANMILEKAN OLANSHILE	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
213	GANIKALE OLAMIDE ROHIMAH	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE



LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER ON EDUCATION
(LAGOS STATE SCHOLARSHIP BOARD)

Website: www.lagosscholarship.org | Email: lagosscholar@gmail.com | Telephone: 08173331177



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

275	LASISI TEMITOPE ENIOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	329	OGBE VICTOR OLUSEGUN	OAU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	383	OLORUNTADE GANIU BABATUNDE	LASU	POL. SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE
276	LATEEF OMOTOLA WUNMI	LASU	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	330	OGIDAN AFEEZ OLADIPUPO	OOU	MED./SURG.	UNDERGRADUATE	384	OLOTO IBRAHIM OLAKUNLE	LASU	TRANS MGT	UNDERGRADUATE
277	LAWAL ABDULQUDUS ADEMOLA	LASU	MED. SURG.	UNDERGRADUATE	331	OGUGBESAN ROLAND PROMISE	CALEB UNIVERSITY	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	UNDERGRADUATE	385	OLOWA KEHINDE JOSEPH	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
278	LAWAL IDRIS OLATUNJI	LASU	BANKING & FIN	UNDERGRADUATE	332	OGUNBEKUN, OLADAPO. O.	UNIPOST	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	386	OLOWA YEKEEN ADESOJI	UI	AGRIC AND ENVIR ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
279	LAWAL MUHAMMED ADESHINA	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	333	OGUNBIYI SEDEMO JAMES	LASU	BUS.ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE	387	OLOWU BENJAMIN DAMILARE	LASU	MECH.ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
280	LAYENI ISA OLASIJ	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	334	OGUNDEKO OLABISI LATEEFAT	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	388	OLUFEMI MOFOLUWA SAMUEL	BABCOCK UNI.	MASS COMM.	UNDERGRADUATE
281	LIASU TEMILOLUWA EZEKIEL	LASU	TRANSPORT MGT	UNDERGRADUATE	335	OGUNDIMU SEGUN AYOTUNDE	FUTA	ARCHITECTURE	UNDERGRADUATE	389	OLUFOWOBI HAMIDAT MOTUNRAYO	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
282	LIASU THOMAS JUMABI ABEFEBAT	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	336	OGUNGBO AZEEZAT TOLUWALASE	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	390	OLUGBASA AHMED OMOBOLAJI	LASU	FISHERIES	UNDERGRADUATE
283	LISBOA OLAJUMOKE HANNAH	UNILAG	IRPM	UNDERGRADUATE	337	OGUNJIMI ZAINAB ARAMIDE	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	391	OLUKOGA TANIMLOA OLATUNJI	LASU	POLITICAL SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE
284	LUCAS MUHAMMED OLUWASEUN	UNILAG	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	338	OGUNKOYA ABOSEDE	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	392	OLUMUYIWA AFOLABI TOBI	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
285	MABINUORI ADEKOYA FOLORUNSHO	LASU	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	339	OGUNKOYA OLUWAMUYIWA D	UNILAG	MED. LAB. SCIE.	UNDERGRADUATE	393	OLUTOSIN OPEYEMI MAZEDAH	LASU	ENGLISH ART	UNDERGRADUATE
286	MACAULAY EMMANUEL OLUWAFEMI	LASU	BUS.ADMIN	UNDERGRADUATE	340	OGUNSANYA ESTHER OLUWAFUNKE	LASU	ZOOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	394	OLUWATOSIN OLUWAFUNMIBI JINADU	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
287	MAKANJUOLA MARIAM AMOKE	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	341	OGUNYEMI OLABISI OLAYINKA	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	395	OLUWO OMOLABAKE RUQUAYAH	UNILAG	MARINE BIO.	UNDERGRADUATE
288	MAKINDE ADEWALE JUBRIL	LASU	MECHANICAL ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE	342	OJELABI DANIEL ABIODUN	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	396	OMOTOLA SAMUEL MORENIKEJI	UNILAG	QUANT. SURVEY	UNDERGRADUATE
289	MARTINS ADEMOLA HUTHMAN	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	343	OJIKUTU ABIMBOLA FOUAD	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	397	OMOTOYE ITUNUOLA JANET	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
290	MATHEW OLUWATOBI MOSES	LASU	EDUCATION AND HISTORY	UNDERGRADUATE	344	OJOKA ABOLAJI TOYEEB	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	398	ONIBUDO ABIODUN SODIQ	LASU	ELECT AND COMPT ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE
291	MOJEED ABIODUN SODIQ	LASU	EDUCATION AND MATHEMATICS	UNDERGRADUATE	345	OJOMO AYOPO AYOKUNMI	UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE	399	ONIGEMO AJIBOLA FARUQ	LASU	MED/SURGRY	UNDERGRADUATE
292	MOMSON ADETOKUNBO ESTHER	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE	346	OJORA AISHA ADUKE	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	400	ONIKOYI ABDULWAHAB OLATUNJI	UNILAG	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE
293	MOSES ESAU SEGBE	LASU	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	347	OKE AMINAT YETUNDE	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	401	ONIKOYI ABIMBOLA AMINAT	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE
294	MOSHOD ISMAIL OLUWAGBENGA	UNILAG	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	348	OKE SODIQ OMOBOWALE	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	402	ONILE ERE OREOLUWA MARIAM	UNILAG	ENGLISH ART	UNDERGRADUATE
295	MOSHOD OMOBOLAJI HABEEB	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	349	OKEKEJI OMOLARA SUWEBAT	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	403	ONIMOLE DEBORAH OLUWAKEMI	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
296	MOSHOD RUKAYAT TEMIDAYO	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	350	OKELARIN OMOTAYO ADEYEMI	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	404	ONITOLA HAWANAT ABIOLA	LASU	BOTANY	UNDERGRADUATE
297	MUAZ OLAWALE OALDIMEJI	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE	351	OKEOWO OLANIKE	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE	405	OPESEYI ADEGBOYE QOYUM	LASU	MECHANICAL ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE
298	MUMUNYI ABDULLAH OPEYEMI	UNILAG	RADIOGRAPY	UNDERGRADUATE	352	OKUNYE OKUNOLA SAIDAT	LASU	HEALTH EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	406	OREPITAN ZAINAB OMOTOLANI	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
299	MUMUNI KOREDE KABIRU	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE	353	OKUNYE OLAKUNBI AMINAT	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	407	ORILOYE ABIODUN SAMUEL	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE
300	MUMUNI MARYAM ADEBISI	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	354	OKUNNU OLALEKAN DAUDA	LASU	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	408	OSENI UTHMAN OMOKAYODE	FUNNAB	MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE
301	MURITALA BAKARE OKIKIOLA.E.	UNILAG	MECH. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	355	OLADAPO ABDULHAMEED T.	OAU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	409	OSHIKOMOYA BENJAMIN OLUWAKOREDE	LASU	TRANSPORT	UNDERGRADUATE
302	MURITALA ABDULRAUF BABATUNDE	LASU	BADIOGRAPHY	UNDERGRADUATE	356	OLADIPO MOGBONJUBOLA BOLU	UNILORIN	HISTORY	UNDERGRADUATE	410	OSHIKUYA MISTURA ABIODUN	LASU	CHEMPOLYMER	UNDERGRADUATE
303	MURITALA AKEEM ABAYOMI	LASU	POL. SC. EDU.	UNDERGRADUATE	357	OLADIPUPO HUSSIN KEHINDE	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	411	OSHINAIKE QUDUS OLALEKAN	LASU	MGT. TECH.	UNDERGRADUATE
304	MUSTAPHA ABDUL-LATEEF ABIODUN	LASU	ISLAMIC EDUC	UNDERGRADUATE	358	OLADUNNI ZAINAB ADEOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	412	OSHODI OLAMIDE MOORLAT	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
305	MUSTAPHA AYOMIDE ADEJUMO	LASU	FISHERIES	UNDERGRADUATE	359	OLAITAN OPEOLUWA OYINDAMOLA	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	413	OSIBODU ADERINSOLA HANNAH	LASU	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
306	MUSTAPHA OLAWALE MARUF	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	360	OLAIYA FATIMAT ABEKE	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	414	OSIBODU OLUWADAMILOLA MARGARET	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
307	NAFIU ABDUL-RAHMAN OYERINDE	NNAMDI AZIK	UMRIC ECONS	UNDERGRADUATE	361	OLAIYA RIDWAN AJANI	LAUTECH	MECH.ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	415	OSODEIN GRACE DAMILOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
308	NASIRU NIMOTA OLUWAKEMI	LASU	POL. SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE	362	OLAJIDE OLULANA SARAH	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	416	OTUSEMEDE JOSHUA TOBI	CONVENANT UNIVERSITY	INFORMATION COMMUNICATION	UNDERGRADUATE
309	NOAH OLUWIDE ADEMOLA	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	363	OLALEMI SAMIAT BISODUN	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	417	OWODINA SILIFA MOJISOLA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
310	NURENI BALOGUN ABDULBASIT ADEBANJO	UNILAG	BUILDING	UNDERGRADUATE	364	OLANIPEKUN OLANRENWAJU OLUWATOSIN	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	418	OWOYALUMO ABAYOMI TAOFFEEK	LASU	BOTANY	UNDERGRADUATE
311	NURUDEEN AYODELE KADIRI	LASU	MEDICINE&SURG	UNDERGRADUATE	365	OLANIYI MARTHA OYINKANSOLA	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	419	OYALOLA UMAR ADEAMOLA	BABCOCK UNI.	MASS COMM.	UNDERGRADUATE
312	OBAFEMI DANIEL OLUWATOBI	LASU	MEDICINE & SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE	366	OLANREWAJU ABDULRAZAQ JIDE	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	420	OYEDE MARIAM ADEJUMOKE	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
313	OBAGUN SODIQ ABIODUN	UNILAG	MET &MAT	UNDERGRADUATE	367	OLANREWAJU HUMMUKHAIR M.	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	421	OYEDELE OLUWAKIITE DORCAS	UNILORIN	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE
314	OBAYOMI OLAMILEKAN ANUOLUWAPU	LASU	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	368	OLANREWAJU OLADIMEJI Q.	LASU	MANGT. TECH.	UNDERGRADUATE	422	OYEDOLA JOSHUA OLAWALE	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE
315	ODELE AZEEZ OLAREWAJU	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	369	OLAPADE OLUWAYINSOLA ESTHER	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE	423	OYENIYI JACOB IBUKUN	UNILAG	MATHEMATICS	UNDERGRADUATE
316	ODUFISAN RAMOTA ODUFUNKE	UNILAG	EARLY CHILDHOOD	UNDERGRADUATE	370	OLAPE BUKOLA MAVIS	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE	424	OYENUGA OLUWASEUN OLAOLUWA	LASU	ELECT/COMP.	UNDERGRADUATE
317	ODUFOWORA HASSAN BOLUWATIFE	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	371	OLATAYO OLUWATOBILOBA Y.	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	425	OYENUGA SOLOMON ADEDAMOLA	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
318	ODUJOKO ADEKUNLE MICHAEL	COV. UNIV.	CIVIL ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	372	OLATUNJI MODINAT FOLORUNSHO	LASU	PROJECT MANA	UNDERGRADUATE	426	OYEYEMI SAMSON SEGUN	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
319	ODUJOKO JOSEPH ADEDAMOLA	COVENANT UNIVERSITY	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	373	OLATUNJI SERAH OLUWASEYI	LASU	B/FINANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	427	PADONU JEREMAIH AYOMIDE	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE
320	ODUKOYA ADENIYI MUSILIU	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	374	OLATUNJI TOHEEB ABAYOMI	UNILAG	EDUC	UNDERGRADUATE	428	PEMEDE MAWUYON OLOLADE	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE
321	ODUKOYA RUQOYAH AYOMIDE	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	375	OLAYEMI TAIWO GABRIEL	LASU	MECH.ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	429	RABIU KOLAPO ABDULLATEEF	UNILAG	RADIOGRAPHY	UNDERGRADUATE
322	ODULALU AMINAT OMOTOYOSI	LASU	NURSING	UNDERGRADUATE	376	OLAYENI OMOBAMILAYE A.	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	430	RABIU MISTURAH DAMILOLA	LASU	BUSS. ADMIN.	UNDERGRADUATE
323	ODUNIYI ABOSEDE MUTIAT	LASU	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	377	OLAYINKA MARIAM IFETOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	431	RAFIU MOSHOOD OLAKUNLE	LASU	ELECT/COMP.ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE
324	ODUNTAN MUBARAK	FUTA	MECH/ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	378	OLISA OMOTOYOSI AYOKU	UI	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	432	RAHMAN ABIODUN MARIAM	LASU	EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT	UNDERGRADUATE
325	ODUSANYA ZAINAB OLUWASEYI	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	379	OLOJEDE SEGUN EYIOWUAWI	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	433	RAMON ABIOLA RISIKAT	LASU	I.R.P.M	UNDERGRADUATE
326	OGABI MICHAEL OLADIPUPO	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE	380	OLOJO BILIKIS OYINDAMOLA	UNILAG	EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	434	RAMON ESTHER OREOLUWA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE
327	OGABI PRINCE OLUWATOBI	UI	COMPUTER SC.	UNDERGRADUATE	381	OLORUNFEMI MARIAM OMOTOYOSI	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	435	RAMONI MUYIDEEN SEWANU	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE
328	OGAYEMI OLAKUNLE RAHMOM	LASU	MARKETING	UNDERGRADUATE	382	OLORUNFEMI KOREDE AKEEM	LASU	BOTANY	UNDERGRADUATE	436	RASAQ AZEEZ GBOLAHAN	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE



LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER ON EDUCATION
(LAGOS STATE SCHOLARSHIP BOARD)

Website: www.lagosscholarship.org | Email: lagosscholar@gmail.com | Telephone: 08173331177



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

437	REIS ANTHONY GBOLAHAN	LASU	ZOOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	491	TINUEWA SEMANDE MAUTON	UNILAG	MARINE BIO.	UNDERGRADUATE	545	ADEWALE KABIRAH IDERAOLUWA	UNILAG	ECONOMICS	COMPASSIONATE
438	ROTINWA ABDUL-BASIT ENIOLA	UNILAG	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	492	TOHODE SUNDAY ALABA	LASU	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	546	ADEWALE MUHEEDAT	TRUST FIELD PRIVATE SCH.	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
439	SALAAM OLUWATOYOSI AMINAT	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	493	TOWOLAWI ADEDAYO JAMIU	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	547	AFOLABI PELUMI	PAC SCH FOR BLIND	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
440	SALAKO BASIRAH BUSAYO	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE	494	TRUSCOTT ANITA OLUBUKOLA	UNILAG	SUR&GEOINFO.	UNDERGRADUATE	548	AIYEDUN AYISAT	FCE YABA		COMPASSIONATE
441	SALAKO KOFWOROLA SOPHIA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	495	TUKURU IBRAHIM ADEMOLA	LASU	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	549	AKAPO SEUN	CALEB UNI.	MASS. COMM	COMPASSIONATE
442	SALAM HASSAN OLUGBENGA	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	496	UTHMAN MARIAM OLADUNNI	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	550	AKAPO SEYI SESEYON	RISE UP COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
443	SALAU IBRAHIM OLANREWAJU	LASU	ECONOMICS	UNDERGRADUATE	497	VITTU KOLADE VIYON	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	551	AKAPO SHARON SESINU	MODERN PACE COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
444	SALAU WAHEED OMODAMOLA	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	498	WILLIAM KOFWOROLA C.	UNILAG	CIVIL ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	552	ANIFOWOSHE AZIMA	QUEENS COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
445	SALAUDEEN OLUWASEGUN GANIU	LASU	SOCIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	499	WILLIAMS SEWANU EMMANUEL	LASU	MEDICINE AND SURGERY	UNDERGRADUATE	553	ANIFOWOSHE FAIZA	KAZTAL SEC. COLL.	SEC. SCH	COMPASSIONATE
446	SALIU ABDUL-SUBAIR KOREDE	UNILAG	CHEM.ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	500	WILLIAMS SEWEDO OLADIMEJI	UNILAG	ELECT/ELECT ENGINEERING	UNDERGRADUATE	554	BADMUS SULIAT	UNILAG	ZOOLOGY	COMPASSIONATE
447	SAMUEL DEBORAH OLUWAFIFUNMI	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	501	WUSU SEWANU OMOLOLA	CALEB	INFOR. RELATION	UNDERGRADUATE	555	BADMUS SULTAN	MODEL COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
448	SAMUEL SETHAMI ABAYOMI	UNILAG	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	502	YAKUB YUSUF AYOMIDE	LASU	MECH. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	556	BALOGUN ABDUL-KAREEM ADEOLA	DEMO PRY SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
449	SANGOSANYA AMINA ADEWUNMI	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	503	YINUSA PROMISE TIMILEHIN	ONDO UNIVERSITY	MED AND SURG	UNDERGRADUATE	557	BALOGUN JELILAT OJAFEYIKE	DEMO PRY SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
450	SANNI ENIOLA MEMUNAT	UNILAG	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	504	YISHAWU KEHINDE CHINONSO	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	558	BELLO MARYAM DOYINSOLA	GREENWOOD COLL.	SECSCH	COMPASSIONATE
451	SANUSI OLUWASEGUN TAOFEK	LASU	MED/SURGRY	UNDERGRADUATE	505	YUSSUF OPEYEMI UTHMAN	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	559	BELLO MAZEEDAH OLATEJU	GREENWOOD COLL.	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
452	SANUSI OLUWASEGUN WHENAYON	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	506	YUSUF LABEEBAN TEMIDAYO	LASU	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	560	BELLO MUTA'AL OLAJUWON	GUNDED PATH SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
453	SANUSI OMOTOLA EMMANUEL	FUTA	APP. GEOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	507	YUSUFF IDAYAT MOJISOLA	LASU	IRPM	UNDERGRADUATE	561	FARO GANIYAT WUNMI	TASUED	HISTORY	COMPASSIONATE
454	SANUSI VICTOR OLAJUWON	LASU	COMP.SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE	508	ZAFARAN QURRATU-LAYN BUKOLA	UNILAG	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	562	FARO KUDIRAT	LASPOLY	MASS. COMM	COMPASSIONATE
455	SANUTH MUTMAINAT ADEDAMOLA	LASU	FISHERIES	UNDERGRADUATE	509	ZAFRULAH SEGUN LAMINA	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	563	FARO OPEYEMI RASHEED	TEMITOPE SEC SCH	JSS3	COMPASSIONATE
456	SAPARA GBEMISOLA COMFORT	LASU	FISHERIES	UNDERGRADUATE	510	ZOKORO PETER SEKANDE	LASU	MECH ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	564	FARO RUKAYAT ABIMBOLA	BAYERO UNI.	EDUC.	COMPASSIONATE
457	SCOTT AYOMIDE SAMUEL	MOUNTAIN TOP	ACCOUNTING	UNDERGRADUATE	511	ZOSU SEWANU ELIZABETH	LASU	MED.SURG	UNDERGRADUATE	565	IFONLAJA IDOWU	YEMTOL PRY SCRRY SCH		COMPASSIONATE
458	SEKONI OLAJUMOKE KHADIAT	TASUED	COMP. SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE	512	AJALA GLORIA	LASU	ACCOUNTING	ONE DAY GOV.	566	IFONLAJA IYANUOLUWA	ST ANNES COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
459	SEMIYU ADERINSOLA FATIMOH	LASU	EDUCATION AND BIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	513	EDUN OLABANJI SAMSON	UNILAG	GEOLOGY	ONE DAY GOV.	567	IFONLAJA KEHINDE	FESBACH PRY SCH	SEC SCH.	COMPASSIONATE
460	SHABI IBRAHIM TEMITOPE	LASU	PHYSIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	514	OGIDAN ROSEMARY IBILOLA	LASU	EDUCATION	ONE DAY GOV.	568	IFONLAJA TAIWO	FESBACH PRY SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
461	SHITTA OLADIMEJI AHMED	LASU	ELECT AND COMPT. ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	515	OLASEINDE OLUFEMI JOSHUA	O.O.U	BIOCHEMISTRY	ONE DAY GOV.	569	KAREEM OLALEKAN SESAN	ARMY BARACKS SCH	SEC. SCH	COMPASSIONATE
462	SHITTA SAMUEL OLUWAFERANMI	UNILAG	FINANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	516	SONOIKI IDOWU IFEOLUWA	LASU	ACCOUNTING	ONE DAY GOV.	570	KILASHO ABOSEDE	TEACHER IST. KAD	SOC. STUDIES	COMPASSIONATE
463	SHITTABAY DAVID OLUWASEYITAN	UNILAG	PHARMACY	UNDERGRADUATE	517	ZOFFUN ADEBOKOLA NOIMOT	LASU	MASS. COMM	ONE DAY GOV.	571	KILASHO AKINDAYO	BOYS ACADEMY	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
464	SHITTU ADEWALE HAFEES	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	518	ABIMBOLA OLUWAFUNMILOLA	FUTA	METROLOGY	PHD	572	KILASHO BABAJIDE	SEC. SCH	JSS1	COMPASSIONATE
465	SHOBALOU SHERIFAT FUNMILAYO	LASU	MICROBIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	519	ADAMSON TEMITOPE WASIU	OAU	ECONOMICS	PHD	573	LAWAL HABIB	WEST SPRING SCH	J.S 2	COMPASSIONATE
466	SHOBOWALE YETUNDE AISHAH	LASU	BIOCHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	520	AFINJU AMINAT OLAWUNMI	UNILAG	MATHS	PHD	574	LAWAL OLUWATOBI	UNILAG	EDUC.	COMPASSIONATE
467	SHODIPE DOSUNMU ADEMILADE A.	UNILAG	MECH. ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	521	AKOREDE BURAIMO MARIAM	UNILAG	FRENCH	PHD	575	LAWAL OLUWATOMISIN	SUPREME FOUNDATION	J.S 3	COMPASSIONATE
468	SHODUNKE ADEMOLA WASIU	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	522	AMOSU OLORUNWA KEHINDE	UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN	PHILOSOPHY	PHD	576	MODUPE MICHEAL	LASPOLY	HORTICULTURE	COMPASSIONATE
469	SHODUNKE ADIO QUDUS	LASU	BUSS. ADMIN.	UNDERGRADUATE	523	AREBI TUBOSUN ISMAIL	UNI,OF LAGOS	BUS. ADMIN.	PHD	577	MOGAJI IFEOLUWALEKE	STRAIGATE COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
470	SHONIBARE OPEYEMI RILWAN	LASU	DENTISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	524	AREGBESOLA RASHEED DEHINDE	LASU	HUMAN RES.	PHD	578	MOGAJI KHALIF AYOBANJI	LASU	MATHS	COMPASSIONATE
471	SHUAIB ABDULMUQIT OLAYIWOLA	UNILAG	CIVIL ENGR.	UNDERGRADUATE	525	BELLO GANIYAT OLUBUNMI	LASU	EDU.MGT	PHD	579	MOGAJI PRINCESS AISHA	STRAIGATE COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
472	SHUTTI OLUWADAMILOLA HALEEMAT	UNILAG	MED/SUG	UNDERGRADUATE	526	EDU ABIDAT OLUWASHOLA	LASU	EDU.MGT	PHD	580	MOGAJI QUAM AYOGOKE	UNILAG	PHYSICS	COMPASSIONATE
473	SHUTTI OLUWADAMILOLA HALEEMAT	UNILAG	MED/SUG	UNDERGRADUATE	527	EDU ADEBOWALE	UNILAG	MARKETING	PHD	581	NOIBI MOJOLAOLUWA	COVENANT	MASS. COMM	COMPASSIONATE
474	SHYLLON MODUPEOLUWA OLUWATENIOLA	BABCOCK	ECONS	UNDERGRADUATE	528	FAKUMOJU KAMORU SEGUN	KWARS STATE UNIVERSITY	BANKING AND FINANCE	PHD	582	NOIBI OLUWAFIKAYO	BABCOCK UNIV.	AGRIC. SCIENCE	COMPASSIONATE
475	SOGBUYI ITUNUOLUWA ROSELINE	O.A.U	CIVIL ENGINEER	UNDERGRADUATE	529	HASSAN ADENIYI OLALEKAN	LASU	COMMUNICATION	PHD	583	NOIBI OLUWAGBOLAMIGA	HOME SCIE.	SEC. SCH	COMPASSIONATE
476	SOMOLU OLUGBENGA FEYIFUNMI	U.I	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	530	JOSEPH OLUWAROTIMI JOHN	U.I	MICRO BIO	PHD	584	ODEYALE JOHN JESULOBA	TOMIA COM SCH	MECATRONIC	COMPASSIONATE
477	SONIBARE MARIAM OYINDAMOLA	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	531	KOLAWOLE MOSHOOD ADELAJA	LASU	ISLAMIC STUDIES	PHD	585	OJOKO AJOKE	FUOYE	INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY	COMPASSIONATE
478	SOTTIN AYOOLOUWA DAVID	LASU	MASS COMM.	UNDERGRADUATE	532	LASISI OLUKAYODE IDRIS	OAU	PUBLIC ADMIN	PHD	586	OJOKO BOLARINWA	FUNAAB	CROP PROD	COMPASSIONATE
479	SUBERU FOLAKE DORCAS	LASU	EDUCATION AND BIOLOGY	UNDERGRADUATE	533	LI-HAMMED MORUFAT ABIMBOLA	UNILAG	BOTANY	PHD	587	OJOKO TOSIN JADESOLA	HIGHLIGHT COLL.	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
480	SULAIMON ARAFAT OMOLABAKE	CRESCENT UNIVERSITY ABEOKUTA	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	534	OLOYEDE ADAMSON OPEYEMI	LASU	COMP. ENGR.	PHD	588	OLATINWO MOSOPEFOLUWA	O.A.U	CHEM/MATHS	COMPASSIONATE
481	SULUKA KABIR OLAKUNLE	LASU	TRANSPORT	UNDERGRADUATE	535	ONAMADE JOSEPH ADEKUNLE	UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS	LAW	PHD	589	OLATINWO OKIKIOLUWA PAUL	OAU	INT. REL.	COMPASSIONATE
482	SURAJUDEEN AKOREDE RIDWAN	LASU	POL.SCIENCE	UNDERGRADUATE	536	ADEBESIN HIKMAT	HEALTH TECH. AKURE	MED. LAB	COMPASSIONATE	590	OLOWU AMIDAT TEMILADE	YABA TECH	ACCT.	COMPASSIONATE
483	TAIWO BABATUNDE ABDULKAR	LASU	PHY. AND HLTH EDUCATION	UNDERGRADUATE	537	ADEBESIN ISLAMIAT	SOL PRY SCH	SEC. SCH	COMPASSIONATE	591	OLUKOTUN TOLUPE JULIUS	UNILAG	HUMAN KINETICS	COMPASSIONATE
484	TAIWO DAMILOLA KAOSARA	LASU	LAW	UNDERGRADUATE	538	ADEIGBE OLUWANIFEMI SOLOMON	U.I	PHYSICS	COMPASSIONATE	592	OLOWU NURAT TAIWO	FUNAAB	ENV.MGT	COMPASSIONATE
485	TAIWO GABRIEL OLAYEMI	LASU	MECH.ENGR	UNDERGRADUATE	539	ADEIGBE OREOLUWA	UI	PHYSIOLOGY	COMPASSIONATE	593	SAKA IDRIS	LASPOLY	COMP.SC	COMPASSIONATE
486	TAIWO OLUWAFEMI SAMUEL	UNILAG	BUILDING	UNDERGRADUATE	540	ADELEYE AYOMIDE	LASU	PHYLOSOPHY	COMPASSIONATE	594	SALAU AYOMIDE WUNMI	DISTINCT PRY SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
487	TAIWO TIJANI TOLANI	LASU	MEDICINE	UNDERGRADUATE	541	ADELEYE OLUWATOSIN	FED. GIRLS IPETU	SEC. SCH	COMPASSIONATE	595	SALAU BABATUNDE	DISTINCT PRY SCH	SEC SCH.	COMPASSIONATE
488	TALABI NOAH BABATUNDE	LASU	CHEMISTRY	UNDERGRADUATE	542	ADEWALE AZEEZAT TOKUNBO	VIVIAN FOWLER	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE	596	SALAU IMOLE-AYO	UNIQUE SCH	SEC SCH	COMPASSIONATE
489	TANIMOWO SENAPON OLUKUNLE	LASU	INSURANCE	UNDERGRADUATE	543	ADEWALE FAREEDAT.I	TRUST FIELD PRIVATE SCH.	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE	597	SALAU OLUWASEUN DAVID	DISTINCT PRY SCH	PRY SCH	COMPASSIONATE
490	TIJANI JAMIZI OLASUNKANMI	LASU	PHYSICS	UNDERGRADUATE	544	ADEWALE HAMEEDAT.A	OAU	300L	COMPASSIONATE	598	UBANI ADAOHA CHIMA	UNIBEN	EDUC.	COMPASSIONATE
										599	UBANI EYEOMA	EPEKOMA UNI.	LAW	COMPASSIONATE

