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TRUST IS A BURDEN

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Nigerian leaders' corruption breeds terrorism - US



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Police beef up security in Aba, Umuahia



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## Different strokes on Yar'adua:

# Senate: Hand over to VP FEC: He is fit to rule

From Abdulrahman Abubakar & AbdulFatah Olajide

THE two top political institutions of the Federal Republic struck in different directions yesterday with respect to President Umaru Yar'adua's continuing absence from the country, with the Senate asking him to temporarily hand over power to Vice President Goodluck

Jonathan, while the Federal Executive Council [FEC] declared that Yar'adua was not medically unfit to discharge his duties.

The Senate's landmark declaration climaxed weeks of internal debate on the issue, while FEC's resolution was in obedience to a court order to take a stand on the issue.

The Senate's unanimous resolution,

announced after another stormy 3-hour closed-door session, asked President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to formally notify the National Assembly of his medical vacation which has kept him from his duty post for over two months.

The Senate urged the President to comply with Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution, a move that

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Bank PHB has slashed the Group Managing Director's pay by 47% and Executive Directors' by 26% **29**

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VICE President Goodluck Jonathan soon after he inspected one of the scenes of destruction in Jos on Tuesday.

## Sultan: Jos crisis was genocide

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE Northern Traditional Rulers' Council began an emergency meeting in Kaduna yesterday to delib-

erate on the recent crisis in Jos, with the Sultan of Sokoto Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar describing the events in Jos and its environs as genocide.

The Sultan said, "The recent crisis in Jos is genocide in my own opinion, because the amount of massacre that took place was not witnessed during the

Boko Haram crisis in Maiduguri in particular and the Kala Kato crisis in Bauchi of recent." He identified "failure of leadership at all levels" as the reason for the

recurring crisis in Jos.

Sultan Sa'ad said "that the crisis in Jos, Plateau State kept erupting at regular intervals is sim-

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PIC: KENNEDY EGBONODJE



DIRECTOR, Gender Development in the Social Development Secretariat, FCTA, Mrs. Hanatu Attah, at the Media Trust Corporate Head Office, Abuja, yesterday.

## Abolish indigene/settler dichotomy in Jos—Dasuki

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE Federal Government should abolish the indigene/settler dichotomy in Plateau State to bring lasting solution to crises in the state, the former Sultan of Sokoto Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki has said.

Speaking with our correspondent yesterday in Kaduna, Dasuki said it was only in Plateau State that the dichotomy exists and it was at the heart of crises in the state. Dasuki pointed out that the constitution recognised citizens of Nigeria and not indigenes of states.

Dasuki who was a resident of the Plateau province during the colonial era, said Governor Jonah Jang had earlier sent emissaries to him after the crisis that rocked Plateau about a year ago to advise on ways to find a lasting solution to the problem. Describing the

recent crisis as unfortunate, Dasuki said Jos does not belong to the Beroms because it was a creation of the colonialists and miners from the north to mine tin and columbite. He said he was not only part of the campaign to stop referring to the Beroms as Shau-Shau, but was also instrumental to the setting up of a central traditional institution in the area.

"We convinced Sardauna (Sir Ahmadu Bello) to appoint for them, a chief who would coordinate them and that was how Rwang Pam was appointed the Gbong Gwong and was brought to the house of chiefs as a second class chief. Apart from Shendam and Wase which had an established central traditional institution in the then Plateau province, we tried to bring the others in", he said. Dasuki said he was an Assistant District Officer (ADO) when

he was instructed to unite the different people of Mangu under one umbrella. According to him, they had six different chiefs that held offices on a rotational basis of three months tenure. Dasuki said he convinced them to have a single chief who was also sent to the northern House of Chiefs in Kaduna. On how to achieve peace in not only Plateau State but in the entire north, the former sultan said traditional rulers were best suited for this assignment and not government sponsored reconciliation committees. He said that people, irrespective of their religious and tribal differences, listened to them more than elected or appointed political leaders.

Dasuki recalled that when he was Sultan, he initiated the Peaceful Co-existence Committee in June 1991, when 34 emirs and chiefs from all the states of

the North met on the disturbing religious and tribal conflicts that were happening in the country, particularly in the North. According to Dasuki, the meeting set up a seven man committee comprising three Muslims and three Christians with him as chairman, to find out the causes of such crises and make recommendations. He pointed out that the committee successfully settled the age-long Tiv/Jukun crisis in Wukari which had defied solutions by both state and federal governments.

According to the elder statesman, the Babangida regime and Shonekan-led interim government embraced the committee but regretted that the succeeding administration of General Sani Abacha jettisoned it. He called on the government to visit the full wrath of the law on all culprits of the Jos crisis.

## Future of North bleak — ACF

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

AFTER reflecting on the state of affairs in the North, the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) yesterday concluded that the future of the region is bleak, urging stakeholders in the region to unite to save the region.

Speaking during the opening of the Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting of the forum, its Vice Chairman, Senator Ladan Shuni, said for the region to advance, all its socio-economic problems must be addressed squarely.

"We have to really save the future of our children because as at now our future is bleak. We have to actually rise up and see how we can bring back this our noble culture and our noble orientation," he said. He added that there was an urgent need for leaders in the region to address the massive poverty and growing problem of begging among the people of the north. In the past, we were only hearing cases of kidnapping in other places, armed robbery was not part of us but now we have similar things here too", he added. The education sector of the region, according to him, has gone backward too. "We have a lot of unemployment in the north. The unemployed are roaming the streets and in some cases they become area boys. Before it was difficult to find northern armed robbery gangs but today is common", he noted.

He also raised alarm on the massive relocation of Fulani cattle rearers to the southern part of the country, saying virtually all Fulanis have moved to the south in search of grazing areas.

While stressing the importance of the north in the socio-economic development of the country, he said, "It is our duty to see that these problems are solved. I want you to frankly state your mind, we have been meeting, but the problem is implementation, we have to come up with ways of implementing all the resolutions. Otherwise, we will not go anywhere. We have to agree on how to implement our discussions," he added.

## Navy, Arogundade to pay Okere N100m

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

JUSTICE Opeyemi Oke of the Lagos High Court yesterday ordered Rear Admiral Harry Arogundade and the Nigerian Navy to pay N100million as damages to Uzoma Okere and Abdulahi Abdulazeez who were attacked by six naval ratings on November 3, 2008.

The trial judge handed down

the order while delivering judgement in the suit filed by Okere and Abdulahi against Arogundade, the six naval ratings on his convoy and the Nigerian Navy.

The court held that the acts of Rear Admiral Harry Arogundade and the Nigerian Navy (respondents) in putting the applicants in an apprehension of extra judicial loss of their lives for about one hour thirty minutes was a breach of the

constitution.

Justice Opeyemi Oke further ordered that Rear Admiral Harry Arogundade and the Nigerian Navy should issue an unreserved apology to the applicants in major print and electronic media within one month of the judgement.

According to Justice Opeyemi Oke, the suit raised three issues for determination.

These are, whether or not the

applicants (Okere and Abdulahi) succeeded in establishing that their fundamental human rights were infringed upon by the respondents (Arogundade and others), secondly, if yes, can the first respondent (Harry Arogundade) be held responsible for the conduct of the naval ratings and lastly, whether or not the applicants were entitled to the reliefs being sought.

On the first issue, Justice Oke

noted that the 1999 Constitution guarantees certain rights which by their setting out in Section 4 made them fundamental. The judge stated further that these rights were tangible, real and non-cosmetic.

In deciding the case, the judge said in the face of conflicting averments, she had no option than to rely on the documentary evidence which was a compact disc of the incident.

# Nigerian leaders' corruption breeds terrorism - US

By Jibrin Abubakar, with agency report

UNITED States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has blamed failings by Nigerian leaders for increasing "radicalisation" among young Nigerians.

She pointed to poor living standards and "unbelievable" corruption.

Mrs Clinton was speaking

after a young Nigerian man from a wealthy family was accused of trying to blow up a plane over the US on Christmas Day.

She said she believed that bombing suspect Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab was "disturbed by his father's wealth".

Mrs Clinton was speaking at a "town hall" meeting with state department officials.

"I do think that Nigeria faces a threat from increasing radicalisation that needs to be addressed, and not just by military means," she said.

"There has to be a recognition that, in the last 10 years, a lot of the indicators about quality of life in Nigeria have gone the wrong direction.

"The information we have on

the Christmas Day bomber so far seems to suggest that he was disturbed by his father's wealth and the kind of living conditions that he viewed as being not Islamic enough."

Following the alleged plot, security screening for Nigerians travelling to the US has been tightened.

Nigeria's government has con-

demned the measures, saying 150 million Nigerians should not be blamed for the actions of one man.

Nigeria wrote a letter to US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham-Clinton in which the Federal Government requested the US to reconsider its steps.

Nigeria is one of the world's biggest oil exporters but most of its people live in poverty.



PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE

HERD of cattle drinking from a river bed in Garaku, Nasarawa State, yesterday.

## Anambra: INEC accredits 33 observers for election

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) yesterday in Abuja released the names of 33 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), stakeholders and interest groups which it has accredited to observe the February 6, governorship election in Anambra state.

INEC acting Director of Publicity, Emmanuel Umenger, in a statement warned groups and individuals not accredited to avoid participating in the observation exercise.

The accredited groups include the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), International Organisation for Sustainable Development (IOSD), League of Anambra Professionals, US Embassy and the House of

Representatives Committee on Electoral Matters.

Others are the Senate Committee on INEC, Islamic Development Centre, The Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria, Human Rights Monitor (HRM), Rights Monitoring Group (RMG), Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and Northern Patriotic Front (NPF) among others.

"Organisations, groups or individuals not accredited should, under no circumstances be involved in the election observation process. The approved organisation are therefore requested to forward to the commission names and telephone numbers of their representatives/observers for accreditation on or before Monday, February 1, 2010," Umenger said.

## Stakeholders reject Bankole's bill on accountability

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

STAKEHOLDERS yesterday rejected a bill sponsored by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Dimeji Bankole seeking the creation of the National Office of Government Performance, Audit and Accountability because the bill is in conflict with the responsibilities of the office of the Auditor General of the Federation.

Speaking at a public hearing organised by the committee on Public Account, the stakeholders faulted the intent of the bill, saying it is unnecessary and will create confusion in the auditing sector.

In his presentation, Acting Auditor-General for the Federation, Mr. G.F. Ogunsina said creation of the national office of government performance, audit and accountability

is a duplication of the office of the Auditor-General for the federation.