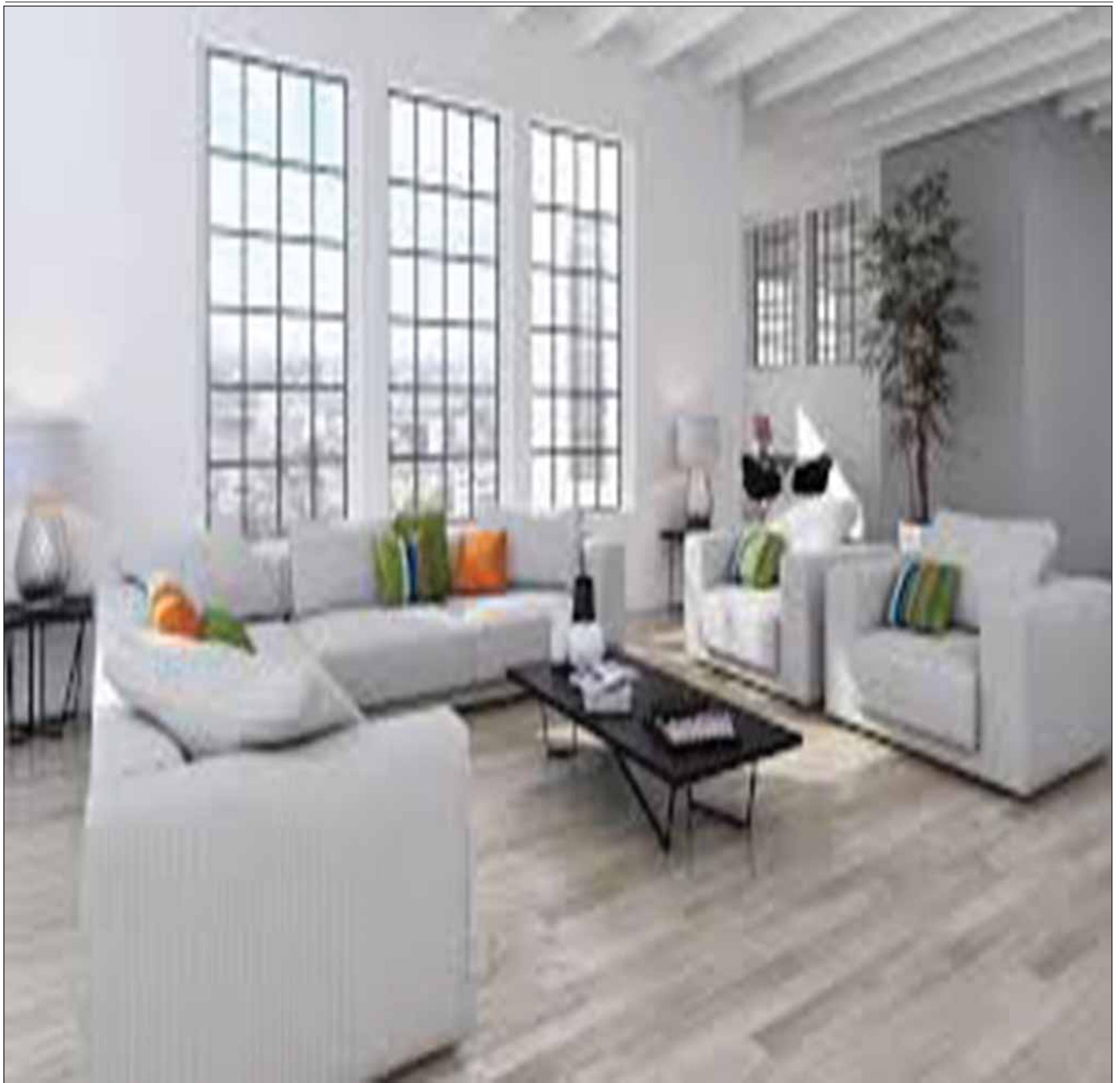
IGBEGA IPINLE EKO, AJUMO SE NI!

HOMES & DESIGN



VITA TOWERS:
Nigeria's Skyscraper
at Its Finest

HOMES&DESIGN



Exquisite Elegance for the Finest

The developers of Vita Towers, a twin 12-floor facility in Victoria Island, Lagos, infused it with all the trappings of elegance. The towers are a compact system for business people and holidaymakers. **Bennett Oghifo** writes

The twin 12-floor Vita Towers stick out nicely on a prime piece of land at the intersection of Anifowoshe and Kofo Abayomi streets. This is a strategic location in Victoria Island, putting residents within reach of all attractions, including shopping malls, fine restaurants, high-profile establishments, including embassies and blue-chip companies.

Residents can walk or jog in the neighbourhood because it is safe and serene. At the towers, the flow begins at a spacious and well-furnished lobby

occupied by the valet and other service systems.

Residents move from here to an upper landing where six well-coordinated high-speed lifts transport them to their apartments.

There are service lifts that support the service stairs, and each tower has refuse chutes that are carefully integrated into the structure of the building.

According to the promoters, the towers are contemporarily themed architectural masterpieces, having

four exclusive penthouses on the 11th and 12th floors, with other floors having 36 apartments.

Residents have an unobstructed view of their surroundings on account of large fenestration. All the rooms have generous space and are made comfortable by cool, calm interiors and fantastic views.

The promoters took special care to ensure the towers are in harmony with the surroundings, and the choice of materials established an ambience of excellence, luxury and peace. Its

luxury features include integrated support services, sewage and treatment facility, boreholes and a dedicated water treatment plant.

There are fire prevention and fighting facilities, including smoke and fire detectors, firefighting and suppressing equipment, three standby generators for constant power supply, supported with dedicated power transformers for optimum and efficient power supply.

For coordinated security, the developers installed close circuit television, intercom, and panic buttons in the towers.

BUSINESS SPECIAL

Editor: Obinna Chima
obinna.chima@thisdaylive.com
08024557078



Oil worker

Achieving Oil Reserve, Production Growth Target

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission is exploring all available options to ensure Nigeria meets its 40 billion barrels' oil reserve and three million barrels per day production targets and ultimately boost the nation's revenue and overall economy, **Peter Uzoho** writes

Oil price is on its way to the \$100 per barrel mark projected by some analysts, as it traded at \$95 per barrels last week. This is supposed to be a cheery development for Nigeria. But it is not, mainly because the country is not producing the kind of volume required to enable it maximise the benefit of the price rally.

The persistent low oil and gas production and declining oil reserve, caused by waning investments in the exploration and production chain of the Nigerian oil and gas industry has impacted the country's economy adversely.

Today, Nigeria is faced with revenue shortfall because of the huge drop in oil revenue, leading to the government resorting to excessive borrowing to meet its statutory governance obligations to the people.

The many years of under-investment and inactivity in the oil and gas sector, attributed to the unclear and unfavourable investment climate, coupled with unenticing fiscal framework, prompted the expeditious passage and signing into law of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) in July and August, 2021 respectively.

One of the landmark provisions of the Act was the establishment of two new regulatory agencies -the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) and the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRC).

The implementation of the PIA, which is still work in progress, led to the appointment of one of Nigeria's astute petroleum experts of many decades of industry experience and knowledge, Mr. Gbenga Komolafe, as the chief executive officer of NUPRC.

Upon his confirmation by the Senate and his subsequent inauguration, Komolafe left no one in doubt as to what he is bringing to the table as the chief regulator of the hydrocarbon upstream sector.

Addressing the commission's staff in Abuja, in October last year, immediately after his Inauguration, while letting them know the task ahead of them, Komolafe declared that the immediate priority of the new petroleum industry regulator was to raise the country's crude oil production from September's 1.4 million barrels per day to about 2.4 million bpd in the coming months - a short term strategy of the commission.

As at that time, out of the total of 1.614 million bpd allocated to Nigeria in September by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the country was only able to pump 1.399 million bpd during the month, against a reference production figure of 1.829 million bpd.

Komolafe noted that the proper execution of the



Komolafe

PIA would translate to landmark transformations in the industry that are expected to usher in massive investment in the sector for enhanced revenue to fund Nigeria's social budget.

He added: "Incidentally, we are at a critical and significant moment in the life of the industry whereby energy transition from fossil fuels to cleaner energy is competing with the need for us to raise the bar of our crude oil and gas production from the current level of 1.4 mbbbls/d to 2.4 mbbbls/d.

"We are not unmindful that the expectations are high, but we are quite determined to surmount the task ahead and hit the ground running", he had said.

Consequently, Komolafe set out to work. He segmented all the critical industry stakeholders and began meeting them one after the other to feel their individual pulse and pains, get useful inputs on how to achieve the target.

PLANS FOR OIL RESERVE, PRODUCTION GROWTH

Apparently adopting less-talk-more-action strategy, in November last year, the NUPRC CEO rolled out before industry players in Lagos, some of the aggressive steps and plans to help the country achieve the 40 billion barrels' oil reserve and three million barrels per day (bpd) targets.

Realising that without active collaboration between the public and private sector, nothing meaningful would be achieved, Komolafe said part of the strategy was the initiation of Public, Private, Partnership (PPP).

The partnership involves security agencies, private operators and other stakeholders to address the challenging issues of crude oil theft, sabotage and pipeline vandalism.

Other measures being taken by the commission, according to Komolafe, included collaborative efforts between operators and communities, and the deployment of state-of-the-art technology to monitor pipelines in remote areas.

He said, "Already, as a commission, we have commenced consultation with relevant stakeholders towards the achievement of these objectives.

"A more aggressive policy on routine Asset Integrity Management to curb crude leakages and spills caused by aging facilities will be adopted. "An initiative to reduce the cost of production while also benchmarking cost across terrain is ongoing."

He added that the commission was making provision to incentivise drilling targets at deeper horizons and to also provide guidelines to ensure seismic acquisition design to image deep plays.

He said attractive incentive was being made to encourage multi-client and speculative data companies to acquire state-of-the-art data in open acreage to facilitate exploration activities.

He regretting the decline in oil production, which he attributed to theft, insecurity, aging facilities, decline in exploration and production enhancement initiatives.

Komolafe assured that, as the upstream technical and commercial regulator, the commission was committed to addressing the issues causing the decline in daily production in order, "to increase our reserves to 40 billion barrels and raise our production to three million barrels per day."

OIL REVENUE RECOVERY INITIATIVE

Nigeria loses about 150,000 barrels of oil a day to illegal tapping of pipelines, amounting to a loss of about \$4 billion every year, or 10 per cent of the country's annual budget.

As part of the efforts to end this humongous oil revenue losses and attendant impact on the nation, NUPRC recently announced introduction of 'Industry-Wide Oil Revenue Recovery Initiative', with a committee that includes several security agencies.

"The positive impact of that will be witnessed very soon because there is a collaborative approach to stop the incident, especially as it affects the federation's revenue. You should not expect me to disclose the strategy," Komolafe said.

He said the ambitious recovery plan would double the nation's output from 1.5 million barrels of oil a day to three million barrels daily. The initiative has attracted commendations from concerned energy experts, who viewed it as a step in the right direction.

For instance, the Chief Executive Officer of New Hampshire Limited, a meter manufacturing company, Mr. Odion Omonfoman, said the revenue recovery plan was a positive one. He said the money being lost on oil theft was enough to fund sizeable number of infrastructure projects in critical sectors.

He said, "That should have been \$4 billion that would have accrued to the federation, which should have been used to build schools, hospitals, roads, infrastructure.

"But that money is pretty much stolen and doesn't come back to Nigeria. It also harms investment in the oil and gas sector. If you notice, a lot of the internal oil companies (IOCs) are divesting from onshore and shallow water assets that they used to own.

"Any action aimed at reducing the amount of sabotage, including involving the local communities who literally are unwilling participants in this business will be helpful.

"At the end of the day, we must have a strategy that ensures that the local communities benefit from crude oil and gas productions within their area. You must have some form of incentive that will ensure and allow continuous production and community participation in protecting oil and gas assets."

Omonfoman, however, advised that while promoting initiatives that would boost oil production and generate more revenue, government authorities must also consider local communities that are suffering from environmental hazards resulting from oil production.

Revolutionising the Cotton Value Chain

Jennifer Daniels

Until recently, cotton played a significant role in the nation's economy especially in the areas of employment and the growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). There is no doubt that it also made some contributions to the nation's political development bearing in mind that some of the political leaders, including in the ongoing dispensation, honed their skills and won their spurs in the textile and garment sector of the economy.

Somehow, as a result of policy shifts, Nigeria's cotton, textile and garments sector took a plunge from which it was not able to recover until the interventions of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) under Godwin Emefiele. As at the time the CBN intervened in 2018, domestic production of cotton had fallen to about 80,000 tonnes. From that date, he set a target for himself as he worked towards reviving the all-important sector. By 2020, domestic production of cotton on Emefiele's watch has risen to an impressive record of 300,000 tonnes.

The real essence of the policy is aimed at addressing the huge spending in the importation of textile which had risen to a whopping N1.23 trillion. To end the drift that was sucking the nation dry, Emefiele started from the beginning by distributing high-yield cotton seeds to more than 100,000 farmers cultivating over 200,000 hectares of farmland. The bank also provided farm inputs such as fertilisers and pesticides, among others. The CBN plans to close the seed cotton gap in Nigeria of 450,000 metric tonnes this year, 2022.

A committee to ensure that farmers who benefit from the CBN intervention comply with the rules and guidelines that govern the scheme is already in place. It was also mandated to ensure Nigeria's self-sufficiency in cotton production and textile materials within five years from 2019.

It is encouraging that CBN identified not only the need for the revival of the textiles and garments sector of the economy but also the bold steps needed to achieve that. It is painful to recall that Nigeria used to boast of 180 textile mill companies. These industries jointly provided employment to about 450,000 people, contributing about 25 per cent of the workforce in the entire manufacturing sector of the country.

Unfortunately, the sector lost steam due, essentially, to policy shifts and inconsistencies that encouraged the importation of textiles and finished clothes into the country, high cost of production occasioned mainly by high energy/power costs, and an insufficient quantity of cotton resulting from low-yielding cotton seeds.

It is gratifying to note that with CBN's intervention, the cotton, textiles and garments sector has bounced back. The Bank has disbursed over N44 billion across the cotton, textile and garment (CTG) value chain between 2019 and 2020 and has been monitoring recovery over the



Emefiele

period. Already, the sector has created over 620,000 direct and indirect jobs in two years while also ensuring that the textile industry records an increase in production – over 10 million meters of yarn materials.

It is estimated that the textile industry in Nigeria is capable of an average output of between 150,000 and 300,000 metric tonnes with a ginning capacity of 497,000mt at 51 per cent capacity utilisation, up from 19 per cent.

Computing the success on ground, it is obvious that the CBN has financed 19 ginneries, four textile companies and three garment manufacturers under the textile sector intervention facility within the same period. This has led to an increase in the number of active ginneries from 13 in 2019 to 21 as at June 2021.

Also, the CBN has financed over 200,000 cotton farmers between 2019 and 2020, cultivating 291,761 hectares of land with an output of 94,787 metric tonnes of cotton seed.

What this entails is that the number of farm hands must have increased within the period. With the availability of high-yielding seedlings, more high-quality cotton will be produced and enough raw materials made

available to keep factories/mills productively busy. This, in turn, is creating space for more factory hands. It is also important to note that with these positive indices, high quality textiles and garments will be produced from the high-quality cottons which will in turn reduce if not eliminate the demand for imported alternatives.

Even more importantly, is the fact that the foreign exchange hitherto required for textile imports is now reserved. Experts project that should this policy be pursued consistently over time, Nigeria is certain to become a net exporter of cotton, textiles and garments especially as the expected new status and capacity of the sector attracts more investors who will expand production further.

It is pertinent to stress that this bold initiative by the CBN and the resources being deployed and applied to it must not be allowed to go down the drain. For this not to happen, comprehensive policies, rules and guidelines are already being applied to accord with international best practices.

This means that participating farmers and other relevant stakeholders who have contributions to make towards a successful

outcome, are also being given needed practical training and empowerment. Implementation in this regard is carried out within the policy framework, guidance rules and regulations. Periodic reviews/evaluations are similarly undertaken. Corrective steps have already been designed and will be taken when and where necessary. Also, deterrent sanctions will be instituted ready to be applied on individuals and organisations who may dispose themselves to sabotaging, stalling or derailing this enterprise.

For emphasis, the cotton, textile and garment is a critical sector in the country with huge potential for creating hundreds of thousands of jobs, supporting the production and use of locally manufactured textiles and saving the nation billions in foreign exchange.

The CBN is also collaborating with some private stakeholders towards improving the quality of seeds to guarantee high yields just as it is also supporting the textile companies in the last two – three years, leading to the revival of some previously moribund companies.

Emefiele disclosed that with the collaboration of ginneries, a backward integration policy has been put in place that saw to the cultivation of an average of 53,100 hectares with an estimated output of 106,200 metric tons at two metric tons per hectare for the 2021 wet season. The bank is also working with existing prime anchors for 10,000 hectares of land with an estimated output of 20,000 metric tons.

President of the National Cotton Association of Nigeria, Anibe Achimugu, was elated by the intervention of the CBN which he said has contributed to the growth being recorded in the sector. "In spite of the Covid-19 challenges, we were able to identify 123,000 farmers while 90,700 hectares were cultivated.

Achimugu, referring to all the stakeholders in the sector said, "we must synergise, come together. We must create an ecosystem. We must help ourselves and not see ourselves as competitors. We need to work together. We all don't want to lose this opportunity created for the sector by Emefiele and his team at the CBN."

Some end users of cotton products asserted that the government patronage of the country's cotton products is essential. Nigerian market alone is big enough for the operators in the garment industry. Their emphasis is to make Nigeria a garment manufacturing hub for big brands.