He said: "The national office of government performance, audit and accountability is a duplication of the office of the Auditor-General for the federation. No concrete merits can be associated with the proposed bill other than to create a new structure either to replace or supplement the existing office. This appears to be unconstitutional".

According to him, instead of establishing a new national office, steps should be taken to strengthen and re-establish the present office of the Auditor-General for the Federation by harmonising it with the audit bill which is presently before the National Assembly.

He said: "Instead of dissipating energy on the establishment of a new national office, steps should be

taken to strengthen and re-establish the current office of the auditor-general for the federation by harmonising this with the proposed audit bill presently in the custody of the National Assembly".

Also in his presentation, Accountant General of the Federation, Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan Dankwambo represented by Mr Oludare Osibote said the bill if passed into law would create too much expenditure.

He said: "The establishment of the national office of government performance, audit and accountability is unnecessary and would create too much expenditure".

Also making his contribution, Executive Secretary of the National Planning Commission, Sylvester Monye said the proposed bill is totally unnecessary and improperly researched.

## Guinea worm: Nigeria records zero-case status

By Ruby Rabi

THE Minister of Health, Professor Babatunde Osotimehin announced Wednesday that Nigeria had taken a giant leap towards the total eradication of Guinea worm in the country as it had recorded no case of guinea worm affliction in the last one year.

The Minister made the disclosure in a speech to news men after a meeting in which he presented the status of the Guinea worm disease (GWD) eradication in Nigeria and spoke of the country's efforts towards meeting all statutory requirements for consideration of certification by the World

Health Organisation (WHO) as a Guinea worm-free country.

The minister said, "It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to this event marking the achievement of 12 months of zero case status (100% absence of reported cases of Guinea worm disease) in Nigeria.... We have deemed it important to notify the public of this significant achievement as well as outline the next steps my ministry will be taking to ensure that we defeat the scourge permanently."

The attainment of 100% absence of any report of Guinea worm in Nigeria is a requirement towards the total eradication of the disease.

## Microsoft launches anti cybercrime song on February 3

MICROSOFT Corporation will on February 3 launch a song to fight the menace of cybercrime, (popularly known as Yahoo-Yahoo), the Citizenship Manager of Microsoft Nigeria, Dr. Jummai Umar-Ajijola has said.

In a statement issued yesterday in Abuja, Dr. Umar-Ajijola said "this collaboration with Nigerian star artistes against

cybercrime was initiated by the Citizenship team at Microsoft Nigeria. She said "a report by the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) ranks Nigeria third in the global list of countries with the highest rate of cybercrimes at 5.7%, behind the US 63.2% and the UK 15.3%. The song, being launched in Nigeria is a collaborative composition by some of

the most prominent musicians in the country. The song is an innovative attempt at educating the youths in Nigeria and the world in general on the negative effect of cybercrime. It aims to help redirect their energy from cybercrimes towards positive productive alternatives on the internet, while ensuring a safer and more secure cyberspace in

a world of increasing cyber insecurity."

The launch of the song is sponsored by Microsoft Corporation through its Microsoft Internet Safety, Security and Privacy Initiative for Nigeria (MISSPIN), in a joint effort with Paradigm Initiative Nigeria (PIN).

She said there will be a live performance and presentation

to the Diplomatic Community, International Development Partners and Government Functionaries in Abuja next Wednesday. "On Thursday, there is another exclusive live performance and presentation to the Business Community in Lagos. The public launch will be at the University of Lagos on Saturday March 6, 2010.

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PHOTO: NAN

**CHAIRMAN**, Senate Committee on Information and Media Senator Ayogu Eze, briefing newsmen after the Senate closed door sitting over President Yar'adua's health in Abuja yesterday.

## Senate: Hand over to VP

Continued from page 1

will give Vice President Goodluck Jonathan the mandate to officially assume the role of acting President pending the return of the president to the country.

Senate President David Mark, who announced the resolution, said, "We have resolved to urge the President and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'adua to formally notify the National Assembly of his medical vacation pursuant to Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution."

Section 145 of the Constitution provides that; "Whenever the President transmits to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that he is proceeding on vacation or that he is otherwise unable to discharge the functions of his office, until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such functions shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President."

The Senate refrained from giving Yar'adua a time line to comply with its resolution or the action to be taken against him if he fails to do so, saying "It is hoped that the president will comply."

Mark also said the Senate resolved to move for amendment of Section 145 of the Constitution to make its provision specific, adding that "We have resolved to direct the Senate Committee on the Review of the 1999 Constitution (SCRC) to propose an amendment to Section 145 of the constitution to resolve the apparent flaws revealed by the present circumstance."

Daily Trust however gathered that the Senate cut down its resolutions to three as senators failed to agree on other prayers contained in the motion that was debated. Senators were unanimous on the three prayers carried

as the final resolution.

Briefing newsmen shortly after the session, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Information and Media, Senator Ayogu Eze (PDP, Enugu North) said the outcome of the tense debate indicated that senators were never divided as widely believed.

He said, "I also need to emphasize that there was never a divide within the Senate on whatever grounds. The Senate has been united behind the Constitution and when the question was put, it was a unanimous decision. We are satisfied that what we have done is in the interest of the nation and will douse the tension. We have asked the president to honour Section 145 of the Constitution and we have asked the SCRC to take up the matter of amending Section 145 to make it specific because if it were so, this problem would have been averted."

The Senate President also said the Senate resolved to call on all Nigerians to continue praying for the quick recovery of President Yar'adua to enable him return home and continue with his functions.

But striking in the opposite direction yesterday, the Federal Executive Council (FEC) resolved, also unanimously, that President Umaru Musa Yar'adua is healthy enough to discharge the functions of his office. The resolution was pursuant to the order handed down by Justice Dan Abutu of the Federal High Court, Abuja on January 22, who gave the council a 14-day ultimatum to pass and publicise a resolution on "whether Yar'adua is capable of discharging the functions of his office, having regard to his absence from the country since Nov. 23, 2009 on medical grounds".

Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Mr. Michael Aondoakaa read out the council's resolution soon after the FEC meeting. He said, "Council

at its fourth meeting of Jan. 27, 2010 acting pursuant to the order of the court, unanimously passed a resolution and declared as follows:

"That the President is not incapable of discharging the functions of his office. The medical treatment outside the country does not constitute incapacity to warrant or commence the process of the removal of the President from office under Section 144 and 146 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, having regard to the absence of Yar'adua on medical grounds."

Speaking on why Vice President Goodluck Jonathan "cannot become the Acting President", Aondoakaa said unless Yar'adua voluntarily sends a letter to the National Assembly in accordance with Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution, Jonathan cannot be acting President. He said the issue should not be politicized because "it is a pure discretionary power left to the President".

"The issue of acting president is a matter which comes under the purview of Section 145. The condition precedent for it is that the President must write for a voluntary transfer of power to the Vice President to act as acting President. Where the president does, the vice president automatically assumes the duty of acting president. The 1999 Constitution does not make provision for any swearing-in. It is an automatic elevation to the position of acting president, but the journey must start from the president."

Citing the U.S. example, Aondoakaa said in that country's 234 years' history, the transfer of power from the president to the vice-president took place only three times. He said on each occasion, the president declared that he was incapacitated and voluntarily wrote a letter for transfer of power to the vice president. The minister added that on each of the instances, the transfer did not last

for more than two to three hours.

He said, "Nigeria practises a presidential system of government that is identical to that of the U.S. Under the provisions of the American Constitution, the 25th Amendment has a resolution which is very identical to Section 145 of Nigeria's 1999 Constitution. The first instance occurred on July 13, 1985 when President Ronald Reagan underwent surgery to remove cancerous substance from his colon. Prior to undergoing the surgery, he transmitted a letter to the Speaker, House of Representatives, and President of the Senate, declaring that he was incapacitated. The Vice President, George Bush, acted as President from 11.28 a.m. until 7.22 p.m. the same day; meaning that as soon as the operation ended, Reagan transmitted a second letter and assumed the power of the President.

"The second incident occurred on June 29, 2002 when President George Bush Jr declared himself temporarily unable to discharge the power and duties of his office, because he was to undergo a surgery which required sedation. He invoked the 25th Amendment in his letter given to the White House Council which was transmitted to the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. The Vice President in this case, acted as President for about two hours from 7.09 a.m. to 9.24 a.m., when he transmitted another letter for assumption of office.

"Lastly, on July 27, 2007 under the same circumstances as the 2002 invocation, President George Bush Jr transmitted a similar letter when he was to undergo surgery. The Vice President acted as President from 7.15 a.m. to 9.21 a.m. of the same day. In all these, although the public was aware of the temporary handover for security purposes, the time the transfers were revealed was after the Presidents had resumed office."

## Jos crisis was genocide

Continued from page 1

because of the failure of leadership at all levels. What we know and what we believe; this is a complete failure of leadership at all levels because if there is good leadership, problems like this could never occur. There are so many people all over living together despite religious divide, ethnic divide. In a century where a migrant black American is the president of the world's greatest power, we are now talking to ourselves here as ethnic minorities, as settlers, as non indigenes. I think it is time we put an end to all these if we really want to move forward."

"Enough is enough; because we cannot just keep turning back the hands of the clock of progress and development of our country backward because of the action of some misguided murderous killers in our midst. What happened in Plateau is unfortunate and it was not planned by anybody but I am yet to know whether it was planned or not," the Sultan also said. He appealed to traditional leaders in the region to come up with solutions that will ensure that such crises in Plateau and the North in general never occur again.

**The NGF chairman said all reports on the previous Jos crisis must be made public**

Chairman of the Northern Governors Forum (NGF) and the governor of Niger State Dr. Mua'zu Babangida Aliyu said political office holders who cannot render account to their people should resign. "All political leaders that know they cannot offer quality leadership should resign so as to avoid outbreak of such crisis.

They should not continue to display insensitivity to security matters, particularly when lives and property of the people are at stake. Leaders must know that they are accountable not only on matters of money or resource allocation but also on how they manage the affairs of the people they lead," he said.

The NGF chairman said all reports on the previous Jos crisis must be made public and appropriate punishment meted out to all culprits. He said the people of the North must rise up and ensure that they do not continue to be a laughing stock in the country.