It will be recalled that the CBN has already set in motion an arrangement for the big garment users such as the military and paramilitary agencies to patronise the burgeoning cotton, textile and garment sector. According to Emefiele, this patronage is a policy game changer that is revolutionising the sector.

• Daniels is an economic analyst based in Kaduna

AirSmat Partners Riceafrika to Provide Field Data, Empower Rice Growers

AirSmat has continued its quest to enhance agricultural productivity with the announcement of another enterprise agreement in principle with RiceAfrika.

In this partnership, AirSmat would deliver critical enabling technology for RiceAfrika platform which would help Rice growers improve their productivity and secure the supply chain of the future.

In a statement released by the company, RiceAfrika would use the technology of AirSmat to deliver unique agronomic insights with remarkable acre-by-acre precision and drive efficiency into invoice generation to rice growers that require services provided by RiceAfrika.

RiceAfrika's team of experts would access this data to deliver value for some of their most valuable partners which include farmers that produce high-quality rice products.

Commenting on the development, the Vice President, Sales for AirSmat, Olasunkanmi Alabi said: "With drone, satellite, soil-level and IoT sensors, we are helping to transform the way farmers collect, manage, and interpret farm data. We are helping farm owners and farmers across to eliminate guesswork and drive day to day farm operations decisions with precision."

Speaking further, he explained that "Precise, accurate data enables the tailored application of crop inputs and water resources, eliminating overapplication and overuse of products and delivering the insights needed for growers to optimise land stewardship."



Vice President, Sales, AirSmat, Olasunkanmi Alabi (left) and Technology Entrepreneur, Founder, RiceAfrika, Ibrahim Maigari during the signing of the partnership with AirSmat in Lagos... recently

The AirSmat team stated that they were excited to support RiceAfrika on the mission to make quality rice available across Africa, ensure sustainability and empowerment of

rice growers with the best-in-class technology to increase yield.

In this partnership, RiceAfrika has made commitments to its growers, customers, and

stakeholders, likewise, AirSmat would continue to use its technology to demonstrate that farmers' success, economic empowerment, and sustainable practices go together to grow food production to attain self-sufficient in Africa.

AirSmat since its inception, is working with many of the largest farms/corporations, and consumer-packaged goods companies to help drive efficiency and productivity through AI-driven digital insights. The technology is designed to help farmers with precision agriculture thereby eliminating guesswork in the farm practice.

AirSmat addresses the need to increase the efficiency and sustainability of the farming business by offering extraordinary access to real-time information that can help guide in-season decision making.

Using the world's most advanced solution for diagnostics of your farmland, we drive precision farming that empowers the agricultural industry to adopt and scale resilient agricultural practices. With drone, satellite, soil-level and IoT sensors, we are helping to transform the way farmers collect, manage, and interpret farm data. We are helping farm owners and farmers across to eliminate guesswork and drive day to day farm operations decisions with precision.

On the other hand, RiceAfrika is Africa's first rice ONLY platform connecting all stakeholders in the value chain towards creating valuable interactions. Its objective is to use technology to improve rice production in Africa.



AN HONOUR
WELL
Deserved

I Heartily rejoice with you,
Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi,
the Hon. Minister of Transport,
on your conferment and turbaning as the
Dan Amanar Daura,
by the Emir of Daura,
His Royal Highness,
Alhaji Umar Farouk Umar.
The honour is a confirmation of
your nationalistic character.

Congratulations!!!



Signed
Senator Mohammed Sani Musa
Niger East Senatorial District
National Assembly, Abuja.



AN HONOUR
WELL
Deserved

I Heartily rejoice with you,
Alhaji Nasiru Haladu Danu,
Dan Amanar Dutse,
on your conferment and turbaning
as the **Tafida Babba Daura,**
by the Emir of Daura,
His Royal Highness,
Alhaji Umar Farouk Umar.
The honour is a confirmation of
your Philanthropic and nationalistic
character.

Congratulations!!!



Signed
Senator Mohammed Sani Musa
Niger East Senatorial District
National Assembly, Abuja.

CITYSTRINGS

Group Features Editor: Chiemelie Ezeobi
Email chiemelie.ezeobi@thisdaylive.com, 07010510430

Saving the Environment

To save the environment from the increasing rate of plastic use, which are not bio-degradable, the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency recently launched a ban on single use plastic, pet bottles, others, **Chiemelie Ezeobi** reports



LASEPA team and their bags for the single use plastics



Dr. Dolapo Fasawe and PS Lagos State Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Mrs. Belinda Odeneye with the LASEPA team

"We have found out that in Lagos State, plastic pollution is a major problem and it blocks a lot of drains as plastics are not bio de-gradeable. Every single plastic made is still on the surface of the earth. They can be blocking drains or eaten by fishes which we in turn eat and the implications health-wise are now coming to the fore.

"We intend to mop up used plastics. We are having conversations with beverage and food alliance companies who produce plastic bottles. We cannot stop them but they have a responsibility by government to ensure that these plastics are properly disposed off and now we are enforcing recycling and enforcing putting money in a general treasury to deal with plastic pollution," the above statement was made by the General Manager

Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) in November 2021 at the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Glasgow, Scotland.

In an interview with THISDAY, she revealed that they "recently launched a program called Waste Exchange and this simply means we are putting a premium on amount of used plastic. What do we hope to achieve? We hope to mop up used plastics all the way from the drains.

"For instance, if plastics are being bought for N5, we intend to buy it for N10 or N15 and you'll ask me how is this sustainable, most industries and companies pay environmental development charge, a levy, a tax that is compulsory to be paid to the coffers of Lagos State. We will now start to use tax payers money to work for the tax payer.

"This money will be used as a premium to attract plastics from every nook and cranny of Lagos State. You ask me how will it be sustainable, sustainability will come when our off-takers, they have to pay for what they are taking off us, they start to pay and the cost starts to grow while government subsidy starts to reduce. That way, it becomes a revolving fund".

Initial Measures

According to Dr. Fasawe, initial measures by the current government of Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu includes many policies and initiatives at the implementation stage with measurable impact that is objectively and verifiably measured.

Already, there are hubs in Lagos where people are encouraged to drop their plastics for incentives. Also, Dr. Fasawe said the Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) is currently working actively on sorting waste, biodegradable from degradable and are decommissioning the landfill so we can have a mechanised landfill.

Walking the Talk in Lagos

Months after that exclusive interview with THISDAY in Scotland, Dr. Fasawe and team have begun walking the talk. While decrying the increasing rate of single use plastics, pet bottles, polystyrene and other non-biodegradable wastes in different parts of the state, she reiterated the need for urgent steps to revert the trend and further encourage reusable plastics or biodegradable



All for the environment

materials which are cost effective, eco friendly and devoid of environmental nuisances.

In walking the talk, the LASEPA boss discovered that various meetings and conventions on plastic pollution yielded nothing or little result regarding various recommendations. This was the main reason why LASEPA as a front runner in terms of environmental protection decided to practice what it preaches.

"I will be handing over water dispensers as well as some reusable items to all the departments and units as my personal contribution to this campaign on ban of single use of plastic by LASEPA.

"All the gifts, reusable water bottle, recyclable bag (and the choice of using old newspaper as wrappers), is to advocate for suitable and multiple use alternatives that is cost efficient, friendly and devoid disposal problems," Fasawe said.

According to her, the idea of presenting its staff with multiple use cloth bags, personalised reusable water bottle, wrapped in old newspaper was not only laudable but symbolic in the agency's fight against plastic pollution.

"The move which was ahead of the UN resolution pledge of 2019 goal to tackle and face out plastic waste by 2030 and advocate for alternate multiple use products and safe our oceans and drainages.

"It's worrisome to note that everyday around

8 million pieces of plastic makes their way into the ocean, with attendant widespread problems affecting the marine environment, threats to ocean health, marine species, food quality and safety, human health, coastal tourism and contribute to global climate change," she lamented.

According to her, LASEPA as the police of the environment is leading its talk with the launch of ban on pet bottles amongst its staff in other to protect the environment and encourage eco-friendly products.

She said the success of the pilot experiment would encourage recommendation for other government agencies to implement.

Fasawe also stated that research has shown that, "if plastic production is unabated, the amount of plastics floating in the ocean may likely outweigh all the fish in the sea by the year 2050 as many seabirds and marine mammals die annually due to plastic waste.

"Unhealthy environmental attitudes have a vicious cycle effect on the lives of the people; therefore to bequeath to generations yet unborn, a sustainable environment, every hands must be on deck to protect the mother earth from environmental pollution."

She recalled how the journey started last year with the ban on single use plastic within LASEPA.

"After this, we started sorting our waste, pet bottles, paper waste and vegetal waste and I realised that the pet bottles were filling

our dust bins faster than other waste items.

"Thus the need to holistically tackle it, and the provision and placement of water dispensers and paper cups at strategic places within the building, for accessibility, and also satisfy people's need.

Eco-friendly Mitigation

She also mentioned laudable eco friendly steps taken by her agency to curb the tide of plastic pollution, such as beach and market clean ups at Oniru beach and Sura market respectively, routine town hall meetings with relevant stakeholders and engagement of beverage/drink manufacturers to achieve zero plastic waste and proper disposal of waste.

"Single-use plastics represent the epitome of a throwaway culture that ends up in landfills, oceans, waterways and causes environmental and health hazards, we collaborated with Cleaners Practitioners Association of Nigeria (CPAN) to advocate for attitudinal change towards recycling, plastic pollution, disposal and also promote reward system through our cash for trash programme at Obalende to encourage willful compliance and self regulation for a desired result," she revealed.

Long Term Goals

But beyond giving out these symbolic items, the long term goal is to ensure total compliance by all the staff and encourage them to become an advocate of the recycling and reusable products initiative products in their respective places of residence, while also enjoining others to emulate the culture of keeping old newspapers and use as wrapping gifts in line with waste to wealth initiative of government.

The agency in the new year is considering supplying raw materials, in terms of shredded used documents/papers to toiletries and paper manufacturers to recycle into new useful products rather than littering the bins with paper waster. It will also be focusing on air quality, in order to limit the effect of polluted air which is currently affecting vulnerable age groups, both the elderly and babies.

"This year we are going for air pollution, you must service your car as and when due, your generator must not emit smoke and even for telecom sector, their mast, if they cannot use gas to power their masts, they will have to find a way to ensure that the waste oil is re-used and reused and reused," the General Manager stated.

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Lagos State Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Mrs. Belinda Odeneye who was at the launch revealed that her ministry has a Plastic Waste Management Policy in place and a Recycling Bank for plastic wastes within its premises where people can exchange their plastic wastes for money.

She appreciated LASEPA for championing the advocacy on reusable plastics/products and for setting the pace for environmental sustainability for emulation by other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the state government.

The move according to her would guarantee quality health for the citizenry and also reduce the rate of some avoidable loss of lives caused by polluted environment.

"It's worrisome to note that everyday around 8 million pieces of plastic makes their way into the ocean, with attendant widespread problems affecting the marine environment... if plastic production is unabated, the amount of plastics floating in the ocean may likely outweigh all the fish in the sea by the year 2050 as many seabirds and marine mammals die annually due to plastic waste"

Maritime Security: Nigerian Navy Strengthens Partnership with French Counterpart



FOC WEST, Rear Admiral Jason Gbassa presenting a souvenir to the Chief Of Foreign Affairs for French Navy Vice Admiral Christophe Lucas



Officers of the WNC and their French counterpart

Chiemelie Ezeobi

To provide adequate maritime security, especially in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) waters, the Nigerian Navy (NN) recently strengthened partnership with its French counterpart.

The reinforcement of partnership and seamless collaboration took place when the French Naval Ship (FNS) ENSEIGNE DE VAISSEAU JACOBET made port call to the Western Naval Command (WNC) in Apapa, Lagos.

Received by the WNC Flag Officer Commanding (FOC), Rear Admiral Jason Gbassa, he said collaborating with the French Navy and other foreign navies often helps eradicate piracy while creating a conducive environment for maritime businesses to flourish.

He said: "The collaboration of the two navies will improve competency and this will enable us to contain crimes in our maritime space which will translate to prosperity of both nations."

"The maritime environment is a global space where trade and other economic activities pass through."

"So, with a secured maritime environment, you can be assured of prosperity of nations because trading involves many nations."

Citing the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) 2021 report which pointed to a reduction of piracy activities in the Gulf of Guinea, he added that "going into the new year and looking forward, we expect that the reduction will be sustained by our activities at

sea with the French navy alongside other foreign navy partners".

He further added that the French Naval visit would also afford the Nigerian Navy the opportunity to explore new initiatives in the areas of training and capacity building.

"We need more training especially regarding our efforts in building capacity in hydrography along other related specialisations like oceanography and cartography."

"The French Navy and Nigerian Navy have a long history of cordial relations and it is our hope that we will continue to build on it," he said.

Gbassa posited that any arrangement on maritime security without Nigeria in the West African region, would have difficulty because Nigeria is the one that sustains all operations and drives every effort within the region.

Therefore he said "It gives us great delight that we will be able to uphold the leadership role in the African sub region and relate well with all our other foreign partners like you."

Also speaking, the Chief of Foreign Affairs to the French Navy, Vice Admiral Christophe Lucas said the sea exercises would help improve security in the maritime environment.

He said: "Our cooperation in accordance with the Yaounde architecture in this region will help improve the security situation in the Gulf of Guinea."

The French Naval Ship ENSEIGNE DE VAISSEAU JACOBET was deployed on maritime interdiction mission in the Gulf of Guinea.

CRIME SITUATION REPORTS

FIRE MANAGEMENT: PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND RESPONSE TECHNIQUES/APPROACHES (2)

Gbolahan Samuel Moronfolu

DEFINING FIRE: Fire is also known as combustion which is a rapid combination of two or more substances that result in the production of heat, light and other by-product.

FIRE BASICS

Fire is in its basic mechanics nothing more than an extremely rapid conversion from one state to another. This reaction requires three components to occur and must continue to utilize these three basic components to be sustained. As such, in looking at the prevention and response to fires, it is essential to understand these parts known as the Fire Triangle.

Fire requires the presence of four elements before it can produce flames. The elements are: 1. Fuel 2. Oxygen 3. Heat 4. Chain Reaction

These elements are called FIRE TETRAHEDRON

1. Fuel: For a fire to exist there must be some materials available that are capable of combustion. This could be as simple as paper or wood, or as complex as magnesium. In every case, this fuel is the component that undergoes the conversion from its current state to a different one. In most cases, this conversion is from a solid to a gas with some solid materials remaining.

2. Oxygen: The conversion of states in a fire situation requires an interaction with available oxygen. In most cases, fires are entirely dependent on the oxygen in the surrounding air; in other fairly rare cases the material that is being consumed may produce oxygen as a result of this process.

3. Heat: The final component required to produce fuel in an oxygenated environment to begin the process of conversion is some source of heat. Without the presence of all three components, a fire cannot begin or be sustained. This leads to the basic concept of cleanliness being a major contributor to the prevention of accidental fires. If all available fuels are stored in a manner consistent with fire prevention practice, they will be sufficiently removed from identified source of heat and the change of combustion is almost eliminated. This means that all identified sources of fuel must be watched for and properly utilized and stored to prevent exposure to heat.

4. CHAIN REACTION:- It is the Chemical reactions or oxidation process which sustains combustion. The Chemical reaction is influenced by the chemical and physical properties of the materials (fuel) involved in the reactions.

For example, one of the more common fire locations in the hospitality industry is the laundry area. In the operation of processing cloth, there is a certain amount of lint that is produced. As a result, there is a ready supply of fuel (lint is very combustible) in close proximity to a heat source. The prevention practice is very simple: remove and clean the lint filter after each load, or at least on a regular frequency.

Other typical hazard areas to inspect could include the following:

- Boilers, heaters, and furnaces
- Cooking areas
- Electrical equipment and breaker rooms
- Storage areas for inflammable liquids
- Vehicle storage areas
- Work areas that utilize oils, paint thinners, and other combustible liquids.
- Smoking areas

As a general rule, areas that are cluttered tend to have an increased chance of fire hazards, and should be frequently inspected until such time as it is properly cleaned.

When inspecting for fire hazards which should be a constant aspect of every patrol, it is also essential that identified hazard be corrected, documented, and prevented from recurring.

DETECTION METHODS

If prevention methods fail and a fire begins, it becomes a matter of being able to detect the hazard so that the response

program can be effective. The two methods of fire detection are human observation and electronic systems.

Human observation is often more effective, since it allows for the use of reasoning and judgment to determine the nature of the actual situation. In this case, however, there must be people present to make this discovery. Patrol officers have excellent opportunities to identify potential fires through smell, sign, and even sound and touch.

In some cases, officers can observe fires in such an early stage of development such that they are able to effectively extinguish them without outside assistance. In addition, by obtaining the cooperation of other people in the environment, the chances of human observation can be increased. Often, these other observers must be given some form of basic training to identified hazards or early stage fire threats, so that they can be more effective.

Electronic detection can also be highly effective, especially in areas where chances of observation by people is relatively low due to infrequent travel through them or visual obstruction. Electronic systems of detection can include sensors that watch for smoke, rapid increase in temperature above certain levels (regardless of how quickly that temperature is reached), and even early combustion airborne particles. Unfortunately, electronic sensors that can also trigger alarms must be investigated to determine the actual cause.

The ideal detection program is of course a combination of human observation and electronic monitoring. By thoroughly training the protective force and offering basic training to all other people that will be in the area and utilizing an electronic system as a backup to these components, you generally increase the likelihood of identifying fire situations. It is essential that fire be identified at the earliest possible moment so that they will not have a chance to grow too large to be contained and extinguished.

TYPES OF FIRE

Although based upon the same concept, fire can be divided into four basic types determined by the nature of the fuel component of their Fire Triangle. It is important to know these types and the differences in their fuels, as this can make a difference in how the fire is contained and extinguished.

The basic types are:

TYPE A: Type A fire generally have common solid combustible materials as their fuel. This would include such fuels as wood, paper, and cloth. This is a very common form of fire and the most basic.

TYPE B: This is fire that is fueled by liquid or gaseous fuel such as gasoline, kerosene, and compressed gas tanks like propane.

TYPE C: This represents fires that are initiated by electrical involvement. Fires in a breaker box, power strip, frayed extension cord, or items of powered equipment would fall into this category.

TYPE D: Burning metals such as magnesium fall into this category. It is often extremely intense and requiring equipment to handle.

Once the nature of a fire is understood, it becomes a determining factor on how to handle that situation. For the most part, class A, B, or C of sufficiently small size can be contained and extinguished by a person utilizing an appropriate extinguisher.

Class D fires require such specialized equipment that most responders will not be able to handle effectively, and should be cautioned to maintain a safe distance in the process of evacuating the immediate area.

-Moronfolu is a seasoned security consultant with many years of security and policing experience. FELLOW, Fourth Estate Professional Society (FFPS), he has also partaken in peace keeping operations within and outside the country and has flair for general security education.

InfraCredit to Guarantee PAT's N10bn Infrastructure Bonds Issuance

Kayode Tokede

InfraCredit has announced that it will guarantee Pan African Towers (PAT) Digital Infra Fund SPV Plc's N10 billion 10-Year Series I Senior Guaranteed Fixed Rate Infrastructure Bonds Due 2032 (PAT Series IBonds) under the N50 billion Debt Issuance Programme.

PAT Digital Infra Fund SPV Plc is a special purpose-funding vehicle established by Pan African Towers Limited as part of the company's capital-raising plan.

PAT is a digital telecommunications infrastructure company and wireless service facilitator, offering colocation and infrastructure sharing services to mobile network operators and internet service providers.

In a statement, the Chairman of Pan African Towers Limited, Mr. Wole Adeleke said: "PAT's ambition is to be the number 1 indigenous wholly-owned digital telecommunications infrastructure and wireless service facilitator in Nigeria.

"In the last 3 years that we commenced business, we have demonstrated capacity to achieve

faster growth in the number of our rental assets, with solid top and bottom-line performance supported by long-term contracts with leading market leaders in mobile telecommunication and internet service in Nigeria. And we are pleased that InfraCredit was able to provide full credit enhancement for this debut Bond Issuance programme.

"We are very passionate about the environment and part of the proceeds from the Bond Issue will be utilized to green our network of Build-to-Suite Towers to reduce carbon emission; an objective that aligns with that of our major customers."

Commenting also, the Chief Executive Officer of InfraCredit, Chinua Azubike in a statement said: "We are pleased to have supported Pan African Towers, Nigeria's fast growing indigenous digital infrastructure service provider's first naira issuance in the local debt capital markets for expansion and growth that will also reduce its carbon emissions.

"We are also proud to support the ambitions of Nigeria's National Development Plan to facilitate the formation of

private capital investments in digital infrastructure that will accelerate job creation and local economic growth. The need for digital connectivity is more essential than ever as Nigeria accounts for over 27 per cent of all internet usage in Africa, and much of this internet access are powered by telecommunication infrastructure service providers like PAT.

"This transaction strongly demonstrates the especially important role of the local pension funds in the allocation of long-term domestic credit to the private sector for sustainable development.

PAT's remarkable growth over the past four years of operation has been underpinned by its cost efficiency leadership and service quality philosophy. With over 1,000 long lease tenancy contracts from leading telecommunications service providers, especially tier-1 players like MTN, Airtel and 9mobile, PAT is the third largest and the only major local infrastructure service provider and wireless service facilitator in the Nigerian telecommunications subsector."



MARKET INDICATORS

MONEY AND CREDIT STATISTICS (MILLION NAIRA)

	JANUARY 2021
Money Supply (M3)	38,779,455.43
-- CBN Bills Held by Money Holding Sectors	1,039,129.55
Money Supply (M2)	37,740,325.88
-- Quasi Money	21,779,302.69
-- Narrow Money (M1)	15,961,023.19
--- Currency Outside Banks	2,364,871.13
--- Demand Deposits	13,596,152.06
Net Foreign Assets (NFA)	7,414,275.50
Net Domestic Assets (NDA)	31,365,179.93
-- Net Domestic Credit (NDC)	42,916,586.63
--- Credit to Government (Net)	12,304,773.44
--- Memo: Credit to Govt. (Net) less FMA	0.00
--- Memo: Fed. and Mirror Accounts (FMA)	0.00
--- Credit to Private Sector (CPS)	30,611,813.19
-- Other Assets Net	3,892,112.74
Reserve Money (Base Money)	13,264,585.14
-- Currency in Circulation	2,831,167.19
-- Banks Reserves	10,433,417.96
-- Special Intervention Reserves	317,234.17

• Source - CBN

Money Market Indicators (in Percentage)

Month	March 2018
Inter-Bank Call Rate	15.16
Minimum Rediscount Rate (MRR)	
Monetary Policy Rate (MPR)	14.00
Treasury Bill Rate	11.84
Savings Deposit Rate	4.07
1 Month Deposit Rate	8.82
3 Months Deposit Rate	9.72
6 Months Deposit Rate	10.93
12 Months Deposit Rate	10.21
Prime Lending rate	17.35
Maximum Lending Rate	31.55

• Monetary Policy Rate - 13%

'FBN Holdings Committed to Supporting Human Devt Initiatives'

Ugo Aliogo

The Group Managing Director, First Bank Nigeria Holdings, Nnamdi Okonkwo, has stated that FBN Holdings remains committed in supporting initiatives focused on human development indices in the society. Okonkwo, who disclosed this recently in Lagos at the commissioning of renovated block of classrooms and donation of borehole to Lafiji Senior High School, Lagos Island, said what Rotary Club of Lagos has done is to support and align with the kind of things that the bank does, noting that this is the reason why they are very happy to be part of the initiative both at the group office and at the subsidiary level.

He hinted that for the past six years going to eight years, they have consistently supported Rotary Club in different intervention.

"When I went through the Programmes. I'm particularly delighted because one of the projects today that we are opening and commissioning is a library, it gives me some nostalgic feeling

because when I was leaving secondary school 39 years ago, I was actually the Library Prefect of my School, so anything that concerns Library gives me very great joy and I'm happy to be part of this," he said.

Okonkwo, who represented at the event by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), FBN Holdings Plc, Oyewale Ariyibi, urged the School Principal ensure that the project built should properly maintained, while assuring that if the project is maintained the bank would come back next year to build another four block of classroom.

He added: "So, maintenance is very key and very important and so on this note, I will say we don't shy away from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) because that is what gives our business the sustainability that we desire. At the appropriate time, we will reach out to the incoming president, and we will discuss to see how we can be of help in our usual character."

Earlier, in his remarks, the Chief Executive Officer, First Bank Nigeria, Dr. Adeshola Adeduntan,

noted that the bank is proud to be witnessing the inauguration of the laudable projects the club embarked on in Lafiji Senior High School, pointing out that these achievements illustrate values that resonate with the bank.

Adeduntan also stated that the bank has over the years demonstrated a dogged commitment to promoting educational development as a major component of their corporate responsibility and sustainability programmes.

He revealed that as part of the numerous ways by which the Bank reinforces its commitment to the education sector, they have provided far-reaching educational interventions over the past 127 years. Adeduntan, who represented at event by the Head, Digital Marketing, Chinwe Bode-Akinwande, disclosed that at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic FirstBank strengthened the education sector to recover by launching the e-learning initiative aimed at moving 1 million students across the nation to e-learning.

ASHON Boss Urges Stockbrokers to Create Products, Deploy Technology

The Chairman, Association of Securities Dealing Houses of Nigeria (ASHON), Sam Onukwue, has advised dealing member firms to review their operational models, create new products and deploy technology to upscale operations and skills.

Investment through the Nigerian capital market has been moderated by the inclement operating environment, characterized by impacts of Covid-19 and its variants on corporate earnings, misalignment of monetary and fiscal policies, high production cost and low purchasing power of consumers, currency devaluation, forex scarcity and high inflationary pressure among others.

In a statement by ASHON,

Onukwue explained that the current investment climate required innovative approach that meets the needs of clients.

According to him, every dealing member should deepen its research and development and create innovative products, especially to attract the millennials and Generation Z in order to widen customer base and ensure business continuity.

Onukwue harped on the deployment of modern technology to enhance operational efficiency of ASHON members, noting that Covid-19 pandemic had institutionalized digital transformation for every business.

He noted that millennials and Generation Z engage via digital channels as they do

virtually everything on their smartphones.

"Our members have realized the imperative of digital transformation of our operations. With the impacts of Covid-19 on our business environment, demutualization of the former Nigerian Stock Exchange to Nigerian Exchange Group Plc (NGX) and tough operating environment, our operational models have to be reviewed.

"We must create more innovative financial products that attract millennials and Generation Z. They are digital natives that do almost everything on smartphones. Our business models must take this critical class of investors into consideration.

OPEC DAILY BASKET PRICE AS AT THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

The OPEC Reference Basket of Crudes (ORB) is made up of the following: Saharan Blend (Algeria), Girassol (Angola), Djeno (Congo), Zafiro (Equatorial Guinea), Rabi Light (Gabon), Iran Heavy (Islamic Republic of Iran), Basra Light (Iraq), Kuwait Export (Kuwait), Es Sider (Libya), Bonny Light (Nigeria), Arab Light (Saudi Arabia), Murban (UAE) and Merey (Venezuela).

MARKET NEWS

Stock Market Gains N579bn in First Trading Week

Kayode Tokede

The stock market of the Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) maintained its positive trend last week as foreign and high network investors continued to take position in stocks with attractive dividend yields ahead of 2021 financial year dividend declarations.

The stock market of NGX appreciated by N579billion in first-week trading in February

as foreign and high network investors renewed interest in high-mid capitalized stocks on the Exchange.

The overall market capitalization gained 2.33 per cent to close last week at N25.477 trillion from N22.297trillion it opened for trading this month.

Consequently, the NGX All-Share Index gained 2.33per cent or 1,074.87basis points to close at 47,279.92basis points from 46,205.05 basis

points it opened for trading in the month under review. Consequently, the stock market Month-till-Date (MtD) and Year-till-Date (YtD) returns closed at 1.4per cent and 10.7per cent, respectively.

Notably, investors' interest in Seplat Petroleum that gained 10.1 per cent or N80 to close at N870 per share, as Dangote Cement appreciated by 5.5per cent or N14.20 to close at N274.80 per share. The

likes of MTN Nigeria rose by 5.4 per cent or N10.30 to close at N200.30, while Presco Plc appreciated by 7.6 per cent or N6.70 to close at N94.50 per share. Activity levels were decent, as trading volume and value rose by 23.2per cent and 2.8 per cent week-on-week (w/w), respectively.

Performance across sectors was mixed, as the Insurance (-0.9per cent), Consumer Goods (-0.6per cent), and

Oil and Gas (-0.2per cent) indices recorded losses while the Banking (+0.2per cent) index was the sole gainer. The Industrial Goods index closed flat.

However, top Courtvillie Business Solutions Plc leads the stock market top price decliners, dropping by 11.67 per cent to close at N0.53 per share, followed by Caverton

Offshore Support Group Plc that dropped by 11.43 per cent


to close at N1.55 per share. International Breweries Plc also dropped by 10.17 per cent to close at N5.30 per share.

Meanwhile, R.T Briscoe Plc appreciated by 40 per cent to close at N0.28 as Academy Press rose by 31.91 per cent to close last week at N1.24 per share. In addition, Conoil Plc gained 20.73 per cent to close at N26.50 from N21.95 per share it opened for trading last week.

PRICES FOR SECURITIES TRADED AS OF 04/02/2022

MAIN BOARD		DEALS	MARKET PRICE	QUANTITY TRADED	VALUE TRADED (N)
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
S/N	BANKING	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
1	ACCESS BANK PLC.	362,561.30	10.20	-0.49 ↓	136
2	UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	292,405.05	8.55	0.59 ↑	122
3	ZENITH BANK PLC	827,297.61	26.35	0.76 ↑	242
BANKING					
S/N	OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
4	FBN HOLDINGS PLC	398,437.75	11.10	-2.63 ↓	93
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
S/N	TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
5	MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	4,077,008.96	200.30	0.15 ↑	155
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
INDUSTRIAL GOODS					
S/N	BUILDING MATERIALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
6	DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,682,731.43	274.80	-	57
7	LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	426,856.58	26.50	0.19 ↑	79
BUILDING MATERIALS					
INDUSTRIAL GOODS					
S/N	EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
8	SEPLAT ENERGY PLC	911,946.77	870.00	-0.24 ↓	39
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION					
OIL AND GAS					
AGRICULTURE					
S/N	CROP PRODUCTION	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
9	ELLAH LAKES PLC.	8,500.00	4.25	-	1
10	FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	836.00	0.38	2.70 ↑	7
11	OKOMU OIL PALM PLC.	135,455.22	142.00	-	66
12	PRESKO PLC	94,500.00	94.50	-10.00 ↓	85
CROP PRODUCTION					
S/N	LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL SPECIALTIES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
13	LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC.	6,120.00	2.04	0.49 ↑	20
LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL SPECIALTIES					
AGRICULTURE					
CONGLOMERATES					
S/N	DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
14	JOHN HOLT PLC.	307.43	0.79	-	0
15	B C O A HD. PLC.	812.28	1.25	0.65 ↑	6
16	TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	46,338.71	1.14	0.88 ↑	117
17	U A C N PLC.	25,931.67	0.00	-	14
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES					
CONGLOMERATES					
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE					
S/N	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
18	ARBICO PLC.	152.96	1.03	-	0
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE					
S/N	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
19	JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC.	41,600.00	26.00	-	15
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION					
S/N	INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
19	JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC.	41,600.00	26.00	-	15
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION					
S/N	REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
20	UPDC PLC	20,044.77	1.08	1.85 ↑	12
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT					
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE					
CONSUMER GOODS					
S/N	AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
21	DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS					
S/N	BEVERAGES-BREWERS/DISTILLERS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
22	CHAMPION BREW. PLC.	17,224.89	2.20	4.76 ↑	37
23	GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC.	829.98	0.81	-	0
24	GUINNESS NIG PLC	106,343.09	48.55	-	51
25	INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC.	142,368.96	5.30	-9.40 ↓	62
BEVERAGES-BREWERS/DISTILLERS					
CONSUMER GOODS					
S/N	BEVERAGES-BREWERS/DISTILLERS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
26	NIGERIAN BREW. PLC.	387,639.93	46.00	-	54
BEVERAGES-BREWERS/DISTILLERS					
S/N	FOOD PRODUCTS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
27	BUA FOODS PLC	1,159,200.00	64.40	-	32
28	DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	212,570.37	17.50	0.29 ↑	85
29	FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	119,731.08	29.20	-0.85 ↓	34
30	HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	27,755.69	3.50	4.48 ↑	46
31	MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.38	-	0
32	N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC.	1,603.80	9.00	-	14
33	NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	35,105.06	13.25	-	8
34	UNION DICON SALT PLC.	2,706.05	9.90	-	0
FOOD PRODUCTS					
S/N	FOOD PRODUCTS-DIVERSIFIED	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
35	CADBURY NIGERIA PLC.	16,340.36	8.70	-	25
36	NESTLE NIGERIA PLC.	1,137,461.72	1,435.00	-	31
FOOD PRODUCTS-DIVERSIFIED					
S/N	HOUSEHOLD DURABLES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
37	NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC.	1,231.72	16.20	-	0
38	VITAFAM NIG PLC.	30,520.60	24.40	-	57
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES					
S/N	PERSONALHOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
39	P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC.	27,594.82	6.95	-0.71 ↓	23
40	UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC.	78,993.82	13.75	-	32
PERSONALHOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS					
CONSUMER GOODS					
CONSUMER GOODS					
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
S/N	BANKING	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
41	ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	222,029.57	12.10	-	55
42	FIDELITY BANK PLC	82,576.17	2.85	-0.70 ↓	138
43	GUARANTY TRUST HOLDING COMPANY PLC	809,357.43	27.50	0.18 ↑	207
44	JAIZ BANK PLC.	24,524.23	0.71	5.97 ↑	34
45	STERLING BANK PLC.	48,943.71	1.70	-1.16 ↓	31
46	UNION BANK NIG PLC.	171,812.44	5.90	-2.48 ↓	107
47	UNITY BANK PLC	5,844.67	0.50	-1.96 ↓	8
48	WEMA BANK PLC.	32,788.30	0.85	-4.71 ↓	32
BANKING					
S/N	INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
49	AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	1
50	AIICO INSURANCE PLC.	26,355.80	0.72	2.86 ↑	83
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
S/N	INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
51	AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	21,150.00	2.35	-	16
52	CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	6,743.84	0.63	-3.08 ↓	1
53	CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	10,354.84	0.57	1.79 ↑	3
54	CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	11,995.84	0.50	-	16
55	GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0
56	GUINEA INSURANCE PLC.	1,350.80	0.22	4.76 ↑	13
57	INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0
58	LASACO ASSURANCE PLC.	1,943.00	1.06	-1.85 ↓	11
59	LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	7,140.00	0.61	-1.92 ↓	7
60	MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC.	5,216.02	0.26	3.85 ↑	17
61	NEM INSURANCE PLC	16,704.87	3.33	-0.76 ↓	30
62	NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,647.90	0.20	-	0
63	PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	5,566.08	0.42	-	3
64	REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	2,987.50	0.40	2.56 ↑	9
65	SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,727.47	0.24	-4.17 ↓	16
66	STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0
67	STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC.	2,822.21	0.20	-	0
68	SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC.	1,743.24	0.30	-	1
69	UNIVERSAL ASSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	0
70	VERITAS KAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	3,189.33	0.23	4.65 ↑	2
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
S/N	MICRO-FINANCE BANKS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
71	NFP MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	4,939.14	2.16	-	11
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS					

MAIN BOARD		DEALS	MARKET PRICE	QUANTITY TRADED	VALUE TRADED (N)
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
S/N	MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
72	ABBKEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,720.00	1.04	-	0
73	ASO SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0
74	INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,505.00	1.32	-	0
75	RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
S/N	MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
76	UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC.	2,949.22	3.02	-	0
MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
S/N	OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
77	AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	13,000.00	6.50	-4.41 ↓	53
78	CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	46,466.73	7.90	-	37
79	DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	300.00	0.20	-	0
80	FCMB GROUP PLC.	59,408.13	3.00	-2.28 ↓	40
81	NIGERIAN EXCHANGE GROUP	47,629.81	24.25	-0.21 ↓	166
82	ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC.	4,322.11	0.84	-	11
83	STANBIC IBTC HOLDINGS PLC	453,494.90	35.00	-	62
84	UNITED CAPITAL PLC	67,200.00	11.20	-0.44 ↓	49
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
HEALTHCARE					
S/N	HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
85	EKOCORP PLC.	2,886.90	5.79	-	0
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS					
S/N	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
86	MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC.	1,968.43	1.99	-	7
MEDICAL SUPPLIES					
S/N	PHARMACEUTICALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
87	FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	16,920.38	8.11	-	27
88	GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC.	7,235.05	6.05	-	12
89	MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC.	7,418.51	4.30	-	18
PHARMACEUTICALS					
HEALTHCARE					
S/N	PHARMACEUTICALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
90	NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	3,418.48	1.80	-	27
91	PHARMA-DEKO PLC.	429.30	1.98	-	0
PHARMACEUTICALS					
HEALTHCARE					
S/N	COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
92	COURTEVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	1,882.56	0.53	-1.89 ↓	26
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS					
S/N	COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
93	OMATEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20	-	0
COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS					
S/N	IT SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
94	CWG PLC	3,105.54	1.23	-	0
95	NCR (NIGERIA) PLC.	324.00	3.00	-	2
IT SERVICES					
S/N	PROCESSING SYSTEMS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
96	CHAMS PLC	939.21	0.20	-4.76 ↓	18
97	E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	13,269.13	2.00	-	0
PROCESSING SYSTEMS					
S/N	TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
98	AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	4,776,610.56	1,271.00	-	51
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
INDUSTRIAL GOODS					
S/N	BUILDING MATERIALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
99	BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,420.03	8.35	-	11
100	BUA CEMENT PLC	2,395,903.05	70.75	-	33
BUILDING MATERIALS					
S/N	BUILDING MATERIALS	MARKET CAP(Nm)	PRICE	%CHANGE	TRADES
101	CAP PLC	15,371.06	19.50	-	15
102	MEYER PLC.	292.18	0.55	-	0



PRESCO PLC

(RC174370)

Unaudited Financial Statements for the twelve months ended 31st December, 2021

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

In Thousands NGN	31/12/2021 Unaudited	31/12/2020 Audited	01/10/2021 31/12/2021 Unaudited	01/10/2020 31/12/2020 Unaudited
Revenue	47,229,184	23,891,766	12,992,397	4,978,621
Cost of sales	(15,993,966)	(7,803,248)	(5,282,011)	(1,569,434)
Gross Profit	31,235,217	16,088,518	7,710,386	3,409,187
Administrative expenses	(8,598,350)	(6,815,194)	(3,777,863)	(2,531,157)
Selling and distribution expenses	(650,402)	(318,364)	(186,293)	(96,477)
Other gains and losses	(282,433)	(250,542)	(431,462)	1,153,620
Gain on biological assets revaluation	2,658,157	1,845,367	2,057,657	1,845,367
Operating profit before finance cost and finance income	24,362,189	10,549,785	6,235,349	2,781,933
Finance cost	(617,582)	(1,918,292)	(72,534)	(696,506)
Finance income	4,425	58,858	4,425	57,087
Profit before tax	23,749,031	8,690,351	6,167,240	2,142,515
Tax expense	(4,881,307)	(3,428,948)	(1,074,984)	(1,881,424)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	18,867,724	5,261,929	5,092,292	261,091
Other comprehensive income				
Remeasurement of defined benefit obligation	0	(140,501)	0	0
Income tax relating to components of OCI	0	42,150		43,867
Other comprehensive income, net tax	0	98,351	0	0
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME OF THE PERIOD	18,867,724	5,163,578	5,092,292	261,091
Basic earning per share (Kobo)	1,887	516	509	26
Diluted earnings per share (kobo)	1,887	516	509	26

By order of the Board

Patrick Uwadia

Patrick Uwadia, Esq.
 Company Secretary.
 FRC/2013/ICSAN/00000004864
 Dated this day of January 27th, 2021.
 Obaretin, Ikpoba/Okha LGA, Edo State Nigeria

Producer of Specialty Oils and Fats

THE LEADER IN OIL PALM



HELLO NIGERIA LET'S GET TO WORK



THE BEST NAVARA EVER.

Stallion NMN Ltd.
Ph: 0805 636 9999 / 0803 527 7777
 sales@nissannigeria.com, service@nissannigeria.com, customercare@nissannigeria.com
 www.nissan.ng | NissanNigeria | NissanNigeria | NissanNigeria
 Lagos | Abuja | Port-Harcourt | Ibadan | Enugu | Kano | Warri | Ilorin | Kaduna



3 Year
or 100,000 km
WARRANTY



**FUND MANAGERS
ASSOCIATION OF
NIGERIA**

A Mutual fund (Unit Trust) is an investment vehicle managed by a SEC (Securities and Exchange Commission) registered Fund Manager. Investors with similar objectives buy units of the Fund so that the Fund Manager can buy securities that will generate their desired return.

An ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) is a type of fund which owns the assets (shares of stock, bonds, oil futures, gold bars, foreign currency, etc.) and divides ownership of those assets into shares. Investors can buy these 'shares' on the

floor of the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

A REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) is an investment vehicle that allows both small and large investors to part-own real estate ventures (eg. Offices, Houses, Hospitals) in proportion to their investments. The assets are divided into shares that are traded on the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

GUIDE TO DATA:

Date: All fund prices are quoted in Naira as at 03-Feb-2022, unless otherwise stated.

Offer price: The price at which units of a trust or ETF are bought by investors.

Bid Price: The price at which Investors redeem (sell) units of a trust or ETF.

Yield/Total Return: Denotes the total return an investor would have earned on his investment. Money Market Funds report Yield while others report Year- to-date Total Return.

NAV: Is value per share of the real estate assets held by a REIT on a specific date.

DAILY PRICE LIST FOR MUTUAL FUNDS, REITS and ETFs

MUTUAL FUNDS / UNIT TRUSTS			
AFRINVEST ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.afrinvest.com; Tel: +234 818 885 6757			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Afrinvest Equity Fund	173.33	173.33	3.52%
Afrinvest Plutus Fund	100.00	100.00	9.03%
Nigeria International Debt Fund	320.94	320.94	3.00%
Afrinvest Dollar Fund	101.05	102.20	0.05%
AIICO CAPITAL LTD			
Web: www.aiicocapital.com, Tel: +234-1-2792974			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
AIICO Money Market Fund	100.00	100.00	9.97%
AIICO Balanced Fund	3.48	3.55	-1.57%
ANCHORIA ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.anchoriam.com, Tel: 08166830267; 08036814510; 08028419180			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Anchoria Money Market	100.00	100.00	7.75%
Anchoria Equity Fund	143.74	145.54	3.52%
Anchoria Fixed Income Fund	1.18	1.18	2.78%
ARM INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD			
Web: www.arm.com.ng; Tel: 0700 CALLARM (0700 225 5276)			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
ARM Aggressive Growth Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
ARM Discovery Balanced Fund	474.29	488.59	5.13%
ARM Ethical Fund	39.47	40.66	1.31%
ARM Eurobond Fund (\$)	1.08	1.09	0.06%
ARM Fixed Income Fund	1.02	1.02	0.44%
ARM Money Market Fund	1.00	1.00	8.41%
AVA GLOBAL ASSET MANAGERS LIMITED			
Web: www.avacapitalgroup.com; Tel 08069294653			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
AVA GAM Fixed Income Dollar Fund	108.57	108.57	6.74%
AVA GAM Fixed Income Dollar Naira	1,078.15	1,078.15	7.82%
AXA MANSARD INVESTMENTS LIMITED			
Web: www.axamansard.com; Tel: +2341-4488482			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
AXA Mansard Equity Income Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
AXA Mansard Money Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAPITAL EXPRESS ASSET AND TRUST LIMITED			
Web: www.capitalexpressassetandtrust.com; Tel: +234 803 307 5048			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
CEAT Fixed Income Fund	2.07	2.07	9.00%
Capital Express Balanced Fund(Formerly: Union Trustees Mixed Fund)	2.24	2.28	35.73%
CARDINALSTONE ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.cardinalstoneassetmanagement.com; Tel: +234 (1) 710 0433 4			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
CardinalStone Fixed Income Alpha Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
CHAPELHILL DENHAM MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.chapelhilldenham.com, Tel: +234 461 0691			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Chapelhill Denham Money Market Fund	100.00	100.00	9.35%
Paramount Equity Fund	18.44	18.77	9.57%
Women's Investment Fund	145.77	147.39	4.81%
CORDROS ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.cordros.com, Tel: 019036947			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Cordros Money Market Fund	100.00	100.00	9.28%
Cordros Milestone Fund	137.90	138.81	4.32%
Cordros Dollar Fund (\$)	110.95	110.95	0.46%
CORONATION ASSETS MANAGEMENT			
Web: www.coronationam.com, Tel: 012366215			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Coronation Money Market Fund	1.00	1.00	4.58%
Coronation Balanced Fund	1.18	1.19	-1.71%
Coronation Fixed Income Fund	1.36	1.36	-14.14%
EDC FUNDS MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.ecobank.com Tel: 012265281			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
EDC Nigeria Money Market Fund Class A	100.00	100.00	7.08%
EDC Nigeria Money Market Fund Class B	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7.89%
EDC Nigeria Fixed Income Fund	1,141.70	1,144.80	-2.38%
EMERGING AFRICA ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.emergingafriagroup.com/emerging-africa-asset-management-limited/, Tel: 08039492594			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Emerging Africa Money Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emerging Africa Bond Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emerging Africa Balanced Diversity Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emerging Africa Eurobond Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
FBNQUEST ASSETS MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.fbnquest.com/asset-management; Tel: +234-81 0082 0082			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
FBN Fixed Income Fund	1,409.40	1,409.40	11.06%
FBN Balanced Fund	181.54	182.90	3.59%
FBN Halal Fund	116.63	116.63	8.86%
FBN Money Market Fund	100.00	100.00	9.05%
FBN Nigeria Eurobond (USD) Fund - Retail	122.61	122.61	3.85%
FBN Smart Beta Equity Fund	153.63	155.67	2.05%
FCMB ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.fcmbassetmanagement.com; Tel: +234 1 462 2596			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Legacy Money Market Fund	1.00	1.00	7.67%
Legacy Debt Fund	3.99	3.99	-0.26%
Legacy Equity Fund	1.81	1.85	4.36%
Legacy USD Bond Fund	1.21	1.21	0.41%
FSDH ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.fsdhaml.com; Tel: 01-270 4884-5; 01-280 9740-1			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Coral Balanced Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coral Income Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coral Money Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A