In his address, Governor Mohammed Namadi Sambo of Kaduna State called on the royal fathers to preach tolerance among their subjects for the peaceful co-existence of the people of the region. "We must take concrete steps to arrest future occurrence of such ugly incidences. We have to get back to those lovely times when our tribes and religions were the instruments of unity and peaceful co-existence," he said.

# Dina's assassination, a set-back for democracy — Atiku

By Abass Jimoh

FORMER Vice President Atiku Abubakar has described the assassination of Mr. Dipo Dina, the Ogun State Action Congress (AC) gubernatorial candidate in the April 2007 general election as another dark chapter in our democratic journey.

Alhaji Atiku in a statement issued yesterday by his Media Office in Abuja, regretted the tragic circumstances of Dina's death, warning that the incident further highlights another dangerous level of insecurity.

"Dina's untimely death is a great loss to the people of Ogun State and the nation as a whole," he said. Dina

was a brilliant, focused and principled politician whose career in politics served as a beacon of hope to Nigerian youths, Atiku further said.

"Democracy is a voluntary service for which nobody should have his life terminated just like that for whatever motives," the statement added.

He prayed that Almighty God grant his soul eternal rest and also give his family, friends and well-wishers the fortitude to bear this painful loss.

The former Vice President then challenged Nigerians to stand up to the culture of do-or-die politics, which he said is giving our democ-

racy a bad name.

He particularly challenged the Nigerian Police to expose the killers of the late Dipo Dina, adding that the growing list of unraveled political assassinations is a national embarrassment and that the nation cannot fold its arms and watch its talents being wiped away for selfish reasons.



SENIOR police officers at a meeting with the Inspector-General of Police in Abuja, yesterday.

PIC: NAN

## Former APGA chairman challenges expulsion in S/Court

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

THE last has not been heard on the leadership tussle in the All Progressives Grand Alliance, APGA. The pioneer Chairman of the party, Chief Chekwas Okorie has filed an appeal at the Supreme Court challenging the decision of the Court of Appeal in Abuja which upheld his expulsion from the party.

In a motion on notice filed on January 26, 2010 at the apex court, Okorie and APGA which is the 1st appellant/applicant prayed the apex court for an order of interlocutory injunction restraining Chief Victor Umeh and 11 other respondents from exercising the powers of the APGA to field for the party, candidates for the February 6, 2010 Anambra State Governorship Election and from parading or holding out any person(s) except, George Ozodinobi and Dr. Okoye Umeano as APGA's candidates for the said election pending the determination of the appeal.

His counsel, Chief Chris Uche (SAN) filed the motion which is supported by a 42-paragraph affidavit claimed that Chief Victor Umeh, Alhaji Abdullahi Sani Shinkafi, Mrs. Ella Ezeanya as well as the 5th to the 14 respondents are no longer national officers of the party and asked the court to hold so.

Okorie claimed that in all the judgments of the court including that of the trial court and the appeal court which is being challenged, none of them declared Chief Umeh as the National Chairman of APGA.

The Court of Appeal sitting in Abuja on early in January upheld Okorie's expulsion from APGA.

## Yakassai condemns call for Yar'adua's resignation

By Muideen Olaniyi

PROMINENT First and Second Republic politician Alhaji Tanko Yakassai, has condemned calls on President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to resign, describing it as mischievous.

Yakassai particularly described the comments credited to former President Olusegun Obasanjo, asking President Yar'adua to resign as unfortunate, considering the cordial relation with the Yar'adua family.

He said Obasanjo as an elder statesman ought to have settled any grievances he had with Yar'adua through the party, given his position as the

Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Board of Trustees (BOT).

He expressed surprise that Obasanjo was the first person to ask Yar'adua to resign publicly, having single-handedly imposed him on the nation as confirmed by the two former Ministers of Aviation and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Femi Fani-Kayode and Mallam Nasir El-Rufai respectively.

Yakassai also described as mischievous the agitation by some politicians and civil society activists asking Yar'adua to hand over to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to become 'Acting President,' pointing out that Jonathan is already performing Yar'adua's function.

## NCAA urges lawmakers to fast track passage of CEDAW

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

LAWMAKERS at the federal and state levels have been urged to fast track the domestication and passage of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) bills which is a prerequisite for the achievement of sustainable development.

The National Coordinator of the National Coalition on Affirmative Action (NCAA), Mrs. Oby Nwankwo made the appeal in Abuja at a meeting with National and Houses of Assembly committees on women in

Parliament and other Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).

She said the gathering was to advocate and sensitize the stakeholders, develop capacity building strategy as well as strengthen collaboration with legislatures by ensuring that the bill is passed in the country.

She said only Anambra and Imo states have successfully passed the domesticated CEDAW bill in to law saying that the major constraints are traditional, cultural and clear understanding of the issue which is misperceived like the Child Right Act.

## N5.2b electricity fraud: Lawmakers protest delay of trial

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

THE Chairman, Senate Committee on Power, Nicholas Ugbane, his counterpart in the House of Representatives, Ndudi Elumelu and seven others standing trial before a Federal High Court sitting in Abuja over an alleged N5.2 billion fraud in the Rural Electrification Project yesterday protested the undue delay in the hearing of their case.

The lawmakers said they were yet to take ordinary pleas to the charge for almost a year after they appeared in the court, saying that they wanted speedy trial

of the case.

The trial Judge, Justice Garba Umar absolved himself in the delay of their trial and fixed February 22, 2010 for arraignment of the lawmakers and other accused persons by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) which is prosecuting them.

The anti-graft agency had dropped names of one Paulinus Igwe who has been receiving treatment from gun shots and another 21 companies earlier charged with the accused persons in the case.

Justice Umar expressed readiness to commence the trials.

Okorie claimed that in all the judgments of the court including that of the trial court and the appeal court which is being challenged, none of them declared Chief Umeh as the National Chairman of APGA.

# Army to check soldier/civilian friction

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

THE Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Abdulrahman Dambazau has expressed determination to reduce the frequent friction between soldiers and civilians in cities such as Lagos and Abuja.

Dambazau said this while commissioning six newly acquired 45 inter-city buses yesterday in Lagos. The buses,

according to the COAS, will be distributed to Abuja, Kaduna and Lagos where the Nigerian Army has large concentration of troops whose offices are far away from their barracks and therefore recorded more cases of friction between soldiers and civilians.

"In Abuja, in particular, this idea will compliment the efforts of the FCT government to rid the city of motorcycles which

is the common mode of transportation for soldiers," the COAS said.

Lt. Gen. Dambazau said he was worried about the hardship that troops go through to get to and from offices. According to him, one of the immediate measures to achieve this is to reduce troops' presence along the streets by providing means of transporting them to and from their work places.

"The idea behind the introduc-

tion of these buses is to ease troops' movement and reduce friction between them and civilians, it is also the Nigerian Army's support to the transportation aspect of the 7-point agenda of the present administration.

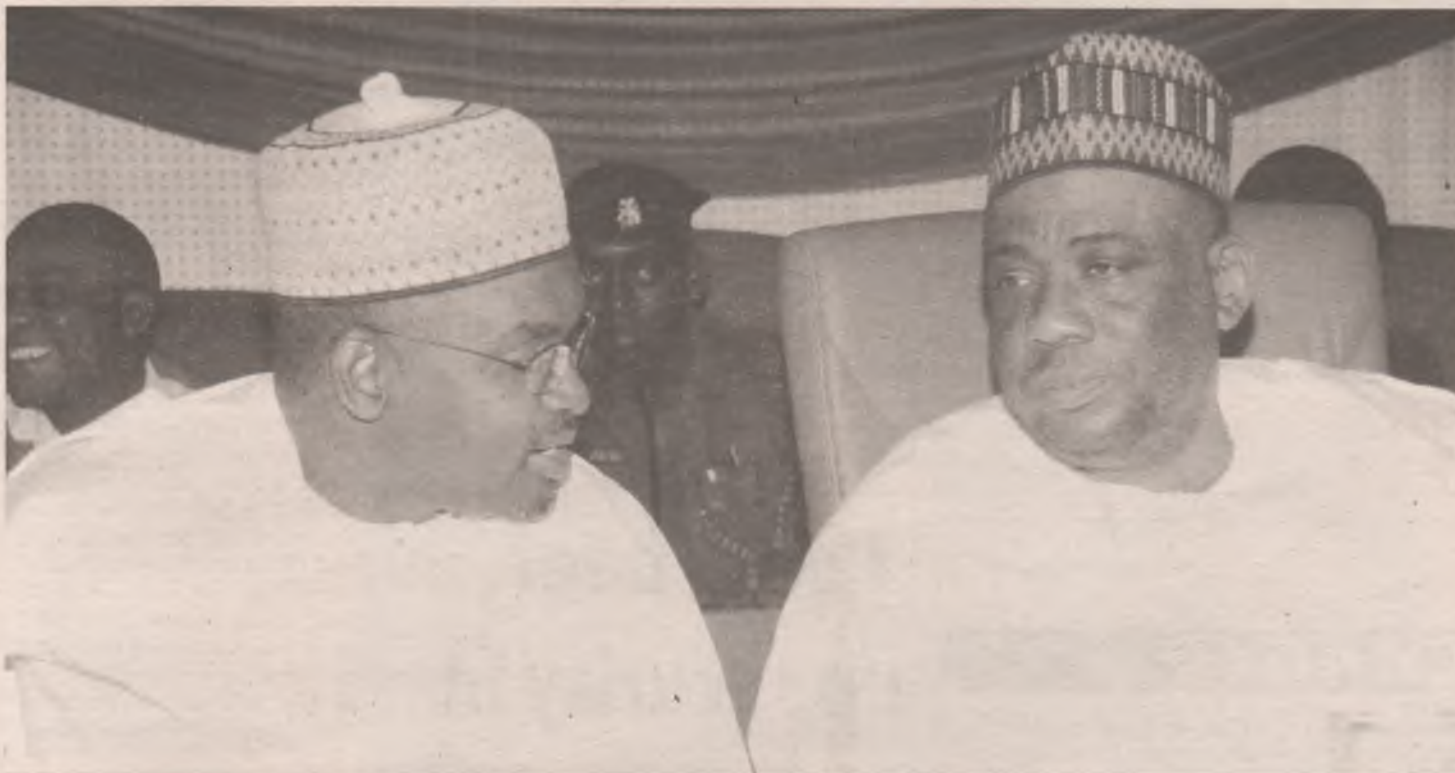
The buses will also support mass transportation effort of governments in the states where they will be operated.