INVESTMENT ONE FUNDS MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.investment-one.com; Tel: +234 812 992 1045,+234 1 448 8888			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Abacus Money Market Fund		100.00	7.08%
Vantage Balanced Fund		2.99	2.37%
Vantage Guaranteed Income Fund		1.00	4.50%
Kedari Investment Fund (KIF)		142.48	-8.47%
Vantage Equity Income Fund (VEIF) - June Year End		1.33	2.22%
Vantage Dollar Fund (VDF) - June Year End		1.08	4.59%
LOTUS CAPITAL LTD			
Web: www.lotuscapitallimited.com; Tel: +234 1-291 4626 / +234 1-291 4624			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Lotus Halal Investment Fund	1.55	1.57	2.63%
Lotus Halal Fixed Income Fund	1,146.58	1,146.58	0.87%
MERISTEM WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: http://www.meristemwealth.com/funds/ ; Tel: +234 1-4488260			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Meristem Equity Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Meristem Money Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
NORRENBERGER INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED			
Web: www.norrenberger.com, Tel: +234 (0) 908 781 2026			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Norrenberger Islamic Fund (NIF)	100.80	100.80	8.83%
Norrenberger Money Market Fund (NMMF)	100.00	100.00	8.31%
PAC ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.pacassetmanagement.com/mutualfunds; Tel: +234 1 271 8632			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
PACAM Balanced Fund	1.63	1.65	1.39%
PACAM Fixed Income Fund	11.55	11.53	3.14%
PACAM Money Market Fund	10.00	10.00	7.37%
PACAM Equity Fund	1.49	1.51	3.55%
PACAM EuroBond Fund	114.68	117.03	-0.51%
SCM CAPITAL LIMITED			
Web: www.scmcapitalng.com; Tel: +234 1-280 2226,+234 1- 280 2227			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
SCM Capital Frontier Fund	129.72	132.17	6.73%
SFS CAPITAL NIGERIA LTD			
Web: www.sfsnigeria.com, Tel: +234 (01) 2801400			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
SFS Fixed Income Fund	1.08	1.08	10.03%
STANBIC IBTC ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.stanbicibtcassetmanagement.com; Tel: +234 1 280 1266; 0700 MUTUALFUNDS			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Stanbic IBTC Balanced Fund	3,518.11	3,556.06	2.17%
Stanbic IBTC Bond Fund	236.41	236.41	0.29%
Stanbic IBTC Ethical Fund	1.34	1.36	3.85%
Stanbic IBTC Guaranteed Investment Fund	314.71	314.71	0.44%
Stanbic IBTC Iman Fund	246.84	250.51	1.96%
Stanbic IBTC Money Market Fund	100.00	100.00	6.84%
Stanbic IBTC Nigerian Equity Fund	11,344.35	11,502.60	2.11%
Stanbic IBTC Dollar Fund (USD)	1.30	1.30	0.39%
Stanbic IBTC Shariah Fixed Income Fund	117.30	117.30	0.28%
Stanbic IBTC Enhanced Short-Term Fixed Income Fund	107.24	107.24	
UNITED CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD			
Web: www.unitedcapitalplcgroup.com; Tel: +234 01-6317876			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
United Capital Equity Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Balanced Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Wealth for Women Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Sukuk Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Fixed Income Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Eurobond Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Capital Money Market Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
QUANTUM ZENITH ASSET MANAGEMENT & INVESTMENTS LTD			
Web: www.quantumzenith.com.ng; Tel: +234 1-2784219			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Zenith Balanced Strategy Fund	13.43	13.55	1.81%
Zenith ESG Impact Fund	15.23	15.40	4.27%
Zenith Income Fund	22.21	22.21	1.04%
Zenith Money Market Fund	1.00	1.00	6.73%
REITS			
Fund Name	NAV Per Share	Yield / T-Rtn	
SFS REIT	124.98	10.62%	
Union Homes REIT	54.65	8.10%	
EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Lotus Halal Equity Exchange Traded Fund	14.14	14.24	1.24%
SIAML Pension ETF 40	135.13	138.51	2.67%
Stanbic IBTC ETF 30 Fund	106.98	109.34	3.25%
MERGROWTH ETF	19.61	19.71	0.00%
MERVALUE ETF	22.99	23.09	0.00%
VETIVA FUND MANAGERS LTD			
Web: www.vetiva.com; Tel: +234 1 453 0697			
Fund Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Yield / T-Rtn
Vetiva Banking Exchange Traded Fund	4.37	4.47	16.09%
Vetiva Consumer Goods Exchange Traded Fund	5.70	5.80	11.80%
Vetiva Griffin 30 Exchange Traded Fund	18.54	18.74	7.86%
Vetiva Money Market Fund	1.00	1.00	0.00%
Vetiva Industrial Goods Exchange Traded Fund	21.27	21.47	9.63%
Vetiva S&P Nigeria Sovereign Bond Exchange Traded Fund	160.83	162.83	1.93%
INFRASTRUCTURE FUND			
Fund Name	NAV Per Share	Yield / T-Rtn	
Chapel Hill Denham Nigeria Infrastructure Debt Fund	107.28	10.80%	

The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise. Past performance is a guide and not an indication of future returns. Fund prices published in this edition are also available on each fund manager's website and FMAN's website at www.fman.com.ng. Fund prices are supplied by the operator of the relevant fund and are published for information purposes only.

4G LTE | VoLTE



Terms and conditions apply



+75GB

Unlimited Family

N18,500

FUP: 150GB

225GB

30 days

Enjoy up to **50% Unlimited Data Bonus** when you subscribe to **The Unlimited Family** data plan

To subscribe,
visit the nearest ntel outlet or quickteller.com/ntel

3 SIMPLE WAYS TO ENJOY YOUR DIGITAL NEWSPAPER

CLICK ON THE
ZIGI ICON HERE



OR

SCAN THE
QR CODE



OR

CONNECT TO ZIGI ON THIS
WHATSAPP NUMBER

+234 903 300 0001



Say Hi to Zigi, from Zigi Daily Freebies download your **FREE** digital copy of **THISDAY** from 6.00am Nigerian time daily.



FOCUS



Peerless, Riveting, and Irrepressible - That's Olori Atuwatse III

Azuka Ogujiuba

Like fin to fishes, the appendage 'queen of the hearts', has come to stick to Her Royal Highness, Ivie Uhunoma Emiko (nee Okunbo). Her life has been a gracious ride to greatness. Born into riches, Olori Ivie is a rare gift to the palace of His Royal Highness Utieyinoritsetsola Emiko, the 21st Olu of Warri, Ogiame Atuwatse III.

Raised among the pantheon and with superfluous experience of all the appurtenances wealth and influence, Olori Ivie grew up with uncommon resolve to live like the common- impacting lives positively with poise and turning the cameras away from her good.

Daughter of the late Nigerian magnate, Capt. Idahosa Wells Okunbo, Olori Ivie is the president of RIG Africa, a Christian ministry impacting lives spiritually and along the line of material needs long before her husband ascended the throne. An elephant never breeds a dwarf. Her father's philanthropy and humanitarian deeds signposted Olori Ivie's pedigree and magnanimity. Dad's own 'Iye', Olori Ivie has become the mother to a nation of people just as the stars had foretold. She's proud to have inherited more than riches: a good name, which she referenced in the earliest tribute to her father when he passed on last year.

Like her husband, Olori Atuwatse III is a devout Christian, passionate and expressive about her relationship with God. In sync with her husband's mandate and resolve, she recently launched the WUWU ORE Initiative, 'Uran ran w ani ale Iwere' which means light comes into Iwere land in a bid to improve lives and healthcare services to the people of Delta State, particularly the elderly, women and children. The initiative is geared towards providing palliative care, advanced medical checks, treatments, and medical screening powered by the Olu of Warri Kingdom, Ogiame Atuwatse III, and supported by private and government stakeholders interested in the wellbeing of the Deltans.

At the last count, no fewer than 500 people have benefited from a free medical outreach she organised. She desires to touch Deltans in ways never been done before.

Olori Atuwatse III said, "The idea is to reach out to those who have no access to medical care and promote good health among the people in the kingdom."

He added, "My desire is to bring quality healthcare to the people with the vision of making healthcare more readily accessible



The Emikos

to all indigenes in our community."

The highlight of the outreach included medical checks and treatment, palliative care, malaria screening, blood glucose screening, urine analysis, and retroviral screening, among others.

Part of her dream as the queen is to ensure that every child in the Niger Delta can see their value ahead of time, embrace their uniqueness, and reach their full potential early enough in life. She'd also gone further to disclose the plan of the palace to bequeath an enduring educational legacy in the kingdom.

At the launch of Human Capital Africa (HCA), the maverick queen stated this as a guest speaker at an accountability and advocacy initiative spearheaded by Nigeria's former Minister of Education and World Bank VP of the African region Obiageli Ezekwesili.

She exudes seamless confidence and

inspires with all her strength. Recently, she took words of encouragement to the attendees of the Women on the Winning Edge Conference 2022, a female development project hosted by Funke Felix-Adejumo and organised with a focus on Education, Celebrating Womanhood, and Inspiring the female gender.

She was also hosted to a special private reception by the President of Ghana, Nana Akufo-Addo, at the Presidential Villa in Accra, alongside His Majesty, the Olu of Warri, while on holiday in Ghana.

Since she became the venerable Olori Atuwatse III of Warri Kingdom, she has braved all odds to be a shining light for many charitable and worthy ventures for women and their plights.

These efforts and more earn her accolades as the 'Dame of Philanthropy', especially with an uncommon humility and desire for the development of fellow



"My desire is to bring quality healthcare to the people with the vision of making healthcare more readily accessible to all indigenes in our community."

humans, which account for why she's not only queen of the palace but Queen of the Hearts.

She got applause for championing a free medical healthcare initiative among riverine communities in Warri; that has yet to wane. And she's off to other selfless labour for the good of mankind.

But in all of her grace and poise, Olori Ivie does not suffer fools gladly. She puts in the round hole the round pegs no matter whose ox is gored. She's bent on the lifelong principle of fairness, which she'd admitted is one of the nicest inheritances from her treasured dad.

Unlike many of her social stature, with Olori Ivie, it's no airs, no pretences. Her close allies often attest to how much disgust she feels about flaunting vanity and gatherings of persons known to discuss inanities.



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT: NBA House, Plot 1102 Muhammed Buhari Way, Cadastral Zone ADO, Central Business District, Abuja – Nigeria Tel: +234 800 333 1111
www.nigerianbar.org.ng

PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: APPOINTMENT OF FIFTEEN ADDITIONAL JUDGES FOR THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT

BENCH: EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to a request received from the Honourable Chief Judge of the Federal High Court requesting nominations of suitable candidates for appointment to the Federal High Court Bench from the following states: **Akwa-Ibom, Bauchi, Benue, Ekiti, Enugu, FCT, Kaduna, Katsina, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Rivers, Sokoto and Zamfara States**, the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) issued a circular on 7th January, 2022 requesting its members who are interested in being nominated to forward their expressions of interest.

The NBA has received expressions of interest from 164 of its members. In its commitment to ensuring that the process for the appointment of judicial officers of our superior courts is made more transparent and that only persons of the appropriate character and reputation are appointed to the Bench, the NBA hereby publishes the list of the 164 potential appointees who submitted their expressions of interest.

We kindly request that members of the Bar and the general public who know of any reason why any of the persons listed in the table below should not be considered for appointment to the Federal High Court Bench should forward a petition stating their reasons in the manner and on the date and time set out below:

Deadline for Submission of Petition: 9th February, 2022

Mode of Submission: Hard Copy at the National Secretariat of the NBA, Plot 1101, Mohammadu Buhari Way, Central Business District or Soft Copy, legal@nigerianbar.org.ng

Addressee: The President
 Nigerian Bar Association
 c/o Grace Igyo, Esq.
 Head, Legal Services Department
 Nigerian Bar Association, National Secretariat
 Plot 1101 Cadastral Zone A00
 Central Business District
 Abuja.

NOTE: All petitions should include proof of the sender's identity. **Anonymous petitions will not be considered.**


Dr. Babalunde Ajibade, SAN, FCI Arb
 Chairman
 Judiciary Committee
 3/2/2022

LIST OF POTENTIAL APPOINTEES

S/N	NAME	GENDER	STATE OF ORIGIN	PLACE OF PRACTICE/ EMPLOYMENT	NATURE OF PRACTICE/ EMPLOYMENT	OF	S/N	NAME	GENDER	STATE OF ORIGIN	PLACE OF PRACTICE/ EMPLOYMENT	NATURE OF PRACTICE/ EMPLOYMENT	OF
1.	Abah, Joe	Male	Kogi	Abuja	Private Legal Practice		22.	Ajibare, Julius	Male	Ekiti	Ekiti	DPP, MOJ, Ekiti State	
2.	Abbas, Habib Osite	Male	Kogi	Lokoja	Private Legal Practice		23.	Ajoba, Ezekiel Oluwaseun	Male	Ekiti	Ilesa	Private Legal Practice	
3.	Abdu, Ladan K/Soro	Male	Katsina	Katsina	Chief Magistrate /Director Admin & Supply, Katsina State High Court		24.	Ajoblewe, Seun Kolawole	Male	Ekiti	Uyo	Private Legal Practice	
4.	Abdullahi, Sada	Male	Katsina	Katsina	Private Legal Practice		25.	Akah, Morenikeji Victoria	Female	Akwa Ibom	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
5.	Aberemieka, Jones Ibifuro	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice		26.	Akan, Charles Bassey	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Oron	Chief Magistrate, Grade I	
6.	Abubakar, A. Kobi	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	MOJ, Bauchi State		27.	Akanbi, Lukman Lambo	Male	Kwara	Ibadan	Private Legal Practice	
7.	Adabembe, Rotimi Bunmi	Male	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti	Private Legal Practice		28.	Akande, Ayoola Idowu	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Assistant Director, MOJ, Kwara State	
8.	Adamu, Abdulmumini		Bauchi	Bauchi	Private Legal Practice		29.	Akande, Goke Bashir	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Private Legal Practice	
9.	Adaramola, Gbemiga	Male	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti	Pioneer Director, Commercial & Corporate Law, Ekiti State MOJ		30.	Akinloye, Yetunde	Female	Ogun	Abuja	Director, Competition and Economic Analysis, NCC	
10.	Adeleye, Muinat Olatayo	Female	Kwara	Ilorin	Deputy Director, NDLEA, Kwara State		31.	Akoja, Alex Olawale	Male	Kwara	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
11.	Ademiluyi, Kayode	Male	Lagos	Ikeja	Private Legal Practice		32.	Akpan, Akaninyene Ekanem	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Ado Ekiti	Executive Secretary, Ekiti State Law Reform Commission	
12.	Ademu, Rekiya Laruba	Female	Kogi	Lokoja	Assistant Director, Ministry of Justice, Lokoja		33.	Akpan, Aniekan	Male	Akwa Ibom	Uyo	Private Legal Practice	
13.	Adeyemi, Aderosoye Anne	Female	Ekiti	Akure	Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Ondo State		34.	Akpan, Ekerete Udofot	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Akure	Private Legal Practice	
14.	Agbaje, Yewande Azeezat	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Private Legal Practice		35.	Akpan, Peter Ime	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Akwa Ibom	Private Legal Practice	
15.	Agbanyi, Terfa Raphael	Male	Benue	Abuja	Private Legal Practice		36.	Alegbe, Onosen Divine	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Corporate Counsel	
16.	Agu, Kingsley Okwudiri Michael	Male	Enugu	Onitsha	Private Legal Practice		37.	Aikassim, Muhammad	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Private Legal Practice	
17.	Ahiakwo, Daniel Ikwachonyeoma	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice		38.	Amaran, Macdonald	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
18.	Ahile, Stephen Terungwa	Male	Benue	Bukuru	Private Legal Practice		39.	Ambi, John Aku	Male	Kaduna	Kafanchan	Private Legal Practice	
19.	Ahmed, Abubakar	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Assistant Chief State Counsel, Ministry of Justice, Bauchi		40.	Anieflok, Uwem Philip	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa Ibom State	
20.	Ahmed, Tajudeen Olutope	Male	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti	Private Legal Practice		41.	Aondo-Akaa, Jijngi Lillian Malami	Female	Benue	Gboko	Legal Aid Council, Benue State	
21.	Ajayi, Samuel Jaiye	Male	Kogi	Abuja	Private Legal Practice		42.	Aruleba, Sunday Ajibola	Male	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti	Private Legal Practice/ Notary Public	

NATIONAL OFFICERS:

Olumide A. Akpata President

Joyce Oduah, General Secretary; John Aikpokpo Martins, 1st Vice President; Debo Adeyemo Kazeem, 2nd Vice President; Omubo Victor Frank-Briggs, 3rd Vice President; Mercy Ijato Agada, Treasurer; Olukunle Edun, Welfare Secretary; Raphael Nnamdi Anagor, Financial Secretary; Dr. Rapuluchukwu Nduka, Publicity Secretary;



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

S/N	NAME	GENDER	STATE OF ORIGIN	PLACE OF PRACTICE/EMPLOYMENT	NATURE OF PRACTICE/EMPLOYMENT	OF
43.	Asembebo, Fortune Amina Iminabo	Male	Rivers	Enugu	Deputy Detective Superintendent, EFCC Enugu Zonal Command	Chief
44.	Asogwa, Francisca Nnemeka	Female	Enugu	Nsukka	Private Legal Practice	
45.	Asongo, Aguh Johnson	Male	Benue	Gboko	Private Legal Practice	
46.	Atung, Dorcas Tabitha	Female	Kaduna	Kaduna	Deputy Director, Kaduna Multi-Door Courthouse	
47.	Auta, Shafiu Shehu	Male	Zamfara	Sokoto	Lecturer, Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto/Private Practice	
48.	Awuka, Kingsley Paschal	Male	Enugu	Nnewi	Private Practice/Legislative (NASS)	Legal Senior Aide
49.	Azih, Chukwunonso Emmanuel	Male	Enugu	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
50.	Babayo, Umar Babangida	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Head, Department of Works & Transport/Ministry of Housing & Environment, Bauchi	Legal
51.	Bajulaiye-Bishi, Ompwunmi Abike	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Principal State Counsel, MOJ, Lagos	
52.	Bamidele, Bamise Julius Sunday	Male	Ekiti	Ikole-Ekiti	Director, Civil Litigation, Min. of Justice, Ekiti State	
53.	Bashar, Ibrahim	Male	Sokoto	Sokoto	Chief Registrar, Sokoto State High Court	
54.	Bello, Abdulganiyu	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Private Legal Practice	
55.	Bolowotan, Maureen Christiana Boro	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
56.	Boro, Blessing Ododo	Female	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Practice	
57.	Chibueze, Stella Okwudilich	Female	Enugu	Enugu	Private Legal Practice	
58.	Chukwu, Arthur Elvis	Male	Enugu	Yola	Lecturer, NLS Yola Campus	
59.	Chukwu, Stanley Chiemezie	Male	Enugu	Owerri	Private Legal Practice	
60.	Daib, Agboola Abdulkadir	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Kwara State	
61.	Danboyi, Eric Abol	Male	Kaduna	Bukuru	Private Legal Practice	
62.	David, Mary Bapakaye	Female	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
63.	Dikko, Yusuf Adebayo	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Private Legal Practice	
64.	Duniya, Eric Emmanuel	Male	Kaduna	Jos	Private Legal Practice	
65.	Eddie, Sharon	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Asst. Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa-Ibom State	
66.	Egwagu, Gloria	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Owerri	Director, Legal Drafting, MOJ Imo State	
67.	Ekong, Anietie	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Private Legal Practice	
68.	Ekpedoho, Margaret Sunday	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Eket	Chief Magistrate, Grade II, Akwa-Ibom	
69.	Ende, T. Christine Clement	Female	Benue	Abuja	Deputy Chief Registrar, FHC Abuja	
70.	Essang, Aruk Sunday	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Principal State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa-Ibom	
71.	Essang, Ini-Obong Essang	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Law Officer, Min. of Justice, Akwa-Ibom	
72.	Etuk, Enobong Ubong	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Deputy Registrar, University of Uyo	
73.	Ezekiel, Usajoy Kure	Female	Abuja	Jalingo	Private Legal Practice	
74.	Faga, Hemen Philip	Male	Benue	Ebonyi	Lecturer, Ebonyi State University	
75.	Fasanmi, Ibukun Oluwasegun	Male	Ekiti	Akure	Private Legal Practice	
76.	Faskari, Abdullahi Barau	Male	Katsina	Funtua	Assistant Director, Chambers of the A.G of Katsina State	
77.	Folorunsho, Oba Muritala	Male	Kwara	Ibadan	Private Legal Practice	
78.	Frank-Chukwuani, Princess	Female	Enugu	Abuja	Assistant Director Federal Ministry of Justice	
79.	Garba, Dabo Maleka	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Acting Director, Legal Practice, Ministry of Justice, Bauchi State	
80.	Garba, Zainab Aminu	Female	Zamfara	Kaduna	Private Legal Practice	
81.	Gbadamosi, Adegberro	Male	Kwara	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
82.	George, Enoch Hilikiah	Male	Rivers	Okrika	Private Legal Practice	
83.	Graham-Douglas, Erefama	Female	Rivers	Rivers	Deputy Director, DPP, Rivers State	
84.	Harrison, Ngor Isaac	Male	Rivers	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
85.	Henshaw, Olufunke	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
86.	Idachaba, Martins Ajagwu	Male	Benue	Lokoja	Lecturer, Kogi State University	
87.	Ideniyi Ibrahim	Male	Kogi	Lokoja	Director, MOJ, Kogi	
88.	Ideniyi, Thaddeus Olofu	Male	Benue	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
89.	Idungafa, Nancy	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Assistant Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa-Ibom State	
90.	Ikpe, Ugwushime Chinyere	Female	Rivers	Abuja	Assistant Director, FMOJ	
91.	Imam, Saraf Jumai	Female	Katsina	Ilorin	Principal Registrar FHC, Kwara State	
92.	James, Lydia Jeroma	Female	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
93.	John, Samuel Opeyemi	Male	Kogi	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
94.	Kokpan, Baryima Sylvester	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice/Law Teacher, Faculty of Law, Rivers State University	
95.	Lafong, Yohanna	Male	Kaduna	Kafanchan	Private Legal Practice	
96.	Leigh, Oluwaseyi Augustine	Male	Lagos	Ijebu-Ode	Senior Lecturer, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun	
97.	Ligali, Olakunte Fatat Francis	Male	Lagos	Ikeja	Deputy Director, MOJ, Lagos State	
98.	Madawaki, Kabiru	Male	Sokoto	Sokoto	Corporate Counsel	