The plan, as time goes on, is to procure more of these buses

for places like Enugu, Benin, Jos etc where soldiers also encounter problem of transportation", the COAS added.

Also speaking at the occasion, the General Officer Commanding (GOC) 81 Division of the Nigerian Army, Major General E. Nwan-guma said the commissioning of the six buses marked a watershed in improving the welfare of personnel and strengthening professionalism in the Army.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



DEPUTY Speaker, House of Representatives Usman Bayero Nafada (right) with Chairman, House Committee on Public Account Usman Adamu Gaya, during the public hearing on a bill for an act to make provision for the creation of the National Office of Government Performance Audit and Accountability in Abuja yesterday.

## Shagari pledges support for Kano govt.

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

FORMER President Shehu Shagari has pledged support for the Kano State government, describing the state governor, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau, as a pride to the North.

Shagari made the pledge when he received Governor Shekarau in Sokoto. He said he had been following with keen interest the activities of Shekarau since his assumption in office.

The former president said he was pleased with the way the governor conducts his affairs saying, "Those within and outside his party are all commending his efforts." He urged the governor to keep the spirit alive.

He said he was particularly happy with the recent turbaning of Shekarau as Sardaunan Kano and urged him to uphold the exemplary qualities of the late Sardaunan Sokoto Alhaji Ahmadu Bello.

"Please try to emulate the late Sardauna and we the few that knew and worked with him shall at any time be ready to offer advice towards achieving set goals which are in line with principles of the late Sardauna", he said.

In his remarks, Governor Ibrahim Shekarau said the visit was to thank the elder statesman for gracing his coronation ceremony held in Kano last Friday. He described Shagari as a tolerant leader who worked amicably with the opposition while he was president.

## Jigawa commissioners begin declaration of assets

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

COMMISSIONERS and other public office holders in Jigawa State have starting declaring their assets to the Code of Conduct Bureau.

The state Commissioners for Finance Alhaji Hannafi Yakubu, Works and Transport Alhaji Baba S. Aliyu and that

of Health Dr. Ibrahim Muhammad Nashabaru were there at office to declare their assets yesterday.

Sources at the office told our correspondent that commissioners and other public office holders have been complying since Monday when the exercise began. It is expected to be completed tomorrow.

About seven commissioners have been to the bureau.

The state Commissioner for Works and Transport Alhaji Baba S. Aliyu who spoke with our correspondent said they were in the office to declare their assets, saying compliance with the bureau's rules and regulations was necessary.

"I just booked today for the

declaration because things like that should be given due regard by any sincere leader.

As a leader who wants to lead by example, you have to comply with CCB's rules", he added.

The state Coordinator of the Code of Conduct Bureau Alhaji Adamu Abdullahi Chiroma said he would speak with newsmen when the exercise is over.

## FG returns soldiers to Edo security outfit

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

SOLDIERS have been returned to the Edo State security outfit known as Operation Thunderstorm.

The soldiers were removed two weeks ago in preparation for the re-run election into Etsako state constituency. They were removed to prevent them from being used for the election, a move Edo State Governor Adams Oshiomhole objected to.

Oshiomhole said this in Benin yesterday while receiving

members of the state Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) who protested the kidnap of their chairman, Bishop Peter Imasuen.

The Christians led by some leaders of CAN in the state had marched peacefully through some streets of Benin to drive home their demand of an unconditional release of the Bishop Imasuen.

At the Government House, the protesting group expressed disappointment over the non-implementation of chapter II of

the constitution by the Federal Government.

According to the spokesman, Rev. Fr. Richard Ofere, chapter II provides that the security and welfare of the Nigerian people shall be the primary purpose of government.

He told Governor Adams Oshiomhole that government officials had failed in their responsibility of preserving and protecting the constitution but are rather carried away by their personal interests.

Comrade Oshiomhole who

sympathized with the protesters, assured that his government would not rest until Bishop Imasuen was released unhurt. He announced that the military earlier withdrawn from the joint patrol had been restored and pledged that he would do everything possible to strengthen federal security agencies to ensure the safety of citizens. Comrade Oshiomhole commended them for the peaceful way they carried out the protest and their steadfastness not to yield to ransom payment.



FMR President Shehu Shagari

# Jos: Hausas demand fair hearing

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE Hausa community in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State has appealed to the Federal Government to give them

an opportunity to tell their side of the story in the recent crisis that affected Jos and environs.

Spokesman of the community Alhaji Sani Mudi who spoke with newsmen yesterday in Jos said, "We thought that Vice President

Goodluck Jonathan would visit our community to hear our own version of what led to the crisis just as he listened to Governor Jonah Jang and other security operatives, but unfortunately he didn't visit us."

He said they had a lot to say concerning the crisis. "We know the perpetrators of the act and we have a lot of useful information that will help the Federal Government intervene and do justice to all to forestall a reoccurrence."

Mudi said the Hausa community was in support of the vice president's visit as it was an indication that the Federal Government was concerned and committed to finding a lasting solution to the crisis.

## Jigawa emirs, Ulama call for probe

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

JIGAWA State Council of Emirs and Ulama's in the state have called on the Federal Government to probe the recent Jos crisis with a view to bringing those responsible to book.

In a statement signed by the Secretary of the council Alhaji Haruna Idris yesterday at the end of its emergency meeting, the council said prosecuting the culprits would serve as a deterrent to others and prevent a reoccurrence.

"It is unfortunate that several lives including that of women

and children were lost and property worth millions of naira were destroyed in Jos. The council is urging government to as a matter of urgency find a lasting solution to the problem," the council said.

The council consoled the families of those who lost their lives in the crisis and called on the people

to live in peace with one another irrespective of religious or ethnic affiliations.

In a related development, the state council of Ulama's condemned the Jos crisis, saying, it was time for authorities concerned to do something drastic to put an end to crises in the area.

## 'Christians also killed in Kuru'

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

The Kuru Development Association says some of the bodies found in bushes around Kuru, near Jos in Plateau State after the recent mayhem were not only those of Hausa Fulani Muslims but includes bodies of Christian youths killed during the crisis. National Secretary of the association Zi Mamman Dung who spoke in Jos yesterday alleged that the Hausa Fulani collected corpses of both Muslims and non Muslims during the conflict and blew the figures out of proportion. The association said the Hausa Fulani constitute only 10 percent of the community and that there was no way they could have made up the number said to have been discovered by the Red Cross and the JNI. "The media attention on Kuru Jenta, a multi-ethnic and religious community which witnessed the recent clash between Muslims and Christians has presented an interesting case study of media bias", he said. The association called on the federal and state governments to commence a transparent trial of all those involved in the conflict so that justice would be seen to be done.

## Military take-over of security in Plateau a coup - Group

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE Civil Society Coalition in Plateau State has described the take-over of security in Plateau State by the military as a coup d'etat.

Spokesperson of the coalition Joseph Sangosanya who

addressed a news conference in Jos yesterday said there was no section of the constitution that said the military were allowed to take over security of a state from the police and Plateau should not be different.

He said section 217 (2) C of the constitution which the GOC

of the 3rd Armoured Division in Jos Major General Saleh Maina relied on to take-over security only allows the army to assist civil authorities, not take over.

In a related development, the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in a separate press conference yesterday said it lost two

pastors and 46 of its members while 27 are still missing.

CAN through its vice chairman Rev. Philip Dafes condemned the crisis and the redeployment of the former Commissioner of Police in the state Greg Ayanting, saying it was a hasty decision.

## Police beef up security in Aba, Umuahia

THE Police in Abia have deployed more personnel to Aba and Umuahia to forestall a breakdown of law and order. The command's spokesman, Mr Okechukwu Ali, disclosed this to newsmen Tuesday. Ali said the measure became necessary following the rumour of an impending protest and a possible reprisal in some parts of the state because of the Jos crisis.

The command, through its intelligence-gathering mechanism, learnt of the rumour and decided to deploy more men to strategic areas as a pro-active measure. Abia does not have the history of sectarian violence, so the rumours are baseless. Available reports from the returnees did not show that any Abia indigene was killed in the crisis," he said, adding that the command had issued a statement to douse tension.

A correspondent who went round the city reports that police men were deployed to keep surveillance around the Aba Central Mosque and the city called Ama-Hausa.

The Abia Government had last weekend dispatched buses to Jos to bring back its indigenes, especially students resident in the city.

Reacting to the development, the Chief Imam of Aba Central Mosque Alhaji Idris Bashir, thanked Gov. Theodore Orji and the police for taking steps to reinforce security in Aba. Bashir attributed the prevailing peace in the city to "the presence of the police," saying "sometimes, these riots break out due to the absence of adequate security."

He described the Jos incident as an "unfortunate national calamity," and appealed to those involved to allow peace to reign. (NAN)

## ... FG takes relief materials to displaced persons

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE National Commission for Refugees has dispatched relief materials to persons displaced due to the recent Jos crisis. Addressing displaced persons in the refugee camp at Rukuba Barracks, The Federal Commissioner in charge of the commission Hajiya Hadiza Kangiwa said she was in the state to commiserate with them over the incident, adding that she brought relief materials, including food items, clothes, bedding materials, mats, plates, cups and buckets. Hajiya Kangiwa appealed to federal, states government and Non Governmental Organizations to come to the aid of the displaced persons. She said the crisis was unfortunate and an indication that there was an underlying problem which stakeholders must unravel to ensure peace in the area. The General Officer Commanding 3rd Armoured Division Jos Major General Saleh Maina said the number of people in the camp had reduced, following the relaxation of the curfew, adding that they now had 2,900 displaced persons. He said of the 15 camps they opened for displaced people, four had been closed.



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# Minister raises alarm over increasing OVC

By Akor Ojoma

WOMEN Affairs and Social Development minister, Mrs. Salamatu Hussaini Suleiman has raised alarm over the increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in the country.

The minister said in a statement

that the estimated number of 17.5 million out of which 7.3 million are orphaned by HIV/AIDS is very worrisome, particularly in states with high prevalence.

According to the statement, the minister stated this Tuesday at a workshop on Dissemination of Key Findings on the 2008 Situ-

ation Assessment and Analysis on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) for the Southern Zone held in Owerri, Imo State.

Mrs Salamatu said OVC has been compounded by the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic and study findings show that better information would facilitate increased

advocacy for OVC programmes and consequently increased funding and better planning.

She stated that the identification and support of orphan and vulnerable children is the key to ensure that children stay in the family setting and thus reduce the need for institutional care.

Wife of Imo State Governor, Mrs. Chioma Ohakim commended the efforts of the ministry in conducting the survey which would go a long way in monitoring and evaluating the OVC in the country with a view to formulating policies and programmes that will tackle the situation.

## Benue Senatorial race: It's about generational change - Byuan

By Akor Ojoma

AS the race for the Benue State zone 'A' senatorial election heats up, one of the major contenders for the seat in the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Byuan Mathias has said the older generation of politicians in the zone have no business running for the seat.

In a statement issued yesterday in Abuja after consultation visits to Katsina-Ala and Makurdi, Byuan said the people of the zone deserve nothing less than quality representation which could only be provided by a young, vibrant, resourceful and accessible man with the fear of God as the future of this country cannot continue to be built on the world view of the older generation.

The senatorial zone which is currently being represented by Sen. Joseph Akaagerger equally parades old generation politicians such as Barnabas Gemade, Jacob Tilly-Gyado and Paul Unongo. He described those using the party leaders of thought to prevail on him to withdraw from the race as suffering from self defeatism and enemies of the people who are against quality representation for the people of the Senatorial zone.

## NEMA recovers bodies from crashed naval helicopter

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has recovered the bodies of officers on board the ill-fated naval helicopter that crashed on Tuesday in Isiokpo, Ikwere Local Government Area of Rivers State in the Niger Delta area.

The South-South Zonal Coordinator of the agency, Mr. Umesi Emenike said the bodies of the three of the victims were carried away in body bags and the fourth body taken away in NEMA ambulance to the Military Hospital, Port-Harcourt. He also said the operation was carried out with the support of youths in the community and other stakeholders in the entire recovery exercise.

Ikwere also said the scene of the accident has been cordoned off by the police, Joint Task Force (JTF), and the Accident Investigation Bureau (AIB), who are carrying out investigation for the possible cause of the accident.



AUDITOR General of the Federation Gabriel Ogunsina (left) and Director, Consolidated Account in the Accountant General's office, Mr. Ositote, during the public hearing on a bill for an act to make provision for the creation of the National Office of Government Performance Audit and Accountability in Abuja yesterday.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

## Yar'adua Foundation to publish 50 years of Nigeria's foreign policy book

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Shehu Musa Yar'adua Foundation will soon publish a book analyzing 50 years of Nigeria's Foreign Policy as part of activities marking the 50th anniversary of the nation's independence, the Director General of the foundation, Jamilah Farris has said.

In a statement issued yesterday in Abuja, Farris said the foundation adopted the publication of the book as its major activity for

this year in view of the importance of the 50th anniversary. "We embarked on the book project to document and analyze Nigeria's achievements as a global citizen since independence, particularly in the promotion of peace, freedom, democracy and development on the African continent", she stated.

She said the MacArthur Foundation, Education Trust Fund, Office of Millennium Development Goals and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are contributing to

the project.

According to her, Prof. Attahiru Jega, Vice Chancellor of Bayero University Kano and former President of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) will edit the book, while contributing authors are the Vice Chancellor of Igbinedion University, Okada, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae; former Vice Chancellor of Usman Dan Fodio University Sokoto, Prof. Tijjani Bande; Dr. Abubakar Siddique Mohammed, Director,

Centre for Democratic Development, Research and Training, Zaria and Professor Okey Ibeanu of the Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka among others. The book is expected to be in three parts and nine chapters.

Farris said annual programmes are held in honour of the legacies of late Yar'adua and for his commitment to national unity, good governance and building of a just and democratic society for Nigerians.

## 'Robbery reduces in Lagos'

By Misbahu Bashir

ARMED robbery incidences in Lagos have reduced by 82 per cent, the state Commissioner of Police Marvel Akpoyibo has said.

The CP said in Abuja yesterday at a meeting with the Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Onovo that cases of armed robberies have reduced in Lagos as a result of the success of community policing. There was collaboration between the people and police in areas of addressing crime and violence which has assisted in the exchange of vital information. He said robberies reduced by 70 per cent in 2008 and 82.3 per cent in 2009.

He said people have been assisting the police in the arrest of robbers as well as providing information of their hide outs.

## Pro-Yar'adua group plans 3 million man-march in Abuja

By Abbas Jimoh

A group calling itself an umbrella platform for youth organisations in Nigeria, Grassroots Solidarity Movement (GSM) yesterday in Abuja said it is planning to hold a 3 million-man march in support of ailing President Umaru Yar'adua.

The group at a Press Conference jointly addressed by its National President, Mr. Kolade Akinjo and Secretary Emeka Okoroji, said it would start the march with a prayer session at the Eagle Square, Abuja next Wednesday.

Akinjo, a former Presidential Adviser on Youth Matters during the regime of former President Olusegun Obasanjo, said the youths, after the prayer session, will march to the

National Assembly to tell the lawmakers in both chambers not to lose focus in their desire

to resolve the leadership vacuum in government with the aid of Nigerian Constitution.

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PIC: NAN

FROM left: Chairman, House Committee on Works, Kabiru Jalo, House, Chief Whip Emeka Ihediora, and House Member Vitalis Okafor, at the House of Representatives extraordinary meeting with officials of the Ministry of Works and contractors handling the South East road projects in the 2009 fiscal year in Abuja yesterday.

## 33 Nigerians deported from US

From Nahimah Ajikanle Nuru-deen, Lagos

ABOUT 33 Nigerians have been deported from the United States for drug, immigration and other related offences through the Murtala Muhammed International Airport Lagos.

A source in the Nigerian Immigration Service confirmed the deportation yesterday, saying the

deportees were brought into the country aboard a chartered aircraft. The aircraft which landed at the international wing of the Lagos Airport at about 1pm local time yesterday had nine crew members on board. According to the source, the deportation is coming a few days after 68 persons were deported from Athens, the Greek capital, for immigration offences.

# Yuguda drops 5 commissioners

From Muhammad Abubakar Bauchi

BAUCHI State Governor Isa Yuguda has sacked five of his commissioners, redeployed four others and appointed 56 senior special assistants, 289 special assistants and 607 personal assistants.

A statement from the Secretary to the State Government Ahmed Ibrahim Dandija gave the names of the sacked commissioners as Alhaji Garba Dahiru of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Pov-

erty Alleviation, Engr. Mohammed Tela Sama'ila of the Ministry of Health and the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism Alhaji Mohammed Jibrin Lago. The others are Alhaji Salisu Zakari Ningi of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and Dr. Altine Lawal Bello of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

The statement however added that the governor had appointed four of the dropped commissioners as Special Advisers with the exception of Dr. Altine Lawal

Bello.

According to the statement, the governor also approved the redeployment of four commissioners. They include Alhaji Yusufu Musa Gumli who is moving from the Ministry of Education to the Ministry of Information, Yakubu Bello Kirfi from the Ministry of Justice to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, retired Captain Bala Jibrin from Higher Education to Ministry of Science and Technology and Alhaji Yakubu Abdul-

lahi from Commerce and Industry to the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation. A new commissioner, Alhaji Ibrahim Muhammad Aminu, was also appointed to take charge of the Ministry of Higher Education while the state Deputy Governor Babayo Garba Gamawa was assigned the Ministry of Lands and Survey.

The statement also advised those seeking elective positions in 2011 to voluntarily resign latest by April 1, 2010.

## Panic as fire guts pastor's residence

From Isa Liman, Zaria

THERE was panic in Zaria, Kaduna State yesterday as fire gutted some parts of the Nasara Baptist Church along Gaskiya Road in the city.

Our correspondent gathered that part of the church which served as the pastor's residence was gutted by fire early yesterday, raising suspicion in some quarters of an attack. However, the Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of Zaria command Alhaji Abubakar Danmalam said the fire was not caused by any attack but

was an accident.

"Our men that you saw in the church premises were there to make sure that all was well. The fire was not caused by any attack but an accident that was curtailed by those residing in the church," AC Danmalam said. A source at the church told our reporter that they did not suspect anyone of setting up the fire saying, "It is normal in this kind of situation to suspect so many things when this kind of thing happens but nobody is blaming any Muslim for the fire. We have been liv-

ing in peace with Muslims for so many years without any problem and as you can see we are all going about our normal business without any fear or molestation".

Activities were normal within the church yesterday, including those in the nursery and primary schools. Pupils and teachers of the school were seen going about their normal academic activities. The atmosphere in Zaria city as a whole was also normal yesterday as residents later realised that there was no cause for alarm.

## 16-yr-olds now to obtain national ID Cards

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Nigerians, down from 18 years, can now obtain the National identity cards, an official of the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) has said.

Alhaji Isa Muhammad, the Commission's Coordinator in Bauchi State, said this yesterday in an interview with newsmen in Bauchi.

Muhammad said however that the new-improved identity card which would

be issued this year, would not replace the existing one as that still remained valid. He said the new cards would be all-inclusive because it would be used for all banking transactions by Nigerians.

"We are introducing a multi-purpose cards, otherwise known as smart cards. The difference between the existing national identity cards and the one being proposed is that the smart card will contain memory metal

chips. While the existing national identity card captures only six human fingers, the smart card will capture 10 fingers. The smart card will be issued to Nigerians from the age of 16 because at that age, it is expected that all diametric data of beneficiaries would be adequately captured," the Coordinator said. Muhammad said all the necessary arrangements for the production of the smart card had reached advanced stage. (NAN)



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Chairman

# Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON [www.dailytrust.com](http://www.dailytrust.com)



## LATE Governor Mamman Ali Yobe remembers late Mamman Ali

WE were saddened by his departure, but Allah knows best. May Allah continue to shower His mercy on him and those of us that remain.

**Abdulwahab Lawan**  
[abd\\_wahhb@yahoo.com](mailto:abd_wahhb@yahoo.com)

Indeed the people of Yobe State will continue to pray for your soul to rest in perfect peace. You have set the developmental strategy for Yobe State and you will be remembered forever for that.

**Aliyu Bappa**  
[adbappa1@yahoo.com](mailto:adbappa1@yahoo.com)

## Haiti, where is your Fidel Castro?

THE historical part was okay as far as I know, but the conclusions that Cuba had somehow magically gotten it all together thanks to a dictator? In the US, if you read the local news of Miami, you will find not only Haitian but also Cuban citizens risking their lives on the high seas to leave their country. What does become obviously clear, is that a country under a dictator fares far worse than similar countries whose elite has firmly decided upon democracy and self rule.