S/N	NAME	GENDER	STATE OF ORIGIN	PLACE OF PRACTICE/EMPLOYMENT	NATURE OF PRACTICE/EMPLOYMENT	OF
99.	Magaji, Shamsuddeen	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Private Legal Practice	
100.	Major, Giff Churchill	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
101.	Marcus, Florence	Female	Kaduna	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
102.	Martins-Yellowe, Marlina	Female	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Head of Department, Probate Registrar, Rivers State	
103.	Mick-Akpabio, Angela Imothy	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Asst. Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa-Ibom	
104.	Mohammed, A. Mohammed	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Lecturer, Bauchi State University	
105.	Momoh, Kabir	Male	Kogi	Barnawa	Private Legal Practice	
106.	Moyi, Muhammadu Sani	Male	Zamfara	Abuja	Assistant Chief State Counsel FMOJ, Abuja	
107.	Muyideen, Abdul-Rahem Tejumade	Male	Lagos	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
108.	Navi-Oghene, Aisha	Female	Kogi	Wari	Private Legal Practice	
109.	Ndasule, Sheriff Yakubu	Male	Kogi	Kaduna	Private Legal Practice	
110.	Ngwu, Uzomaka Victoria	Female	Enugu	Enugu	Neutral Facilitator, HICADR Center	
111.	Nnamani, Chijoke Simon	Male	Enugu	Onitsha	Private Legal Practice	
112.	Nlla, Samuel Edet	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Shendam	Private Legal Practice	
113.	Nwobodo, Lexicon Israel IfeanyiChukwu	Male	Enugu	Onitsha	Private Legal Practice	
114.	Nwokorie, Chloma Edith	Female	Enugu	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
115.	Nwoye, Akachukwu Anthony	Male	Enugu	Gwagwalada	Personal Legal Assistant to Hon. Justice N. O Dimgba, FHC	
116.	Nze, Yefunde	Female	Kogi	Jos	Private Legal Practice	
117.	Obioma, Odinakachi Awade	Female	FCT	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
118.	Odo, Christian Ifikemeswa,	Male	Enugu	Onitsha	Private Legal Practice	
119.	Ogolo, Arthur Loveday	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
120.	Ogunremi, Victor Opeyemi	Male	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti	Private Legal Practice	
121.	Ojo, George Opeyemi	Male	Ekiti	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
122.	Okeke, Donatus Obinna	Male	Enugu	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
123.	Okoli, Anthony Ifeanyi	Male	Enugu	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
124.	Okoye, Chinedu Friday	Male	Enugu	Enugu	Chairman, Owelli Customary Court, Enugu	
125.	Okpo, Nowamagbe	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
126.	Oladipo, Toyin Olabode	Female	Kwara	Ilorin	Private Legal Practice	
127.	Olatunde-Fasogbon, Tifilola	Female	Ekiti	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
128.	Olu-Aladeyele, Oluwaseyi Matunrayo	Female	Ekiti	Abeokuta	Private Legal Practice	
129.	Olusemo-Etseme, Sumba Olusola	Female	Lagos	Lagos	Director, Legal Ministry of Physical Planning Urban Development, Lagos	
130.	Omoteye, Oyedotun	Male	Ekiti	Ekiti	Senior Magistrate, Ekiti State Judiciary	
131.	Omotimirin, Omobola Anifat	Female	Lagos	Ikeja	Deputy Director, State Counsel - Lagos State Ministry of Justice	
132.	Onah, Joseph Ezech	Male	Enugu	Enugu	Private Legal Practice	
133.	Onifade, Adebayo Bamidele	Male	Kwara	Ikeja	Private Legal Practice	
134.	Onoja, Joshua	Male	Benue	Yola	Private Legal Practice	
135.	Onu, Anthony Chinedu	Male	Enugu	Enugu	Private Legal Practice	
136.	Onu, Simon Ochala	Male	Kogi	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
137.	Onwe, Daniel Amaechi	Male	Enugu	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
138.	Orji, Samuel Nnabulike	Male	Enugu	Enugu	Private Legal Practice	
139.	Otobo, Emmanuel Romanus Ayogu	Male	Enugu	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
140.	Owoyomi, Samuel Sunday	Male	Kogi	Lokoja	Private Legal Practice	
141.	Oyigbo, Martins Onyebuchi	Male	Enugu	Ikeja	Private Legal Practice/Lecturer IRGB Africa University, Colonou, Benin Republic	
142.	Saliu, Kamaku Adamu	Male	Bauchi	Duse	Private Legal Practice	
143.	Sani, Muhammad Solahudeen, Solih Ahmed	Male	Kaduna	Kaduna	Private Legal Practice/Editor-in-Chief, Shariah Quarterly Law Report	
144.	Suleiman, Idris	Male	Kwara	Ilorin	Legal Counsel, FCT Administration, Abuja	
145.	Tamuno-Opubo, Deinma	Male	Rivers	Port Harcourt	Principal State Counsel, MOJ, River State	
147.	Temim, Kadiri	Male	Kwara	Ibadan	Private Legal Practice	
148.	Tony-Ogidi, Grace Oka	Female	Benue	Port Harcourt	Private Legal Practice	
149.	Torbari, Dumgbara Nda Smart	Male	Rivers	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
150.	Udoh, Nicholas Ikechukwu	Male	Enugu	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
151.	Udofa-Foroman, Blessing Imo	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Asst. Chief State Counsel, MOJ, Akwa-Ibom State	
152.	Udoh, Emmanuel Monday Obo	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Chairman, District Court	
153.	Udosen, Enyinakpe Udofia	Male	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Private Legal Practice	
154.	Umana, Helen Kang	Female	Akwa-Ibom	Uyo	Chief Magistrate/Director Akwa-Ibom State Multi-Door Courthouse	
155.	Umar, Aishatu Muhammed	Female	Kogi	Jos	Private Legal Practice	
156.	Umar, Onimisi Friday	Male	Kogi	Akure	Private Legal Practice	
157.	Usman, Joshua Enemadil	Male	Kogi	Lokoja	Lecturer, NOUN/Private Practice	
158.	Utsaha, Michael Tomonjo	Male	Benue	Abuja	Private Legal Practice	
159.	Wahab, Adam Omalakha	Male	Kwara	Lagos	Private Legal Practice	
160.	Wall, Lema Sambo	Male	Sokoto	Sokoto	Director, Civil Litigation, Sokoto State MOJ, Sokoto	
161.	Waziri, Abdussalam Idre	Male	Bauchi	Bauchi	Lecturer, Bauchi State University	
162.	Wape-Owalabi, Kudirat Magaji	Female	Kwara	Ilorin	Lecturer, Kwara State University	
163.	Ya'u, Musa Alhaji Yusuf	Male	Kaduna	Zaria	Private Legal Practice	
164.	Yasari, Shafau Usman	Female	Bauchi	Bauchi	Private Practice	



AT THE EXPANDED PDP STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING...

L-R: The National Vice Chairman (South East zone), Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Chief Ali Odefa; Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi of Enugu State and Leader of the PDP in the South East zone; National Secretary of the PDP, Senator Samuel Anyanwu; Deputy National Legal Adviser of the Party, Okechukwu Osuoha and former Governor of Anambra State, Mr. Peter Obi, during a meeting of expanded PDP stakeholders in Anambra State with leaders of the Party in the zone, held at the Government House, Enugu...yesterday

Ortom to Atiku: You Abandoned Us in Our Moments of Need

Chuks Okocha in Abuja

Benue State Governor, Samuel Ortom, yesterday, told a former Vice President, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, that people of the state were not happy with him for abandoning them during their trying times.

Ortom spoke at the Benue Peoples House, when he received the former Vice President and his campaign team on a visit.

A statement by the Chief Press Secretary to the governor, Nathaniel Ikyur, stated that Ortom was emphatic that as the holder

of one of the highest chieftaincy title in the Tiv Area Traditional Council, the 'Zege Mule U Tiv', meaning the big shelter of the Tiv nation, the people were not happy that the presidential aspirant didn't visit the state or send relief materials, when it came under siege by the Fulani militia herdsmen.

"Your visit to Benue as the 'Zege Mule U Tiv' is long overdue. But it's better late than never. You are in your home and we are happy to receive you. But let me say here that our people were not happy that you didn't visit,

when terrorists Fulani groups were attacking and killing the people in Benue," Ortom was quoted as saying.

The governor, however, cleared the misconceptions that he referred to indigenous Fulani, whom he said had lived with us.

He lamented that terrorists Fulani groups from foreign countries, including Miyetti Allah Kautal Hore and Fulani Nationality Movement, FUNAM were still terrorising the state

and county without the federal government coming hard on them.

On the state of nation, the governor decried the fact that the "barefooted incapability of the All Progressives Congress, APC-led administration at the centre has led Nigeria to where it is.

He expressed confidence that for him, the success of the PDP at the 2023 elections remained critical and above his personal interests, stressing that what the party needed was to remain united

in order to reclaim and salvage the country.

In his response, Alhaji Atiku too was quoted as saying he was unable to visit the state in its trying times, because he was out of the country for further studies.

He then donated the sum of N50 million for the upkeep of the Internally Displaced Persons in the state.

He said he had issues with the way the entire Fulani race was profiled in the course of

the crisis as violent people but admitted he had reconciled with Ortom for the clarifications he had given.

Answering questions from reporters much later, Atiku dismissed insinuations that he was silent during the crisis, saying, he issued a number of press statements while overseas, condemning the invasion.

The former vice president commended the party leaders in the state for their support to Ortom.

Olawepo-Hashim Backs Zulum's Call for Mercenary Use in Terror War

● Says it requires a new security template

Chuks Okocha in Abuja

A former Presidential hopeful and chieftain of the ruling All Progressive Congress (APC), Gbenga Olawepo-Hashim, has thrown his support behind the call for the use of mercenaries in the fight against terrorists by the Borno State Governor, Babagana Zulum, noting that the war on terror required a new security template.

Olawepo-Hashim also saluted the courage of men and women of Nigeria's Armed Forces as well as other security agencies that have continued to make huge sacrifices to wade off terror and keep the country safe.

In a release by his media office at the weekend in Abuja, Olawepo-Hashim explained that for those sacrifices not to be in vain, it was time for the nation to construct a new Defence and Security Architecture to permanently destroy the seed of terror and uproot banditry/kidnapping across the country.

He equally enjoined the federal government to take note of the alarm raised by Zulum to the effect that Nigeria's sovereignty was threatened by the growing number of ISWAP fighters in some parts of the state, warning that allowing the terrorist group to grow would spell doom for the country.

"With all manners of armed groups within two hours drive to Abuja, (the nation's seat of

power), from Niger and Kaduna, no one should downplay this threat," he warned.

Zulum's warning came a day after the federal government said it uncovered 96 financiers of Boko Haram and ISWAP, adding that at least, 123 companies and 33 bureaux de change were also linked to the terrorists.

Olawepo-Hashim, therefore, maintained that Zulum's warning was timely and that the war in the North East and the insurgency in the North West required a new defence and security template and perspective.

According to him, if between 2015 and now, the government had allocated approximately N5.081tn for defence, including the appropriation of N4.669tn to the Federal Ministry of Defence from 2016 to date and \$1bn for the purchase of military equipment, the template on the fight on terror required political responses that must tackle the underlining causes of the threats.

The root causes of insecurity, he argued, were rising poverty, rising illiteracy, bigotry, and hate, adding that Nigeria would be able to rise again once her leadership commit to tackling the causative factors of insecurity even as it rejigs the security architecture and structure of governance.

He, therefore, called on political leaders to put heads together "in order to agree on a workable agenda to stabilise our bleeding nation".

Insecurity: Niger Gov, Bello Wants FG to Re-introduce Air Border Patrol

Laleye Dipo in Minna

Niger State Governor, Alhaji Abubakar Sani Bello, has advised the federal government to re-introduce aerial border patrols across the country as one of the ways to check the influx of gunmen men into the country.

The governor's advise was contained in a paper titled: Strategic Leadership: My Experience as a Governor", which he delivered at the weekend, at the National Defence College Abuja.

Bello, in the paper, according to a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Mrs Mary Noel Berje, believed that, "aircraft patrol at the border is imperative in order to stop the movement of

weapons into the country."

According to the statement, Bello also said the country should "do further retrospection as to why the Nigerian Military that is praised all over the world for its gallantry seems to be fighting insurgency and banditry without an end.

"As strategic leaders and Members of Course 30 of the Nigerian Defense College, I challenge you to come up with strategic roadmap to end these menace (Insurgency) soon

"As the Chief Security Officer of the state, we took our responsibility of providing quality information to the security agencies, effectively supporting them with logistics and morale boosting gestures.

We have also brought in non-state actors like the vigilantes and the hunters to support the conventional security apparatus, considering their knowledge of the terrain.

"On many occasions, I have had to visit the affected communities and had one-on-one dialogue with the victims as well as interact with the members of the troops on ground," he said, urging the security agencies to respond promptly to the intel provided by the state government and use technology to fight terrorism rather than conventional way.

Bello, who recalled how Niger used to be one of the most peaceful states before the setting in of terrorism, kidnappings and

cattle rustling in some parts of the state, pointed out that his administration, "has been battling the security challenges with every sense of responsibility and determination"

He also maintained that, in spite of the effect of COVID-19 pandemic and the heightened insecurity in the state, his leadership style guided by the Principles of Strategic Leadership, has brought in positive changes to governance in the state.

The Commandant of the National Defence College, Rear Admiral Murtala Mormoni Bashir, assured the governor that the participants would come up with a strategic plan that would assist in curbing the activities of terrorists in the country.

Sunday Igboho to Spend Additional Six Months in Detention

Yoruba Nation activist, Sunday Adeyemo otherwise known as Igboho, has been scheduled to spend additional six more months in detention, his counsel, Chief Yomi Aliyuu, has disclosed.

Aliyuu, who reportedly spoke to some media organisations, including online portals, however, contradicted the position of a lawyer, Pelumi Olajengbesi, who had raised the hope of Igboho's supporters last Friday, that, the man would soon be released.

But Aliyuu hinted last night that the Government of Benin Republic, had renewed Igboho's incarceration despite the fact that there was no criminal charge against him and no extradition request from the Nigerian

government.

They are now looking around August 2022, for his release, if another extension was not given.

According to him, "Contrary to what was speculated in the news by a lawyer, the government of the Republic de Benin has renewed the incarceration of Chief Sunday Adeyemo a.k.a Igboho Oosa for another six months even though there is no criminal charge in their file in Cotonou and without extradition request from Nigeria."

When asked if there were plans to challenge the extension of his client's detention, Aliyuu said he had resolved to approach the court of the Economic Community of West African States.

His words: "We will approach

the ECOWAS Court, which they never obeyed."

On Friday, Olajengbesi, who secured the release of 12 Igboho's aides, who were arrested by operatives of the Department of State Service (DSS), posted that on his Facebook page that Igboho would be released soon, suggesting that his freedom would attract wild jubilation across Yorubaland.

"Chief Sunday Igboho will be out very soon and there will be massive jubilation across the entire Yorubaland. He is no doubt a courageous man. This is very authoritative just that our Yoruba leaders should stop being selfish and allow good to prevail," he wrote in the post.

Igboho had escaped from the country after a bloody raid on his Ibadan residence by DSS operatives on July 1, 2021, only to be arrested in Benin Republic enroute to Germany on July 19, together with his wife, Ropo.

Ropo was later released, while Igboho had since been in detention and if the extension of his incarceration pulled through, he might put in about a year in detention in the country.

This, nonetheless, the President of Agbekoya Worldwide, Kamorudeen Okiki, a few days ago, had appealed to the authorities of Benin Republic to free Igboho or the group would use traditional means to free him.



BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AT THE SEC...

L-R: Executive Commissioner Operations Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Mr. Dayo Obisan; Executive Commissioner Corporate Services, Mr. Ibrahim Boyi; Head Economic Team, British High Commission Nigeria, Dr. Gail Warrander; Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Ben Llewellyn-Jones; Director General, SEC, Mr. Lamido Yuguda; Member of the Delegation, Mr. Bola Karimu; and Deputy Director Strategy, SEC, Dr. Mo' Onamegbe, during a meeting between SEC and the Deputy High Commissioner in Abuja... recently

I Almost Died of COVID-19, Says FCT Minister

Olawale Ajimotokan in Abuja

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Malam Muhammad Musa Bello has said he nearly lost his life to the dreaded COVID-19 when he was quarantined for three weeks after testing positive to the disease at the end of last year.

He recounted his sordid experience over the weekend after taking a COVID-19 booster jab.

The minister confessed that he only survived the scare because he had taken two doses of the vaccines.

"Although I was not hospitalised, I was quarantined in my residence for three weeks because subsequently, even after taking the medication, I tested positive twice. It was the third time that I got a negative result. If I had not taken the first and second doses, probably what has happened to many of my dear ones would have happened to me," he admitted.

The minister recounted bout of headaches, sore throat, pains in the joints and general fatigue, while he fought the virus which also necessitated the change of the course of his medicine after the first 10 days.

"For three weeks, I was not

productive. I didn't go out of the house, I never had a chance to do my work and the multiplier effect was tremendous because even now, I'm just trying to cope, to clear all those files that I

was not able to handle when I was under quarantine," he said.

He made a case for all FCT residents to be vaccinated, while advising those who have taken the first and second

doses to go for the booster.

The minister said he would take all the recommended shots, "because I don't want to go through what I went through again".

He thanked the federal

government for ensuring the availability of the vaccines for Nigerians, while urging residents to get vaccinated as vaccines can truly save lives.

Also, the Secretary for Health and Human Services

of the FCTA, Dr. Abubakar Tafida said that a total of 433,000 people in the FCT have taken the first dose and 286,000 the second dose. He said about 12,000 people have taken the booster shot.

Buhari's Government in Hurry to Develop Nigeria, Says Senate President

● Drums support for Kwara state governor, senators' re-election

The President of the Senate, Ahmad Lawan has said that the government of President Muhammadu Buhari was in a hurry to develop Nigeria.

Lawan made the remarks at the weekend, while on a visit to Kwara State to witness the launch of the 2022 Empowerment Programme of Senator Sadiq Suleiman Umar who is representing Kwara North.

According to a statement, the event which was also witnessed by the State Governor, Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq held at the Kwara State Polytechnic.

The Senate President said there were infrastructural projects going on in virtually all parts of the country,

stressing that the synergy between the states and federal government was producing positive results.

"Development of any nation is not about federal government doing its beat. It is about federal government doing its own, working in partnership with the state government and even the local government and that is what we are doing.

"Every single project of federal government of Nigeria whether it is a constituency project or direct project from the federal government, is to complement what the state government is doing and that partnership has been so purposeful that today in every corner, in every

part of Nigeria, you have infrastructural development.

"The federal government of President Muhammadu Buhari is in a hurry. We are in a hurry to develop Nigeria. By 2023, Nigeria would have been turned into an infrastructural laboratory because every part of Nigeria, from the east to the west to the north to the south, there is something going on.

"In the east, the second Niger bridge, today it is at 75 to 80 per cent completion level. For 20 years, those people, they will go there, do groundbreaking and disappear to the ground. Another person would come, do groundbreaking and disappear to the ground,"

he said.

According to him, President Muhammadu Buhari did only one groundbreaking and today, it is at 75 percent completion level. That is what it is, in every part of Nigeria."

"So the synergy between our states and the Federal government is working. It is making Nigeria to develop the infrastructure that we need. We have never seen it done like this one by this administration," Lawan said.

The Senate President was full of commendation for the Kwara State Governor, Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq for changing the narratives in the state in terms of development and urged

the people of Kwara State to consider him for another term to continue his good work.

"APC administration in this state is barely two and half years but we know how far we have gone in two and half years. Others were here for 16 years. What you (Governor Abdulrazaq) have been able to do in two and half years can be favourably compared with what others could not do in 16 years.

"No one should deceive you. No one should confuse you. Elect His Excellency, Governor Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq for a second term. He has already performed so well in two and half years," Lawan said.

PSC to Consider Kyari's Case at Tomorrow's Plenary

Kingsley Nwezeh in Abuja

The Police Service Commission (PSC) is expected to deliberate the case of the suspended Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Mr. Abba Kyari, at its plenary session billed for tomorrow.

THISDAY gathered that contrary to reports of a decision taken by the agency to dismiss Kyari, the matter had not been tabled before

the plenary session of the commission.

It was gathered that Kyari's case may be considered by the plenary session tomorrow.

There had been insinuations that the commission rejected the report of the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Usman Baba, which was submitted to the commission recommending demotion to the next lower rank and retaining him in the force in view of Kyari's

exceptional performance in the past.

There were also reports that the commission was pushing for outright dismissal in view of the gravity of the offence of his alleged involvement in international fraud and the bad image it portends for the nation.

However, a reliable source familiar with the matter told THISDAY that Kyari's case would be brought before the

commission's plenary meeting tomorrow.

"The matter has not come before the plenary and it may be considered tomorrow. We have also read similar reports of the decision taken.

"But such decisions can only be taken at plenary and that is not the case yet so I don't know where they got those reports from", the source said.

He stated that the report of the committee earlier set

up by the commission on Kyari may submit its report to the plenary meeting of the commission tomorrow.

"The plenary cannot sit on a single matter about one individual, there are so many issues being treated so Kyari's matter may be considered", he said.

There were reports citing sources and internal memos which outlined how the police regulatory body placed

the interest of the Nigeria Police as an institution over Kyari's career trajectory and medals, saying his fate, if not appropriately and firmly decided, could leave an enduring blight on the country's law enforcement.

When contacted, Spokesman of the commission, Mr. Ikechukwu Ani, said he would relay the outcome of the plenary to the media.



Forever IN OUR HEARTS

**Chief (Dr) Joe Aisien
OGBEBOR (JP)**

Exactly three years today, our father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend, boss and Emperor (as many knew him) was called to eternal glory.

Chief Dr. Joe Aisien-Ogbemor, was known to be a man of few words who exemplified hardwork.

He was the glue that held so many together with his calm, loving yet authoritative demeanor.

Years have passed, but his memory has survived in our hearts.

His words of both wisdom and common sense, we will treasure all our lives.

As painful as this separation has been, we believe that he is in a better place, because God needed his angel to come home.

Until we meet again, rest on, our loving Father & Grandfather.

We love you!

Signed:
THE AISIEN OGBEBOR'S CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN

◆◆◆◆

THIRD YEAR REMEMBRANCE

◆◆◆◆

CHIEF (DR) JOE AISIEN OGBEBOR (JP) (D'Efeisoghoba of Benin Kingdom)

Our Hero, you were indomitable, iconic, and creative in leadership. Three years gone since your sudden demise and your memory is as fresh as ever in our hearts. Your kindness and fatherly advice on critical issues are unforgettable. You were a great teacher, thinker, and philosopher. May your soul continue to rest in perfect peace. Amen.



Signed:

ANDY BESTMAN OMENOGOR
For: Shalom 2000 Nigeria Ltd.



NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Plot no. 1387, Cadastral Zone, A00, Central Business District, Abuja
P.M.B 136, Garki - Abuja
Tel: +234-094621400, 094621410
Website: www.nerc.gov.ng

CORRIGENDUM

RE: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY PROJECTS AND INVITATION TO TENDER FOR GOODS AND WORKS

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) wishes to draw the attention of all interested bidders and General Public to its earlier advertisement published in the **Federal Tender Journal, Business Day, ThisDay and Daily Trust of 24th January, 2022** as follows:

- The Request for Expression of Interest for consultancy services under LOT G: "Conceptual Design of a Data Aggregation Platform and Revenue Assurance System for the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI)" has been corrected to read **"Implementation of a Data Aggregation Platform for the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI)"**.
- Submission deadlines for both **Expression of Interest** and **Invitation to Tender for Goods & Works** as earlier advertised have been extended as follows:

Category	New Submission Deadlines	Opening Date & Time
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)	12:00 noon, Tuesday February 22, 2022	12:00 noon, Tuesday February 22, 2022
Invitation to Tender for Goods & Works	12:00 noon, Wednesday March 23, 2022	12:00 noon, Wednesday March 23, 2022

- All other information in the advertisement remains same.