**Rick Stewart**  
[rickstravel@hotmail.com](mailto:rickstravel@hotmail.com)

## India to build refinery in Nigeria ...Earmarks N53bn for oil blocs

...INDIA to build a refinery in Nigeria? Why do we always go for the cheapest option? India is not for building refineries builder. Countries like Japan, America, Germany and Britain have proven track records in this type of technology. How many refineries has India built all over the world? Even South Korea is can build better refineries than India I am sure. Our leaders should please retrace their steps.

**I. Haruna**  
[haba\\_yaro@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:haba_yaro@yahoo.co.uk)

## UK to partner Nigeria on job creation

I believe this is a practical way the U.K government has proposed to help Nigeria. Such a long term plan is the only way Nigeria's youths can come out of the difficult situation Nigeria has found itself. Nigerian youths are busy learning new trades such as robbery and kidnapping because we refused to plan. This is why we are failing. Let's key into this plan and build a brighter future for our youths. Enough of the insatiable greed called corruption. We wish Nigeria well!!!

**Sylvester Aboki**  
[abokispace@gmail.com](mailto:abokispace@gmail.com)

# VP: This is the last Jos carnage

THE indigene /settler issue should be dealt with. Apart from punishing the culprits of previous crises, the right-to live and seek for elective post anywhere in Nigeria should be enforced. Also the Plateau State government should be sincere and desist from sentimental utterances capable of precipitating disharmony among the citizens

**Shehu Idris**  
[shehuddin@hotmail.com](mailto:shehuddin@hotmail.com)

I'd like to use this medium to express our profound gratitude to the Vice President for sparing time to come over to Jos in order to commiserate with us and to see things for himself.

We thank God that he has seen things the way they happened. Our prayers are for lasting peace to reign over Jos, Plateau State as a whole and the entire Nigeria.

The inhuman atrocities com-

mitted to man by man is uncalled for and as such a serious penalty should be meted to the culprits without bias or sentiment otherwise we will continue to experience the occurrence of such behavior.

In light of the above, I will like to advise all the residents of Jos and its environs, Muslim or Christian, to leave in peace with one another. Long live Plateau State, long live Nigeria.

**Abubakar A. Muhammad**  
[saddiq4jos@yahoo.com](mailto:saddiq4jos@yahoo.com)

The VP's visit to Jos to witness firsthand the level of destruction is a great sign of commitment and concern. We are solidly behind your unresolved commitment in ensuring a lasting solution to the Jos crises. The truth will prevail.

**Yusuf**  
[yu\\_abdul2004@yahoo.com](mailto:yu_abdul2004@yahoo.com)



VICE President Goodluck Jonathan

## Re: Jang, the media and the genocide in Jos this time

ARGUMENTS, counter arguments, supporting falsehoods and bigotries all in selfishness attempts to voice out one's opinion about the Jos crisis are not patriotic because ours brothers,

irrespective of affiliations, were brutally murdered and many were subjected to untold hardship.

**Muhammad lawal**  
[mlawalmalumfashi@yahoo.com](mailto:mlawalmalumfashi@yahoo.com)

## Jos: State of emergency unnecessary –Sen Dantong

THE people of Plateau State are no less a valued populace than other Nigerians whose lives and property should be protected. If every skirmish and mayhem would cause destruction of life or property of the populace as is invariably

the fact in this case, what gains do we stand to grab at the risk of our lives? Peace has no alternative, and we must embrace ourselves even in the absence of emergency.

**Isa Mariri**  
[isamariri@yahoo.com](mailto:isamariri@yahoo.com)

## Eagles defeated Zambia by sheer luck –Ndanusa

ALTHOUGH, the last match with the Zambian team was a little improvement, they still need to improve on their tactics, ball possession and cohesion if they want to make a mark in

South Africa 2010. More "goal-hungry" home-based players should be injected into the Super Eagles.

**Abbey Komolafe**  
[abbeylik@yahoo.com](mailto:abbeylik@yahoo.com)

## How N2bn railway project was awarded at N24bn

MAY the perpetrators of these acts face justice. May they be stripped of all honors both in this world and the next. What a shame. Kudos to the Railway staff for exposing them. We enjoin NNPC, NPA, NIWA, NIPOST & NITEL to emulate this patriotic act. Yar'adua / Jonathan, the world is watching what become of the people behind this.

**Mohammad Shuaibu**

[smohammadlawal@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:smohammadlawal@yahoo.co.uk)

I'm usually wary about such claims by employee groups. It's always at the tail end of issues like this that they come out to say they could have resuscitated the company with a lesser amount. Why didn't they just do the work required to ensure that the company didn't fail in the first place?

**Oye**  
[oyeolsakin@yahoo.com](mailto:oyeolsakin@yahoo.com)

## Katsina replies Obj on Yar'adua

THE Presidency is Nigeria's project and not Katsina's project. Obasanjo has a voice as a person and has voiced it out. There is nothing wrong in giving advice especially when the life of a nation is at stake. Let us rethink; Yaradua will be doing good to himself and history if he bows out honorably.

**Joe Iqurr**  
[joeiqurr@gmail.com](mailto:joeiqurr@gmail.com)

Why are we deceiving ourselves in the name of Almighty Allah? Did Allah instruct Yar'adua not to do the right thing because he is sick? Why didn't he take enough rest to improve his health or is it part of Allah's plan for him to be over labor himself and fall sick? It is our collective wish for him to recover speedily from his sickness. Nevertheless, he needs not stick to power like super glue.

**Hussam**  
[hussam2010@gmail.com](mailto:hussam2010@gmail.com)

This is a democracy and not someone's personal belonging. He should have handed over when going on a medical leave. These 'Katsina rhetoric' have no



EX-PRESIDENT Olusegun Obasanjo

place in these discussions...

**Shaibu**  
[shaibuaguda@yahoo.com](mailto:shaibuaguda@yahoo.com)

I personally join the people of Katsina state in praying for Mr. President's quick recovery. May Allah (S.W.T.) cause him to recover soon and give him the opportunity to come back and continue with his good ambition for changing the country. Ameen.

**Abubakar Chika Maru**  
[abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com](mailto:abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com)

## Sultan, Shagari task Shekarau on Sardauna title

IT was his character, attitude and non-biased character that made the title famous; it wasn't the title that made him famous! I really hope those attributes were seen in him before the title was given. Some people think if they wear Jersey number 10, then

they become excellent footballers or play makers. That is not true. The guy in the Jersey made the number famous. Please all title-holders should try and make their titles worth remembering too.

**Aji Isuwa Suleiman**  
[suleimanaji@yahoo.com](mailto:suleimanaji@yahoo.com)



By Abdullahi Abubakar

## Attempts to use proxies to destabilize Sokoto DPP will fail

Recent revelation by some stalwarts of the Democratic Peoples Party (DPP) at its national headquarters, Abuja, has vindicated statements by former governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Attahiru Bafarawa's supporters that his successor Alhaji Magatakarda Wamakko, is using all his means fair or foul, mostly foul, to persecute him. The latest antic is to masquerade as DPP members and use them to abuse bona fide DPP members.

It would appear that Bafarawa's enhanced stature in the emerging Mega Party is giving his political opponents sleepless nights, and they sense that he now represents a big threat to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the state.

It is common knowledge that since the nullification of the 2007 governorship election by the Kaduna Appeal Court in 2008, there have been several attempts to infiltrate DPP ranks with the intent to destabilise it. The purpose is to stop access to information to the pillage to goes on there.

To many the institution of a Commission of Inquiry into the state's Local government joint account was ostensibly a step in

In deed, he once told the PDP and their agents that 'anything, which is not built on solid foundation, will collapse'.

the right direction but in concrete terms, but actually a ploy to ensure that the governor's perceived opponents, namely Bafarawa and the DPP governorship candidate Alhaji Muhammadu Maigari Dingyadi, were hounded through frivolous allegation of financial sleaze. The intention was to use all instrument available to deter Dingyadi from pursuing his legitimate mandate at the courts.

But what even surprised pundits in the state was the hasty manner in which the state adopted the panel's recommendations. To our utmost surprise, less than 48 hours after the final report of the Commission of Inquiry was submitted by its chairman, the State government hurriedly released a white paper indicting Bafarawa and his associates even threatening to prosecute them at the State Property Recovery Commission, if they fail to return the sum of N 2.9 Billion allegedly misappropriated.

Many wondered why governor Wamakko in his desperation hurriedly went to EFCC, rather than allowing the State Public Property Recovery Panel to do its work and recover the funds allegedly diverted.

Now the tactic is to use ex-DPP members to sow confusion.

DPP, since its creation has no faction, except the one in the minds of Wamakko and his supporters who want to divide. It is indeed clear that Hon. Ibrahim Almustapha, the Minority Whip in the Sokoto House of Assembly and one of the 6 DPP members in the house have become tools to achieve that aim.

One wonders who is behind Hon. Almustapha's efforts to create division within the ranks of the DPP leadership. How can a lawmaker, who was elected under the platform of DPP, abandon his primary duties of legislation to that instrument of destabilization? What is even ridiculous is that Hon. Almustapha is creating a faction where non-exists.

There are some hungry politicians looking for what to eat, and had become willing tools in the effort bring down Bafarawa. Even the National Headquarters of the purported faction at No. 33 Ukukinam Street, Utako actually belonged to a media outfit and was borrowed for a period of time within which the stage managed faction would have actualized its self objective of providing Hon. Ibrahim Almustapha and his fellow-travellers with the crossover platform to PDP.

In the interest of prudence and accountability, it is an open challenge to the EFCC and other relevant organizations of fighting corrupts practices in the country to urgently wade into this issue and commence investigation, so as to bring an end of the rampant abuse of public office by those in power.

It is pertinent to counsel the Sokoto state government to divert the fund and all other earmarks for the destabilization of DPP and perceived opponents, and deploy them for the development of Sokoto state.

The current administration in the state should use the money to stock our primary health centres with drugs in order to alleviate the suffering of our people, rather than the pursuit of wicked and unproductive agendas.

Bafarawa is quite aware of the kind of people who are hell-bent on frustrating and humiliating him through such projects. In deed, he once told the PDP and their agents that 'anything, which is not built on solid foundation, will collapse'.

Let people like Hon. Almustapha leave DPP and Bafarawa alone. If he is really interested in joining PDP, it is an open interest, why can't he declare for Alu, instead of sowing seeds of hatred by using outsiders to embarrass him?

Let him focus on his primary assignment which he was elected by his Rabah constituency to do.

**Abubakar is a member of State Indigenes Forum, Abdullahi Fodio, Road, Sokoto.**



By Mohammed Hassan

## In defence of Abdul Mutallab

Cont'd from yesterday.

Yet their states receive the highest allocations in the country, only for them to blackmail their leadership to share such resources with them or risk kidnapping and killing of innocent citizens. The antic of MEND and their likes to create confusion in Nigeria make it compelling to explore likely conspiracy theories on Umar Faruk Abdul Mutallab's unfortunate attempt. Covert operations with hidden agenda may not be discountenance as local and external undesirable elements might have manipulated the incidence to put Nigeria in spotlight for clandestine assault. We may recall the 1954 'Lavon Affairs' known as operation Susannah in which Israeli military intelligence planted bombs in Egyptian, American and British-owned targets in Egypt in the summer of 1954 in the hopes that Egyptians and Muslim Brotherhood would be blamed for the attack before the plot was exposed. We should also recall the lies of former President Bush and Tony Blair on Smoking Gun that Iraq possessed Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD) to sway the international community to endorse an invasion of the Arab country so that the two countries can control vast oil resources and facilitate increased heavy military spending in the Middle East after creating confusion. While we must all condemn the insane and unfathomable attempted suicidal mission that would have resulted in the death of 250 passengers from the action of the young bomber whose visage looks innocent and with humble mien, we need to critically examine and study tendencies and likely influence that could have manipulated the Nigerian child for the action. The unfolding revelations about the suspected suicide bomber from foreign media, his schoolmates, teachers and friends indicate a sorry state of his loneliness, introvert and detachment from his family. They all disclose his worthy lifestyle in schools as teetotaler, pious, religious, humble, and a

fan of Arsenal and Liverpool football clubs. He would rather donate his pocket money to the orphanage than buy souvenirs for himself. Likewise, he does not brag about his family's wealth as he rejects flamboyant lifestyle. His clear social passion: Some children from similar background could have gone into drug addiction, trafficking, and armed robbery, among other social vices.

We also need to explore the possibility of excessive depression and some element of insanity as a result of loneliness which the un-die bomber claimed in some of his postings in social media. Such investigations become necessary, based on reports that his aggressive and violent tendency emerged abruptly after his graduation from Department of Mechanical Engineering of the University College London. He had all his adulthood outside the shores of Nigeria.

What I have attempted to do as a Nigerian with this piece is to point out that as Nigerians condemn in unequivocal terms the action of the young bomber, an isolated case indeed, the international community should unearth those who manipulated this innocent and lonely young man to become vulnerable for exploitation. We are aware that innocent souls are easily misled and drugged to take actions unconsciously.

It is gratifying to note that the Father of the suspects, Abdul Mutallab, a true and patriotic Nigerian had forewarned security agencies of his child emerging radicalisation which unfortunately was not heeded. The exemplary conducts of the father is a further demonstration that not all Nigerians are crook who will overlook or endorse negative tendencies of their ward like Niger delta militants who have been led astray. The lesson to be learnt from the predicaments of Abdul Mutallab family is that parents should closely monitor and relate affectionately with their children to check control likely tendencies that may lead them to devilish paths.

Concluded.

Shuaib can be reached at yashuaib@yashuaib.com

## The death penalty debate

By Adewale Kupoluyi

Continued from Friday, January 20.

According to the Asia Times, lethal injection formula has faced controversy in the US, where the Berkeley School of Law has claimed that if anaesthetics fails, the use of Potassium Chloride causes extreme pain and "there is no medical dispute that, if an individual is not unconscious, the intravenous injection of this drug causes excruciating pain, likened to setting one's veins on fire".

In fact, some unqualified prison staff members have been found to take too long injecting the drug. Cost of an execution by firing squad is about \$102 and lethal injection is about \$300. In the past, families of condemned prisoners were sent a bill for the bullet used in the execution!

About 20 per cent of condemned prisoners carried HIV Virus because they were drug addicts. In August, the China Daily reported that 65 per cent of transplants that originated from China came from executed prisoners who reportedly were voluntary donors. Since 1949, executions were carried out mainly by firing squads, but the revised Criminal Procedure Law in 1996 stipulated that death penalty could be executed by shooting or injection.

In 1997, China became only the second

country after the US to use lethal injection because it is considered more humane and will eventually be used in all intermediate people's courts.

From the foregoing, one can say that death penalty is antithetical to the development of a just society. The ongoing constitution review of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria should be used to expunge the obnoxious provision from our laws.

A pathetic story of the execution of Bennie Demps on June 8, 2000 sufficed. It took execution technicians 33 minutes to find suitable veins for the execution. The executioners had no unusual problems finding the veins but because Florida protocol requires a second alternate intravenous drip, they continued to work to insert another needle and finally abandoning the effort after their prolonged failures.

With his last breath, Bennie Demps cried, "they butchered me back there; I was in a lot of pain. They cut me in the groin; they cut me in the leg. It was bleeding profusely. This is not an execution, it is murder". I agree. Death penalty is murder, QED.

Concluded

Kupoluyi wrote from the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta



## Your Letters

### Re: Yuguda spent N2.4 billion on foreign trips

My attention has been drawn to an interview published on page 4 of the Daily Trust of 20 January 2010, in which the wrong impression was created that I had accused Gov Isa Yuguda of Bauchi State of wasting public funds on frivolous foreign trips. For the avoidance of doubt, and to the best of my knowledge and

belief, I am the only indigene of Bauchi State who goes by the name Alhaji Abdullahi Malami. Apparently, some devilish person had impersonated me to make a number of baseless, wicked and devilish accusations against the governor, his wives and commissioners. The fabricated interview has traumatized me greatly and devastated my aged parents.

I am the eldest son in the family of the Sarkin Kudun Bauchi, who is a very senior member of the Bauchi Emirate Council and a close associate of the Emir of Bauchi. I make bold to say that I have been an obedient civil serv-

ant for the last 22 years and have never been a member of the PDP or any other party. Nor have I ever granted any press interview.

All our attempts to trace the impostor even with the assistance of security agents have failed. Clearly, the said interview was fabricated with the sinister aim to destroy to long standing cordial relationship between the family of Governor Yuguda and ours. I seize this opportunity to dissociate myself completely from the fabricated interview and reassure the Governor Isa Yuguda of my continued loyalty and support.

*Abdullahi Malami, Bauchi.*

## Text us on 08 131 8000 30

### SIM card registration?

WHAT we need is tariff reduction in Nigeria.  
**ABDULLATEEF** T,  
08033315847.

### DT not fair, says who?

JACOB (January 26), do you listen to yourself when you talk? I don't think so! Daily Trust has been fair in not only reporting sensitive issues like this one of Jos, but all other issues as well. Perhaps you haven't been following the media well enough. May be you ought to live in Jos in order to better appreciate human life.  
**BILKISU, 08063104115.**

### Out of gas

OBASANJO doesn't have anything more to tell Nigerian, because he the one who put us in the condition we face today: he anointed a sick man to rule a

country that he had run aground.  
**KABIR Jigirya, Kano,**  
08032075837.

### But we want more

MORE of that outburst from OBJ please. He should disregard his detractors' cries, and keep pouring his caustic venom on them. Abeg, don't mind them "jare". Your statement is more than revealing. I hope you would stay kampe.

**SALISU Aso, Suleja,**  
08069743517.

### The last crisis?

WHEN the Jos 2008 crisis happened Mr President, without visiting the state, said it was going to be last crisis in Plateau state. When another one happened again in 2010, Mr Vice President visited the state and said 'this is the last crisis in Plateau'. Mr Vice

President Sir, how did another one happen again, after the last one? How do we take the federal government serious on this issue? Please take action now!

**IBRAHIM, 08036007963.**

### Good point!

OGA Vice President, I like the resolve in the statement "this is the last Jos carnage", but we first have to hold those responsible and make them pay dearly for their actions. Otherwise, this statement is only good for the headlines.

**NGBALE Biliron, Abuja,**  
08034532231.

### Attention

SAADATU Mohammed Awak of VOA Kano reporting centre; you misplaced your ID card at Intercontinental Bank, Damaturu,  
08061121265.

Ujudud Shariff

ujushariff@dailytrust.com

## The Tijjani Abdulkadir I knew

Today marks the 40th day of the death of Alhaji Ahmed Tijjani Abdulkadir who died on December 19 as a result of the serious injuries he sustained in a ghastly car accident along Abuja-Minna road on December 8, 2009 on his way to attend a conference. In the military parlance, Tijjani had died on active duty, in the service of fatherland. We mourn his death, those whose roads had at one time or the other had crossed and therefore knew each other. He died as Federal Permanent Secretary-designate from Kaduna State awaiting his formal swearing-in to office this year culminating into his reaching the pinnacle of his long civil service career. It was a dream come true as he took and passed an examination set up by the Federal Civil Service Commission and the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation some times in early October 2009.

We were supposed to meet in Cairo, Egypt on October 5, 2009 because we were to travel on different dates and from different cities. While he was to travel on October 2 from Abuja and I travelled from Kano on Sunday, October 4th. But somehow a day before his departure, he informed me during a telephone discussion how all the plans had changed following his nomination to sit for examination for the position of permanent secretary to fill the Kaduna State slot following the retirement of Dr Hakeem Baba-Ahmed. This was how fate prevented us from seeing ourselves physically. But we continued to talk on phone and exchange text messages. It was therefore a great shock to learn of his car accident from a mutual friend, Mahmud Shuaibu Ringim, on the same day I travelled out of Abuja. And by the time I returned, he had been flown to Germany for further medical treatment. He died there on December 19. Though we as mortals are all waiting for our time and day to die, it is always painful to lose a friend, a relation or someone we admire and care for. I will miss Tijjani for several reasons as we had interacted for several years. Trying to recall the last time and moments we had together when we met is very difficult as my memory keeps wandering. But one thing I recall vividly was his amazing news about the Niger Delta and his accounts of several meetings he held with the Militants in the Creeks! I was very fascinated with his stories and cautioned him a great deal. At the end of our long discussion, he promised to take me along to the Creeks to see the Militants live, some of whom he said had become his friends. He was a Director at the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs before his death and had actively participated in the process of the Amnesty granted of the federal government to the armed Militants who were

fighting the government. He was a patriot always worried about the state of affairs in Nigeria and its future. Almost regularly, he was worried about one thing or the other about the destiny of Nigeria. He was most often asking questions and seeking clarifications of things unclear to him and always willing to share his thoughts without many inhibitions. He was an intellectual interested in critical analysis in things and situations. This made him very pleasant in always discussing issues from the critical to the mundane. His sense of humour was first class, always making those around him laugh with his tremendous reservoir of jokes. And he knew how to laugh, sometimes loud to his heart's satisfaction.