SIGNED
Chairman
Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission



PUBLIC NOTICE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISPLAY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THE PROPOSED NSPF GRAINS PROCESSING COTTAGE INDUSTRY PROJECT AT EDDAH VILLAGE, SHIRORO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, NIGER STATE BY NORTH-SOUTH POWER FOUNDATION.

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act CAP E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for their projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces twenty-one (21) working days Public Display for information and comments on the draft ESIA report submitted by North-South Power Foundation. The display is for the public to make inputs that shall enable the Ministry take appropriate decision on the EIA of the project

The Disclosure Centers are:

- Shiroro Local Government Council, Kuta, Niger State.
- Niger State Ministry of Environment, State Secretariat Complex, Minna.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department (Environment House), Central Business District, Abuja, F.C.T.

Brief Project Description:

The proposed project entails the establishment of components for a cottage processing industry for the farming, milling, production and bagging of rice, including warehousing and transportation of the product to the markets. The proposed location is a 1.6hectares acquisition at Eddah Town, Zumba District in Shiroro Local Government Area.

Duration of Display:

Date: 7th February – 7th March, 2022.
Time: 8:00am – 4:00pm Daily

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, MABUSHI, ABUJA - F.C.T ON OR BEFORE 14TH MARCH, 2022.

SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.



USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL, SOKOTO Private Mail Bag 2370, Sokoto

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE EXECUTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE 2022 APPROPRIATION UDUTH 2022/ITFB

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Government of Nigeria has allocated Funds to the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, (UDUTH) Sokoto in the 2022 Appropriation Act for the execution of Capital Projects towards achieving its mandates.

The Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto therefore wishes to invite reputable contractors with relevant proven competence and experience to submit Technical and Financial documents for the execution of the following projects:

2.0 SCOPE OF THE PROJECTS

INVITATION TO TENDER

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY	LOCATION
Lot 1A	Supply, installation and Commissioning of Medical Equipment for Medical and Surgical Sub -Specialties in UDTH Sokoto (ENT and Radiology)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 1B	Supply, installation and Commissioning of Medical Equipment for Medical and Surgical Sub -Specialties in UDUTH Sokoto (SCBU, Labour Room and Dialysis)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 2	Rehabilitation and Replacement of Breakers and Power Supply System Network	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 3	Equipping and Furnishing of Trauma Centre	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 4	Completion of Improvement of Water Supply System	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 5	Furnishing, Equipping, Landscaping and Construction of Drainages for the Brachytherapy Area	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 6	Designing, Construction and Equipping of Eye Centre	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 7	Renovation, Equipping and Furnishing of Wards (Orthopaedics, SOPD and Urology Wards)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 8	Construction and Furnishing of House Officers Quarters	UDUTH Sokoto

3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Prospective bidders must possess the under-listed minimum requirements to be eligible to participate in this procurement:

- Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Form CAC 1.1 or CAC2 and CAC7;
- Evidence of Company's Income Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years (2018, 2019 & 2020) valid till 31st December 2022 with Minimum Average Annual Turnover of N100 million.
- Evidence of Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 15 and above);
- Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 5 and above or the bidder's annual turnover is N50m and above).
- Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022.
- Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31st December, 2022 or valid Certificate issued by the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP);
- Sworn Affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars.
- Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years (2019, 2020 and 2021).
- Reference Letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed;
- Company's Profile with the Curriculum Vitae of Key Staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their Academic/Professional qualifications;
- Verifiable documentary evidence at least three (3) similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including Letters of Awards, Valuation Certificates, Job Completion Certificates and Photographs of the projects;
- For Procurement and Installation of Medical Equipment, bidders must submit evidence of Manufacturer Authorization as required in line with Approved Policy for Procurement of Health and Medical Equipment/List of Manufacturers and Equipment for Tertiary Hospital;
- List of Plants/Equipment with proof of Ownership/Lease;
- All documents for submission must be transmitted with a Covering/Forwarding letter under the Company/Firm's Letter Head Paper bearing amongst others, the Registration Number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (preferably GSM No.) and e-mail address. The Letterhead Paper must bear the Names and Nationalities of the Directors of the Company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorized officer of the firm.

4.0 COLLECTION OF BID DOCUMENTS

Interested and competent bidders are requested to collect Standard Bidding Document (SBD) from the Office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto upon presentation of evidence of payment of non-refundable tender fee of **N10,000.00** per Lot, paid into the UDUTH's remita account in any reputable commercial bank in Nigeria.

5.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit bid for each of the Lot desired, two (2) hard copies each of the Technical and Financial bids with softcopy of financial bid only in MS Excel format, packaged separately in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as "Technical Bid" or "Financial Bid". Thereafter, put the two sealed envelopes together in a bigger sealed envelope addressed to:

**The Chief Medical Director,
Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital,
No. 1 Garba Nadama Road, Gawon Nama Area,
P. M. B. 2370, Sokoto.**

The completed and sealed bid documents should contain the bidder's name on the reverse side of the envelope and be deposited in Tender Box in the Office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto between the hours of 8.00 am-4.00 pm Monday to Friday not later than **12:00 noon on Monday, 7th March 2022.**

6.0 OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS

Only the submitted Technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **12:00 noon on Monday, 7th March 2022** in the Board Room, Administrative Block, UDUTH, Sokoto. Please, ensure that you sign the Bid Submission Register in the office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, as the Usmanu Danfodiyo Teaching Hospital Sokoto will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongly submitted bids. For further inquiries, please contact the Deputy Director Procurement on e-mail: info@uduth.org.ng.

6.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

- Bids must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the bidder.
- Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be returned un-opened.
- Bidders should not bid for more than two (2) Lots.
- All costs will be borne by the bidders;
- Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording (invitation link will be sent to bidders to join the bid opening online) with the physical presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- Bid documents can also be collected in soft copies and Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- Only pre-qualified bidders at technical evaluation will be invited at a later date for virtual financial bids opening, while the financial bids of un-successful bidders will be returned un-opened.
- The Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto is not bound to pre-qualify any bidder and reserves the right to annul the Procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with Section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007.

Signed
Deputy Director (Procurement)
For: CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

NEWS

Mustapha: How I'll Reconcile APC Members as National Chairman

Chuks Okocha in Abuja

As the campaign for the National Chairmanship position of All Progressive Congress (APC) gathers momentum, one of the contestants and foremost aspirant, Alhaji Saliu Mustapha has promised to ensure reconciliation of all aggrieved of the party.

He also said that he will uplift internal democracy of the party with the establishment of 'The Progressive Institute of (TPI) a democratic institution that will help to advance good governance, party democracy and leadership.

Mustapha, who is so far the youngest and the current Turaki of Ilorin declared yesterday in Abuja that among the immediate tasks in his manifesto is ensure unity in the party through a reconciliation process through the establishment of the TPI of Nigeria.

The APC today is torn into various camps and factions in more than 20 states. The factions is much more pronounced in Delta, Ogun, Rivers, Ekiti, Zamfara, Kano, Akwa Ibom among other states.

Mustapha said that he will

tackle the crisis in the states with the Progressive Institute which shall be an institute for strategic studies and reconciliation pattern after

the United States National Democratic Institute (NDI).

According to him, the idea to establish TPI was mooted long ago during

the Adams Oshioh mole-led national executive, but yet to see the light due to internal crises.

The TPI, he said is a

necessity for addressing internal democracy, conflicts and democratic governance.

"Across the world today, especially in advanced

democracies, democratic institutions such as the proposed TPI are known to advance openness and accountability in government.



EMPOWERMENT FOR THE PEOPLE...

L-R- Senate President, Ahmad Lawan; Kwara State Governor, AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq and Senator, representing Kwara North Senatorial District, Sadiq Umar at Umar's empowerment programme in Ilorin...recently

Human Rights Commission Warns against Religion Intolerance

Michael Olugbode in Abuja

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has advised the leadership of all religious groups in Nigeria to ensure that their adherents observe respect for constitutionally guaranteed rights to freedom of religion and worship to avoid unnecessary situations that could lead to violence.

The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Tony Ojukwu, SAN, made this call over the weekend while reacting to reported cases of alleged harassment and denial of some Muslim female students of their right to wear hijab in school at Offa, Ijagbo and Oyin Communities in Kwara.

Ojukwu, however,

commended the respective authorities for quickly resolving tensions arising in the past over wearing of hijab as was recorded in Nigerian Law School in Abuja, Akwa Ibom's National Youth Service Corps camp, and University Teaching Hospital Ibadan.

The NHRC Boss recalled Section 38(1) of the 1999 Constitution and several other regional and international treaties which unanimously endorse the right to freedom of religion and worship.

According to the chief custodian of human rights in Nigeria, "It is therefore strange and smacks of intolerance to stop someone from wearing a hijab when freedom of worship has expressly been granted by the Constitution and other relevant legislation".

Ekiti 2022: Fayemi, Fayose Plotting against My Ambition, Oni Alleges

Victor Ogunje in Ado Ekiti

Former Governor of Ekiti State, Segun Oni has accused Governor Kayode Fayemi and ex-Governor Ayodele Fayose of plotting against his governorship ambition, which he intends to realise on the platform of the All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) after being allegedly rigged out in the People's Democratic Party (PDP)'s primary.

In a statement in Ado Ekiti, yesterday, Oni alleged that Fayose had hurriedly called a meeting of his associates to express his fears on his defection as thousands of the party members had coalesced into Segun Oni Movement (SOM).

Oni posited that there had been uneasy calm in the camps of the PDP's candidate, Bisi Kolawole

and that of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Biodun Oyebarji, since he announced his defection plan last Friday.

"Troubled by the mass movement of PDP members to the Oni camp Fayose ran to the a radio station at Ikere Ekiti in an attempt to stop them, but it was an exercise in futility as his actions further mobilized more people to Oni's meeting.

"Former governor Fayose convinced Fayemi that some of the aggrieved members of the APC were at the well-attended meeting at Ifaki Ekiti, where Oni unveiled his plans to contest the June 18 governorship election on another platform and that serious mobilisation is also going on within the APC for same purpose.

Police Arrest Three Suspected Cultists in Kwara

Hammed Shittu in Ilorin

Kwara State Police command has arrested three suspected cultists that have been terrorising the people of Ilorin, state capital for past few weeks. Already, one suspected cultist was killed over the weekend during a supremacy battle between the two rival cult groups in Ilorin.

The police command also impounded motorcycles and

tricycles being used by the cultists to operate their dastardly act in the town.

In a statement issued by the State police command Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ajayi Okasanmi, the police warned parents and guardians in the state to take care of their children.

The statement read: "Having arrested some confirmed cultists aftermath of the recent killing of a suspected cultist by a rival

cult group along Emir's Road, Ilorin about three days ago,

"A report of sporadic shootings by suspected cultists was received by the Divisional Police Headquarters, Surulere, Ilorin around Total Fuel Station yesterday (Saturday), at about 2035hrs. "On arrival at the scene, detectives from both the Division and the Anti-cultism team dispatched by the commissioner of police Kwara State was faced with

an unidentified body of a young man lying in the pool of his blood, having been shot by suspected cultists".

The statement added: "Three suspects were arrested, one Motorcycle and one Tricycle used by the suspected cultists were also recovered.

"The commissioner of police, CP Tuesday Assayomo has ordered a discreet investigation into the case and all other cult related cases in the state.

Don't Defect, Kalu Begg Aggrieved Abia APC Members

Sunday Aborisade in Abuja

Chief Whip of the Senate and Leader of All Progressives Congress (APC) in Abia State, Senator Orji Uzor Kalu has called on the members of the party in the state to embrace unity and togetherness ahead of the 2023 general elections

The Abia North Senator, according to a statement by his media office on Sunday in Abuja,

also appealed to different factions to bury the idea of defecting to another political party amidst the disagreements in the party.

Kalu, according to the statement, noted that disagreements were bound to happen in democratic settings, and that he did not belong to any of the factions.

In his capacity as leader of the party in the state, Kalu said he was watching very keenly, the

developments in the party with a special call on all aggrieved members to remain strong with a view to strengthening the party

He said defection cannot be the solution to their grievances, adding that everyone should allow the party's national leadership to address the grievances amicably.

He said: "As the leader of the party, I have been neutral but that does not mean I am paying

deaf ears on the grievances by individuals and groups. I wish to call on aggrieved members to keep confidence with the party, while we explore all peaceful means for amicable solution.

"I want to state that it is very normal for any member or faction to feel some kind of way, but we must allow the National leadership to use various reconciliation strategies to make the party stronger.

2023 Guber: Gbagi, Edevbie, Speaker Make Delta Central Final List

Omon-Julius Onabu in Asaba

Former minister, Olorogun Kenneth Gbagi, two-time state finance commissioner, Olorogun David Edevbie and Speaker, Delta State House of Assembly, Hon Sheriff Oborevwori, have made the final shortlist by the Delta Central 2023, otherwise known as DC-23, a lobby group towards the 2023 governorship

election in the state.

The names of the three 2023 gubernatorial aspirants were yesterday submitted to the enlarged body of the DC-23 by the Pruning/Screening Committee of Gubernatorial Aspirants Committee set up by the DC-23.

In its preliminary report to DC-23, the committee had in December 2021 submitted the

names of five aspirants from Delta Central senatorial district, including former Managing Director of Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Chief Emmanuel Aguariavwodo, immediate past state Commissioner for Works, Chief James Augoye as well as Gbagi, Edevbie and Oborevwori.

However, the committee was

directed to further prune down the number of aspirants to not more than four persons.

The committee, charged with drawing a shortlist of worthy gubernatorial aspirants from the senatorial district, was inaugurated on October 25, 2021 and has Prof Nyerhovwo Tonukari as Chairman and Prof Sunny Awhefeada, Secretary with 12 other members.

Bauchi High Court Unveils New Strategy to Check Touts

Segun Awofadeji in Bauchi

In a renewed efforts to check the activities of court touts that are defrauding unsuspecting persons, Bauchi State High Court of Justice has unveiled its new security embossed legal forms that will be strictly issued to clients by Commissioners of Oath in the State.

This was disclosed by the Chief Registrar of the High Court, Barrister Emmanuel Danjuma Subilim in an interview with our correspondent in his office weekend.

Subilim cautioned the general public and corporate organisations not to fall prey to the nefarious activities of the court touts and to avail

themselves the new improved services of the courts.

"The activities of Court Touts issuing legal forms like affidavits and other related documents to unsuspecting clients of the Courts has prompted us to come up with innovative ways of checkmating their activities".

"These touts forge our legal forms and fake our stamps,

roaming around the court premises, on the lookout for unsuspecting members of the public to defraud. Some of them are staff of the judiciary, while others connived with the staff to perpetrate the illegal act. And the irony of it is that, these unsuspecting members of the public pay even higher rates to these touts than what is obtainable officially," he said.

Heightening Insecurity Worries Gani Adams

Segun James

The Aare Onakakanfo of Yoruba Land, Iba Gani Adams has warned that insecurity in the nation was sending wrong signals to the country to both Nigerians in the diaspora and foreigners alike.

He stressed the need to tackle the situation immediately.

Adams who said this during the 10th Anniversary of Oodua Peoples Union (OPU) and presentation of the book titled: "OPU Globalising Yoruba Value and Culture," noted that many in the diaspora were losing interest in coming back home to contribute to development of their fatherland.

Adams, who is the Global Convener of OPU, while dwelling on the establishment of the organisation, said the intention was to encourage business opportunities and also project the ideas of Yoruba cultural promotion.

"Through our initiative,

many who had lost interest in coming back home because of the security situation in the country are beginning to change their mind. The idea behind OPU is to improve the socio-economic prospects of all Yoruba sons and daughters abroad," he said.

He said the OPU, a global brand spread across 96 countries in six continents of the world, has been formally launched in 50 countries, with the rest 40 expected to be inaugurated in the coming years.

"Since its inception, OPU has morphed into a global brand with a diaspora organisation in 96 countries across six continents of the world. But we still have about 40 countries that are yet to be launched officially. In the coming years, all these countries will be inaugurated officially.

"Our message is message of hope and to encourage our sons and daughters that there is no place like home, here in Nigeria

we help them to protect their interest and make sure that they are not defrauded or victimised on any ground," he said.

On the idea behind the book which was unveiled in the

presence of traditional leaders across different parts of the south-west, Adams said it was meant to set the record straight and to rid the organisation of unnecessary misinterpretations.

Speaking further, Adams described OPU as a global brand, and currently the rallying point for the Yoruba people both at home and in the diaspora, saying such should make it

imperative for all, "to double our efforts in ensuring that we measure up with our values, mission and vision for Yoruba race" and also build on the past successes."

Lai Mohammed Sues Publisher over N10bn Fraud Allegations

Alex Enumah in Abuja

The Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed has instituted a legal action against an online publisher, Mr. Jackson Ude over alleged libelous publication.

In the suit, filed by his counsel, Taofeek Yahaya, at a High Court of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), the minister joined

the editor of the publication, Pointbanknews, Mr. Uduoma Mba as 2nd defendant in the matter. In the writ of summons dated January 21, 2022, and signed by his counsel, the plaintiff sought for N50 billion damages.

According to the minister, the defendants in the publication, Pointblanknews, alleged that he was involved in a N10 billion fraud, adding that the

Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC), was already investigating him.

The minister said the report, published on August 3, 2022, on Pointbanknews.com was circulated worldwide and has caused damage to his reputation.

He prayed the court to restrain the defendants from further publishing defamatory

new items against him.

He also prayed the court for a perpetual injunction, restraining the defendants from writing or caused to be written, publishing or caused to be published and generally circulating or caused to be circulated by themselves or their agents or servants or otherwise any of such libel or similar words or any word to the like effect concerning the claimant.

#EndSARS: We're Yet to Recover from Attacks, Says Ondo APC

Fidelis David in Akure

The devastating effect of the 2020 #EndSARS protest and subsequent attack on the state Secretariat of All Progressives Congress (APC) in Ondo State is yet to be overcome. This assertion was given by the state chairman of the party, Ade Adetimehin at the weekend, in Akure, at a ceremony to receive office equipment and plastic chairs worth about N10 million, on behalf of the six council areas in the Southern Senatorial District of the state.

The equipment and plastic chairs were donated to the local government areas party Secretariats in Ilaje, Ese-Odo, Okitipupa, Irele, Odigbo and Ileoluji/Oke-Igbo by Mr. Mathew Oye Oyerinmade.

The equipment and other materials including: 460 plastic chairs, six generating sets, six

DSTV decoders and accessories, Six 43 inchies LCD television sets, 6 pieces of ceiling fans and six sets of public address system.

Adetimehin, while receiving the donations from Oyerinmade who is a Senatorial aspirant for Ondo South Senatorial District, said the items will cushion the effect and damages of #ENDSARS protesters at the party Secretariats.

While thanking the aspirant for the good gestures towards the party, especially in the senatorial district, he pleaded that aspirants and other wealthy members of the party should come to the aide of the state secretariat for such donations.

Adetimehin, who was represented by the Director of Administration of the State APC, Mr. Smart Omodunni said: "This is a very great move and good gestures towards the party by Oyerinmade, and it is also very commendable."

Nnamani: Ugwuanyi, Greatest Mandate Ever for 2023 Presidency

Chuks Okocha in Abuja

A former Governor of Enugu State, Senator Chimaroke Nnamani, yesterday, said after consultation with stakeholders and political leaders including the Ebeano family, Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi of the state was the best man for Nigeria's president.

Nnamani's position followed meetings of scores of political leaders in the South-east geo political zone, who thought that justice, fairness and equity demanded that the Nigerian state allowed the zone to produce the next president.

He stated: "Our leaders, including the Ebeano political

family in Nigeria and in diaspora have consulted widely and seriously believe in the actualisation of Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi of Enugu State as the presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and president in 2023."

Nnamani, who represented Enugu East in the Senate, said Nigeria has been beleaguered by a chequered socio-economic and political history that required a consensus builder like Ugwuanyi to handle.

He said Ugwuanyi as the PDP leader in the South East has an enviable record as a consensus builder with every segment of the society, pointing out that he was the architect of the political harmony in Enugu.

Wale Igbintade

An indigenous petroleum company, Petrocam Trading Nigeria Limited, has applied to a Federal High Court in Lagos for the winding up of Primero Transport Service Limited, the operator of Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) over an alleged N63.466 million.

The petitioner, (Petrocam),

in a suit, marked FHC/L/CP/1702/20, brought before the court, pursuant to Order 19, Rule 1, of the Company Winding-Up Rules 2001, was asking for the leave of the court to advertise the Primero's winding-up petition in the Gazette and in Thisday Newspaper or any other widely circulating newspaper.

The petitioner accused Primero of continued failure to pay the debt of N63.466 million.

In its petition, an affidavit in support of the petition deposed to by its Financial Manager, Mr. Taiwo Abiodun, the petitioner stated that sometime between January 2019 and January 2020, upon the request of the respondent,

the petitioner supplied automated gas oil, lubricant oil, and gear oil worth the sum of N174.046 million.

He stated that the supply was made on credit on the agreement that the respondent would pay N10 million as advance payment before the delivery and balance payment within 30 days after the invoice date.

Osun 2022: I'll Never Betray Your Trust, if Re-elected, Oyetola Tells Electorate

Yinka Kolawole in Osogbo

Governor Gboyega Oyetola of Osun State yesterday assured the people of the state that he will never betray the trust the electorate reposed in him, if re-elected in July 16 this year governorship election.

Oyetola made the remarks during an engagement

programme organised by the State's Civic Engagement Centre yesterday in Ijimo village in Oriade Local Government Area of Osun State.

The governor, who was represented by his Special Adviser on Civic Engagement, Mr. Olatunbosun Oyintiloye, said he had made a covenant with God and the people that

voted him to power to always prioritise their welfare.

Oyetola also said that the insinuation by some people that he would stop the good works he had been doing since assumption of office, if re-elected, was far from the truth. The governor, who noted that he had not reneged in any of the promises he made on

assumption of office, said he will not renege in any of it during his second term in office.

"On assumption of office in November 2018, I promised prompt and full payment of workers' salaries as well as pension. And till date, the promise is well kept as workers and our senior citizens get their entitlement as and when due.

Be Committed to Children's Upbringing for a Better Society, Aregbosola Tasks Teachers

The Minister of Interior, Ogben Rauf Aregbosola, has called on teachers to be more committed to bringing up upright, honest, bright, smart and properly shaped pupils for a better society.

Aregbosola, made the call in Akure, the Ondo state capital while hosting the 1971 to '75 set of his Alma Mater, Akoko Anglican Grammar School, Arigidi Akoko, (AKOGRAMS). The minister said this would go a long way in ridding the society of crime and criminality prevalent among youths in the country.

According to him, "what is

obviously lacking is sufficient parental guardians. Let us address parental issues. Parents must be encouraged to properly groom their children, and grooming is not just about discipline, it goes beyond that. It involves correcting vices, malpractices, maladjustments, misbehaviours among others.

"When parents are up against vices, and are sensitive to what their children reads, to what they watch, to the company they keep, definitely we are going to have well groomed, disciplined and well-bred children. The home is the first foundation of morality."

The minister noted that the society at large have a role to play in shaping the morality of our youths and appealed to non-governmental organisations, religious bodies, societies, associations and well-meaning Nigerians to support government efforts at all levels in developing the education infrastructure.

"Government alone cannot attend to the needs of this institution particularly on infrastructure. I call on other bodies to support government's effort at developing, funding, running and maintaining the educational institution for adequate and effective infrastructural activity."

NOTICE OF WINDING UP

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the member of the Board of Trustees of the pension and Gratuity scheme of the Defunct African International Bank limited (AIB) will start the process of winding up.

That the delay in dissolving the scheme was as a result of loss of the Trust Deed. A situation intended to be remedied by a fresh set of documents.

The member of the Board of Trustees as at the time the bank was acquired by Ecobank Nigeria limited were and still remain as follows.

- I. Ibrahim A. Kofa (former AG, Managing Director)
- II. B.A Eluchie (former General manager finance)
- III. Kabir Mukhtar (former company secretary legal Adviser)
- IV. Mr Segun Sosonya replaced Buhari Dangaladima (former president Association of senior staff of financial institutions, (ASSBIFI))
- V. R. O Yusuf (former secretary General, (ASSBIFI))
- VI. Issac Akinmusere (former Chairman National union of Banks Insurance and financial institution Employees, (NUBIFIE))
- VII. Miss Sola Oloku (Deceased) (former secretary NUBIFIE).

Therefore, any person who seek to claim to represent the former members of staff and Retirees of the Defunct African International Bank limited (AIB) as Trustees who did not find time to engage with the Ecobank Nigeria limited as Bankers to the scheme from the beginning other than those listed above are hereby advised to make themselves known to Ecobank within one month from The date of this publication failing which it shall become clear that only The Trustees mentioned herein and sworn Affidavit by the chairman of the Board of Trustees have the mandate to wind up the scheme Ecobank Nigeria limited to please take note.

Issued: by Board of Trustees.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

I, Alh. Ibrahim A. Kofa (former AG, Managing Director) of the Defunct African International Bank, AIB plaza, AIB Terrace, Adeyemo Alakija street, Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria wish to inform the general public of the loss of the following Document.

1. Trust Deed in respect of the pension and gratuity scheme for the staff and Retirees of the Defunct African International Bank (AIB)

The aforementioned document got lost in the African International Bank limited (AIB). Located at AIB Plaza, AIB Terrace Adeyemo Alakija street, Victoria Island Lagos sometimes in December 2005 which housed the pension and Gratuity scheme of the Defunct African International Bank limited (AIB) which Board are now Defunct. All effort made to trace said document proved abortive.

If found please return to the nearest police station or Aliyu Ahmed and Associates of Block G, Flat 7, Sky Memorial Complex Wuse Zone 5, Abuja. The general public, Ecobank and the relevant authorities concerned to please take Note.

Equinor Nigeria Deep Water Limited 

RC:487051

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT 2020
COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

SPECIAL RESOLUTION
OF
EQUINOR NIGERIA DEEP WATER LIMITED

At an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of Equinor Nigeria Deep Water Limited ("the Company") duly convened, and held on the 2nd day of February 2022, the following Resolutions were proposed and duly passed:

1. "That the company be wound up voluntarily"
2. "That Ijeoma Abalolu, a Solicitor in the Firm of Gbenga Biobaku & Co. of 11 Babafemi Osoba Crescent off Admiralty Road, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos be and is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

We certify that the foregoing Resolutions are true copies of the Resolutions passed at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of Equinor Nigeria Deep Water Limited held on 2nd day of February, 2022.


DIRECTOR


GBENGA BIOBAKU & CO.
SOLICITORS
13TH FLOOR HERITAGE PLACE, 21 LUGARD AVENUE, IKOYI, LAGOS



1 YEAR GONE BUT FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

...in loving memory of
**Oyindamola
Morenikeji
Thomas**

DECEMBER 13, 1952 - FEBRUARY 7, 2021

For information about the Oyindamola Morenikeji Thomas Foundation, Please visit:
www.omtfoundation.com **or** send an email to oyinthomasfoundation@gmail.com

WITH TOTAL SUBMISSION
TO THE WILL OF THE
ALMIGHTY GOD

CHIEF
AJIBOWU
ADENIYI OWOADE

ABESE OLUBADAN
13TH MARCH 1950 - 23RD JANUARY 2022

WE ANNOUNCE THE DEATH OF OUR BROTHER,
HUSBAND, FATHER, UNCLE AND GRANDFATHER.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

THURSDAY
17TH FEBRUARY, 2022 | 4:30PM
SERVICE OF SONGS/WAKE
HARBOUR POINT
4 WILMOT POINT ROAD
VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS.

FRIDAY
18TH FEBRUARY, 2022 | 10:00AM
FUNERAL SERVICE
REDEMPTION PAVILION
R.C.C.G PARISH
295 JIDE OKI STREET
VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS.
PRIVATE INTERMENT

JOIN ON ZOOM

MEET I.D: 892 952 1297 | PASSCODE: ajibowu

**SURVIVED BY SIBLINGS, WIVES
11 CHILDREN, 15 GRANDCHILDREN, NIECES AND NEPHEWS.**

SIGNED: JUSTICE (PROF) MOJEED OWOADE FOR THE FAMILY

Heartaches for Pharaohs as Senegal Claim First AFCON Title

●Mendy voted Best 'Keeper, Mane MVP, Aboubakar Highest Goals Scorer

Duro Ikhazuagbe

Senegal's Teranga Lions claimed their first Africa Cup of Nations title after defeated Egypt 4-2 on penalty shootouts in the final played at the Olembe Stadium in Yaounde last night.

The victory was crowning glory for Coach Aliou Cisse, an indigenous gaffer who has been with the team for close to eight years. It was also a fitting end to the best team of the tournament claiming the ultimate prize.

After a hard-fought two hours of grueling football in which the Senegalese were the clear dominant force in the goalless encounter, the Egyptian Pharaohs looked forward to their goalkeeper Mohamed Gabaski to make the difference. They looked forward to extending their continental honour of an eighth title. But that was not to be.

Senegal claimed the title at the third time of asking after cruel defeats in the 2002 and 2019 finals in Mali and Egypt respectively.

The Teranga Lions began on the front foot and were awarded a penalty as early as the fourth minute, with overlapping left-back Saliou Ciss tripped by Mohamed Abdelmonem as he raced toward the byline. Referee Victor Gomes did not hesitate to point to the spot. Sadio Mane took the penalty and thundered an effort centrally, only to see it palmed away to safety by Egyptian gloves-man Gabaski.

The Teranga Lions continued to press forward, with Ismaila Sarr a particular thorn in the side of the Egyptian defence. The Watford



Senegal's Teranga Lions celebrating their first Africa Cup of Nations title after defeating Egypt 4-2 in penalty shootouts...last night.

PHOTO: Reuters

winger twice created chances for Mane with crosses from the right flank, but both times the ball had just too much pace for the latter to capitalise.

The Pharaohs had their first shot on target in the 28th minute, and unsurprisingly it was Salah who had the attempt, weaving his way past a couple of challenges before a low effort which was comfortably

held by Edouard Mendy.

The Senegal goalkeeper made a much sharper save at his left-hand post from another Salah effort late in the first half, with the Liverpool forward whipping a left-footed shot toward the top corner from a tight angle.

Yet the Salah shots were the exception rather than the rule, with the West Africans bossing play and looking the sharper, fresher team. Despite this, the interval arrived with the score still locked at 0-0.

Senegal continued to make most of the attacking play in the first half, with their first effort on goal after the break a low shot from Nampalys Mendy in the 50th minute which was straight at Gabaski.

The Egyptian 'keeper made a far

more impressive intervention three minutes later when he smothered the ball at the feet of Mane after more penetrative play down the right from Ismaila Sarr.

The North Africans, sensing that Senegal were taking ever greater control of the game, made a triple change just before the hour mark, with Marwan Hamdi, Ahmed Zizo and Mahmoud Trezeguet rising off the bench.

The substitutions certainly helped to slow Senegal's momentum. Zizo provided a great cross from a free kick on 69 minutes, picking out Abdelmonem, but the unmarked defender put his header over the crossbar to spurn Egypt's first chance of the second stanza.

Five minutes later Marwan

Hamdi got on the end of a cross from the left flank by Ahmed El Fotouh, but his glancing header flashed wide of the target.

That proved to be the last clear chance of the regulation 90, with the teams heading to an extra half hour upon the final whistle.

The opening minute of extra time saw yet more heroics from goalkeeper Gabaski, who made a fine save low to his left to keep out an effort from substitute Boulaye Dia, as Senegal immediately showed that they would not just settle for penalties.

On 100 minutes the Pharaohs 'keeper made another notable save, diving to his left to tip away a downward, goal-bound header from Bamba Dieng, while the

resulting corner kick saw Abdou Diallo power a header off target.

Senegal did not give up their efforts to try and avoid a shootout, with Dieng letting fly from long range on 115 minutes and seeing more shot-stopping antics from the excellent Gabaski, and a short while later at the other end Mendy had to move sharply to tip Zizo's fierce shot over the crossbar.

Ultimately the match ended 0-0 after 120 exhausting minutes, with penalties left to decide the destination of the trophy. The shootout ended with Mane, who had missed a penalty early in the game, firing home to clinch victory for the Teranga Lions after goalkeeper Mendy had saved the previous kick from Mohamad Lasheen.

Okoye Concedes Four Goals on Return to Sparta Rotterdam

DUTCH EREDIVISIE

Super Eagles number one goalkeeper, Maduka Okoye, returned to action for Sparta Rotterdam but conceded four times as they were hammered 4-0 by Feyenoord in the Dutch Eredivisie yesterday.

Okoye who some Nigerian fans blamed for Eagles exit of AFCON 2021 to Tunisia in the Round of 16, was back in Sparta's starting line up for the Rotterdam derby against Feyenoord.

But it was an afternoon to forget for Okoye as the home side put four goals past him.

Also in action was Okoye's Eagles teammate Cyriel Dessers who was introduced in the 66th minute for Feyenoord.

Orkun Kokcu opened scoring for Feyenoord on four minutes

before Jahanbakhsh made it 2-0 in the 11th minute.

Five minutes into the second half Gus Til got Feyenoord's third and also got their fourth in the 70th minute.

Okoye has now failed to keep a clean sheet in his last five games for Sparta Rotterdam, conceding nine goals.

Sparta Rotterdam have now gone 10 straight games without a win with their last victory coming in November 2021.

The defeat to Feyenoord leaves Sparta Rotterdam second from bottom in the 18-team league table on 14 points.

Osimhen Scores as Napoli Climb to Second, Ebuehi Sees Red

Femi Solaja

ITALIAN SERIE A

Nigerian international, Victor Osimhen, justified his first start since November as he scored one of Napoli's goals in the 2-0 defeat of Venezia yesterday as the former Italian Serie A champions climbed to second on the log.

Mask-wearing Osimhen fired Napoli into the lead with a beautiful header on 59th minutes while Andrea Petagna consolidated the points in the 100th minute.

Osimhen could have had another as he struck the post in the first half.

Napoli now have 52 points from 24 matches, same as AC Milan, but they enjoy a better goals difference. They are a point behind leaders Inter Milan.

Osimhen now have six goals in the Italian topflight league. The afternoon fixture was

however a nightmare for Osimhen's Super Eagles teammate, Tyrone Ebuehi. The Nigerian defender bagged a straight red for a late dangerous tackle on Dries Mertens. Before the card, he had a clash of heads with the referee which led to his wearing a bandage.

Ebuehi was first booked for a caution but VAR ordered a straight sending off.

Another Nigerian David Okereke started and finished

the game for Venezia. Venezia are sitting dangerously in the 18th spot on 18 points from 23 matches.

AC Milan broke open the race for the Scudetto as Olivier Giroud's derby double saw off Inter on Saturday.

Like Milan, Napoli have played a game more than Inter but they host the champions next weekend before travelling to Barcelona for the first leg of their Europa League play-off with the Catalan giants.

Ighalo on Target as Al Hilal Set up Chelsea Clash

Nigerian international, Odion Ighalo, scored as Al Hilal came from a goal down to hammer hosts and fellow Asian side Al Jazira 6-1 in the 2021 FIFA Club World Cup holding in UAE.

Ighalo's Al Hilal will now meet European champions Chelsea in the semifinal on Wednesday.

Elsewhere, Egyptian giants Al Ahly defeated Monterrey 1-0 to set up a FIFA Club World Cup semi-final against Palmeiras.

Mohamed Hany's 53rd-minute strike saw off the Mexican side at the Al Nahyan Stadium in Abu Dhabi.

Al Ahly, without several Egypt

players who were on duty at the Africa Cup of Nations in Cameroon, will face Brazilian team Palmeiras on Tuesday at 16:30 GMT.

The Blues, who beat Plymouth in the FA Cup fourth round on Saturday, will fly out without boss Thomas Tuchel after the German tested positive for coronavirus.

The Club World Cup features the winners of the continental cups in FIFA's six confederations and the league champions from the United Arab Emirates.

The tournament was due to be played in Japan in December but was postponed and moved to the UAE.

NPFL: Remo Stars Back on Top, Win Star War

Remo Stars are back on the top of the ladder in the Nigeria Professional Football League after their 1-0 defeat of Shooting Stars in Ikenne yesterday.

The win did not just shoot the team back to the top, Remo Stars remain the only undefeated team in the NPFL after 11 matchdays.

The clash in Ikenne was not without incidents as fans of both clubs inflicted wounds on each other with dangerous weapons.

While Remo Stars won the 'Star War' in Ikenne, the 'United Battle' at the New Jos Stadium did not go the way of Rivers United as they unexpectedly slumped to a 1-0 defeat at Plateau United.

The goal that tumbled Rivers United from the summit was

scored by Akila Jesse Jidima in the 32nd minute.

Remo Stars at the time of Plateau United's goal had found themselves in the third position as the Jos side had moved to number two on the log.

Great thanks to Junior Nduka whos scored from a 61st minute free kick.

In Uyo, Dakkada found comfort in returning to their home ground as Musa Bashiru's late goal helped the team to a lone goal victory against visiting Kano Pillars.

The striker who came on as a second half substitute had latched onto a rebound after Pillars goalkeeper Joshua Enahalo failed to parry Unwana Asuquo's

pile driver off a free kick from 25 yards to safety, in the 85th minute.

In Akure, Sunshine Stars could not glitter as they were dimmed 1-0 by visiting Enyimba. Victor Mbaoma's 46th goal was all the

invading Elephants needed to trampled on the Sunshine Stars.

MFM continued their unimpressive run this season as they were held to a goalless draw at home by Akwa United. In Ilorin, Kwara United defeated Lobi Stars 1-0 to place fifth on the log. Samad Kadiri scored the goal in the 72nd minute.

Niger Tomatoes beat Katsina United 2-1. Ahmad Liman shot the home side ahead in the 20th minute before Shamusideen Hashim doubled the lead five minutes later. Just before half time, Sani Faisal pulled a goal back for the visiting Katsina United.

Enugu Rangers salvaged a point as they held host team, Wikki Tourists to a goalless draw.

ALL THE RESULTS

- Kwara Utd 1-0 Lobi Stars
- MFM 0-0 Akwa Utd
- Tomatoes 2-1 Katsina Utd
- Plateau Utd 1-0 Rivers Utd
- Remo Stars 1-0 Shooting
- Sunshine 0-1 Enyimba
- Wikki 0-0 Rangers

Book Your
COVID-19 Tests & Vaccinations
TEXT 'COVID' TO 58123

EMARTSHELD | wercora | WISDOM | COLTRUSTAL
 CommonPass | Health |

This service is provided in association with accredited service providers

THIS DAY

Monday February 7, 2022

Price: N250

MISSILE

Gov Wike to Politicians

"The day the South will speak, Nigeria will shake. We believe in the unity of the country, but nobody can threaten us. Nobody should threaten us. No amount of gang up can make PDP give somebody who wants to run for the interest of some big man and not for all Nigerians. Anybody who wants to be a candidate of PDP must be for the interest of Nigerians" – Rivers State Governor, Nyesom Wike, lending his voice for power shift to the South, for unity.

THIS DAY
27
 years
 OF ROBUST JOURNALISM
 SINCE 1995

MAHMUDJEGA

VIEW FROM THE GALLERY



African Democracy is Neither

Sometime in the 1980s when the Reverend Jerry Falwell's right-wing, evangelical Moral Majority was making waves in the US, Dr. Haruna Sanusi gave me an American newspaper article apparently penned by a liberal opponent of the movement. It was titled "Moral Majority is neither." It said the movement was neither moral nor a majority.

In the wake of last week's coup attempt in Guinea Bissau from which President Umaro Sissco Embaló just managed to survive, many writers in Nigeria and around Africa were saying that "African democracy is in trouble." Is it? Western-style liberal democracy, such as we practice it in Africa, is neither African nor democratic. In other words, African democracy is neither.

Guinea Bissau has had nine successful coups since 1974. Its foiled coup was preceded in recent times by a successful coup in Guinea, two successful coups each in Mali and Burkina Faso, a coup-like occurrence in Chad, and a still-unfolding coup in Sudan. There was another coup in Niger Republic ten years ago. Together these may look like a lot of coups, but only to those not old enough to know the golden age of African coups from the 1960s to the 1990s.

In December 1986, former Tanzanian President Mwalimu Julius Nyerere spoke in Lagos at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Nigeria Institute of International Affairs, NIIA. I watched his speech live on NTA from my hospital bed, where I was nursing a broken thigh. Mwalimu said there had been 69 successful military coups in Africa up until that time, beginning with the overthrow of Togo's President Sylvanus Olympio in January 1963. I jotted the information in my bedside notebook. Over the next several years, I updated it whenever I heard of a coup anywhere in Africa.

Only a few months after Mwalimu spoke, Burkina Faso's wildly popular President Thomas Sankara was killed in a coup that caused consternation all over Africa. Even French President Francois Mitterrand said when he heard of Sankara's killing, "What a waste!" Sankara attended an ECOWAS meeting in Abuja shortly before that coup. When West African leaders emerged from the International Conference Centre, the large crowd of Nigerian spectators broke into a wild shout of "Sankara! Sankara!" Not surprisingly, rumours soon followed that jealous ECOWAS leaders had a hand in his murder.

Three months later, 84-year old President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia was overthrown in a coup by his premier, Zin Abdine Ben Ali. One Pan-African magazine said at the time that Bourguiba did not even know that he was overthrown. As president he used to sleep for 15 hours a day! Six years later in 1994, a similar thing happened in Malawi. President Dr. Hastings Kamuzu



President of Guinea-Bissau, Umaro Embaló

Banda, probably the most neo-colonial of all African rulers, did not even know when Malawi soldiers toppled him, being 96 years old and totally senile.

The defunct West Africa magazine interviewed Banda in 1985 and asked him why, 25 years after independence, all his country's Permanent Secretaries were British expatriates. He said, "Our civil servants should be patient! They should wait until they gather the right experience!" Maybe Banda was right, considering what has happened to Nigeria's civil service. We should consider importing permanent secretaries from Westminster.

The recent coups in Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad and Sudan were bloodless for the most part. In four cases the rulers were shoved aside and detained, which was why ECOWAS could demand their release and restoration to power. In the old African coups, how many ousted rulers survived, for you to demand their restoration to power? Bloodless coup was such a novelty in Africa that in his first post-coup speech in July 1975, General Murtala Mohammed said, "This change

has been carried out without bloodshed and we intend to keep it so."

The bloodiest African coups of that era took place in Nigeria [1966], Ethiopia [1974], Ghana [1979] and Liberia [1980]. Let's skip the Nigerian example, which is still very painful around here. The day after Emperor Haile Selassie's overthrow, some Nigerian newspapers had the headline "Bloodbath in Ethiopia" because 60 of his top officials, including the Prime Minister and cabinet ministers, were lined up and shot. In Ghana in 1979, Flight Lt Jerry Rawlings lined up at the beach and shot three former Heads of State, Generals Akwasi Afrifa, Ignatius Kutu Acheampong and Fred Akuffo. In Liberia, President William Tolbert, who at the time was Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity [OAU], precursor of AU, was tied up at Monrovia beach and shot alongside many of his ministers.

Then, as now, most African coups took place in West Africa. African countries that never had a military coup include Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Senegal, Cameroon and Morocco. Let's qualify that a bit. In 1982, Air Force officers attempted a coup in Kenya, and President Daniel arap Moi announced that he would have dealt more severely with them if not because he was the OAU Chairman that year.

In the olden days, the reason most often given by soldiers after each coup was corruption by the toppled regime. Many of the coups took place against fellow military rulers, or against civilian rulers who nevertheless came to power violently, such as Hissene Habre in Chad and Charles Taylor in Liberia. These days, the reasons for coups vary from country to country. The overthrow of Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir was because of his sit-tightism since 1989, when he overthrew Sadiq el-Mahdi. Same thing with President Alfa Conde of Guinea, who was doing a "third term". In Mali and in Burkina Faso however, it mostly had to do with frustration following the inability to defeat Jihadist insurgencies. Or so the coupists said.

In the old African coups, how many ousted rulers survived for you to demand their restoration to power? Bloodless coup was such a novelty in Africa that in his first post-coup speech in July 1975, General Murtala Mohammed said, "This change has been carried out without bloodshed and we intend to keep it so"

What should be the ideal ECOWAS and AU response to coups? Shouting from rooftops about the sanctity of African democracy may be of no use because it is neither. Right now, ECOWAS/AU response is a mixed bag of condemnations, demand for restoration of toppled rulers, suspension from membership, sanctions, or sometimes, a demand for a quick restoration of democratic rule. If the victim country is small enough, such as Gambia, ECOWAS even dispatched a military force to chase out sit-tight Yahya Jammeh. If the country is big with a large military however, they tarry awhile. Who, for instance, can send a military force to Egypt to restore democratic rule?

It means the rules cannot be uniformly applied everywhere. Some situations certainly call for a nuanced response. When ECOWAS demanded the restoration of Sierra Leone's President Ahmed Tejan Kabba in 1996, one analyst complained on a BBC program that the regional body and international groups had not demanded the restoration to power of Gambia's toppled President Dauda Jawara in 1994. Kabbah's Foreign Minister Joe Blell, who was on the program, said, "Jawara was in power for 33 years. How can anyone demand that he be restored?"

The same thing happened when Mauritania's semi-literate President Sidi Ould Cheikh Abdallahi was overthrown in 2008. Rather than demand for his restoration to power to complete his mandate, the UN and US called on the military rulers to hasten a return to democratic rule!

One of the biggest ironies of the current situation is that some of the coups are popular among the people. Many people in Guinea welcomed Conde's overthrow. The soldiers even put him in a bus and drove round Conakry so that he will see how happy people were with his overthrow. In Mali too, many people welcomed Ibrahim Babacar Keita's overthrow. In Burkina Faso, we also saw pictures of people hailing the soldiers even while the coup was unfolding. In the latter two cases, it was all due to the inability to defeat Jihadist insurgencies. Even more than corruption, nothing discredits democracy quite as much as insecurity.

ECOWAS, AU and UN could do better to intervene in national crises situations before matters reach breaking point. In the olden days, OAU operated on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of member states. OAU never condemned any coup, however violent, but AU has since changed the principle to peer review and holding member states to certain standards.

Anyone could see that countries such as Mali, Burkina Faso and Guinea were sitting on kegs of gun powder even before the explosions came. In some cases, military intervention works just fine. I am thinking of Chad. If the "constitution" had been followed and the Senate President, instead of slain President Idris Deby Itno's son, had taken over after the president's death, who knows if Chad could have held together?