His sojourn in the civil service had prepared him to see all the colours of mid night! He served in many places including Ministries of Education, Power, Defence and the Niger Delta Affairs. He also had a stint with the Education Trust Fund (ETF) where he was its first Executive Secretary for couple of years. As the curtain had drawn, we only now have his memories to live with. To my mind, he had a very successful career and lived a very fruitful life. God had blessed him with a wife, Hajiya Binta and five lovely children, namely, Fahd, Mubarak, Safina, Muhsin and Muhammad. Looking back and assessing the relationship we had, one will say without any hesitation that he was a jolly good fellow and we enjoyed associating with him. We will continue to pray for his departed soul to rest in perfect peace and urge Almighty Allah to bless and guide his family and all those who hold him dear and give them the fortitude to bear the irreplaceable loss.

*Shariff contributed this tribute from the Ministry of National Planning, Abuja.*

# DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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Utako District, Abuja  
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## Pre-nuptial HIV/ AIDS test should be voluntary

If the authorities in Yobe State have their way, prospective couples there will have to tender documents certifying their HIV/AIDS status before being joined in matrimony by clerics and traditional rulers. This indication was given by Alhaji Bukar Modu Jumbam, the permanent secretary in the state's Ministry of Religious Affairs at an interactive session with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society groups (CSGs) in Damaturu. According to him, only tests conducted at designated laboratories of the state Ministry of Health would be recognized for the purpose. The permanent secretary added that the initiative, which the government calls "Operation Show Me Your Certificate Before Marriage" is to check the spread of the disease within Yobe communities.

It is a positive development that the government has recognized the need to contain the spread of HIV/AIDS, but we are concerned on the repercussions of trying to make tests for it compulsory for intending couples, repercussions that we believe far outweigh whatever advantages that the government thinks it can obtain. In fact, the measure will only add to the already high level of stigmatization of people living with the affliction. Typical of the corruption that has permeated all facets of social and economic life in the country, any standard HIV/AIDS certificate is prone to forgery and manipulation, in the same way that educational and electoral certificates and documents are being counterfeited today. Moreover, the corruption-ridden bureaucracy as we know it cannot be trusted to be efficient in such a sensitive and very private affair. Similarly, if supposedly a couple went through the procedure and tested negative, the question still remains to be asked about what follows later in the conjugal life of the couple. If, for instance, either of the couple fails the demands of being faithful, the other partner stands the risk of becoming an unwitting victim of the unchaste conduct of the other.

Law that purports to legislate for pre-nuptial test reinforces stigmatization, which already constitutes a part of the problems confronting health officials in the management of persons living with the disease. When results show that one or both partners as prospective couples have tested positive to HIV/AIDS, they no doubt remain stigmatized in the community. Besides, it is not certain whether the results of such a test would preclude the couple that has tested positive from contracting the marriage because, matters of this nature could discountenance any notion of giving up. Moreover, the clerics and the traditional rulers are not above being compromised to go contrary to the facts.

Yobe state and other state governments that contemplate such measures should look for other more creative means of controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS. People naturally do things better if they do it out of their own freewill and conviction than when they are forced by some legislation. There is need for government to embark on massive public enlightenment on the imperatives of HIV/AIDS test rather than coercing them with legislation. Parents, when fully educated about the HIV/AIDS menace, would be inspired by that knowledge to encourage their family members to voluntarily go for the test. We recommend that government makes the HIV/AIDS test free in places where people are still being surcharged.

One other way by which the spread of the disease can be controlled government is for hospitals and health clinics to encourage and counsel all patients on the benefits of taking the HIV/AIDS test, in addition to other medical examinations that may be required of them to undergo.

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## Reproductive health: Leaders taking action (III)

### Civil Society Watch

By Hajiya Bilkisu (mni)

For the past two weeks, this column has carried the assessment of the participants at the leadership retreat the Kano based Development Research and Project Centre (DRPC) organised for policy makers in Sokoto, Niger and Zamfara states and those who attended the leadership course on reproductive health and family planning in Alexandria, Egypt. Both activities were supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The last leg of the assessment took me to Minna, the Niger State capital to capture the trail blazing achievements of the participants at the retreat.


One of the most interesting success stories was that of Hon. Zainab Gado Nasco who had diligently implemented the Individual Action Plan (IAP) which she developed at the retreat. Hajiya Zainab who represents Magama Local Government Constituency is one of the four female legislators in the state and Chairperson of the new Public Private Partnership Committee in the Niger State House of Assembly. In her early 40s, she is one of the youngest female members.

It has been her lifelong ambition to bring health care services to the doorsteps of the people of her community and reduce maternal mortality. When she attended the USAID funded Leadership Development Forum (LDF) on reproductive health and family planning organised by the DRPC in Abuja in September 2009, it was an opportunity to make her ambition a reality. At the end of the LDF, Hon Zainab Nasco developed an individual action plan (IAP) to be implemented during her tenure as a member of Niger State House of Assembly. In the preamble to her action plan she said "health is about granting survival of life at all costs, my primary goal is to provide health services to women and children in rural communities in a bid to minimise maternal mortality rate in Niger state. In her IAP, Hon Zainab proposed to expand her existing maternal health intervention by developing an outreach component.

During the first year of her tenure she used constituency funds to renovate a dilapidated maternity and children's clinic in Nasco town named after Hajiya Jummai Babangida Aliyu. After renovating the clinic she also accessed MDGs funds to equip it. When the clinic was made functional, she engaged NYSC doctors to provide services to women and children in her community. She came up with the idea of community based outreach health services, where the NYSC doctors go out to visit and support Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) and health posts in the LGA on specific days. On those days they see maternity patients, take deliveries and when necessary refer serious cases to the Maternity Clinic. Since the retreat Hon Zainab was able to leverage more funding to support doctors' travel and increase demand for

Niger State. The Agency is expected to attract counterpart funding from the Federal Government. The bill was sponsored by the Niger State Government as an Executive Bill.

Apart from the Political Executives who participated at the retreat, the Islamic scholars have focused their attention on enlightenment and improving service provision at the grass root level in implementing their IAP. Among them is Mallam Zakariyya Swalihu a preacher and Islamic scholar. He was among the scholars who went on the study tour to Egypt organized by the DRPC with support from USAID. He established two Islamic learning Centre, one is at a village called Beji, 28 km along Minna - Tegina Road in Bosso Local Government Area of Niger State and the other is

 The Chief Servant is a change agent who has expressed his indignation on the state of maternal health at every relevant forum and matched his concern with action

had discussions with the Governor of Niger State, Alhaji Muazu Aliyu Babangida who is addressed as the Chief Servant. The Secretary to the Government, Dr Yahaya Kuta Mohammed was also in attendance. The Chief Servant is a change agent who has expressed his indignation on the state of maternal health at every relevant forum and matched his concern with action. During his tenure as Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum, he mobilised his colleagues to declare that healthcare will be provided free to pregnant women and also children under the age of five. Many of them have followed up on their pledge and are offering Free Maternal and Child Healthcare (FMCH). In his state, the Chief Servant has been working with other change agents who participated in the leadership retreat. Among them are Dr Ibrahim Sule, a consultant gynaecologist and the State Commissioner of Health. He provided a background to the action taken by the participants at the retreat to work with the Executive to pass a bill that would increase funding for healthcare including reproductive health. Alhaji Abubakar Chika Adamu the Honourable Commissioner for Culture and Tourism said after the retreat, he developed interest in making primary health care centres functional. He assisted immensely in putting together the Niger State Primary Health Care Development Agency Bill which was passed by the Niger State House of Assembly on Tuesday, 8 December 2009. The Chief Servant assented to the bill on Friday, 14 December 2009. The bill established the Niger State Primary Health Care Development Agency to complement the roles that the Federal Government and Local Governments in Niger State are already playing with respect to primary health care delivery in

at Sauka Ka Huta in Minna. Each of the schools has 100 married women as students.

Subjects such as Qur'an, hadith and reproductive health are discussed. There is a Welfare Committee charged with two responsibilities for health campaign and education and also at the other centre. He said 'the study tour was very useful and I learnt a lot of things that I did not know from the presentations made by learned scholars. Leadership development and child spacing were the major focus of the presentations and we were satisfied with the outcome because the scholars based their presentations on the Quran and hadith.'

Imam Abdulrahman Muhammad Bello is also an Islamic scholar who said has been influenced by the information he received during the DRPC organized LDP RH in Gusau. He was touched by the video clips that were shown which brought vividly to participants the suffering of pregnant women before and after birth. As a result, he resolved to raise awareness on what the community can do to alleviate the suffering of women during pregnancy and childbirth. He embarked on two programmes: enlightenment campaign and talk shows. The enlightenment campaign is being carried out at a mosque located behind Bahago Plaza, Tunga, Minna. Another pace setter is the Chief Imam of the Federal University of Technology FUT Imam Bashir Ahmad Usman who has been holding series of lectures on reproductive health, maternal health and family planning at the FUT, Minna Central Mosque every Saturdays and Sundays and works with Muslim youth groups on campus. Space constraints make it impossible to provide details of the excellent work done by these change agents.

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# INTERNATIONAL

## Beijing promises 'constructive' role in African Great Lakes

SENIOR Chinese official Zhai Jun told Rwanda's President Paul Kagame in talks that Beijing is ready to play a wider role in regional security, Radio Rwanda reported yesterday.

"As a permanent member of the UN security council, China is ready to play a constructive role

in promoting sustainable stability and security in the Great Lakes region," said Zhai, an assistant foreign minister.

Relations between the countries in the region and notably between Rwanda and neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have been

strained for much of the past 15 years, ever since the perpetrators of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda fled into DRC and formed armed groups based there. Since last year Rwanda and DRC have mended ties.

"We highly appreciate the contribution of Rwanda to the proc-

ess aimed at bringing peace to the region," Zhai said, after meeting with Kagame on bilateral relations and regional questions.

China is better known in the region for infrastructure and construction projects than as a peace broker.

Chinese companies have been

active in Rwanda since the 1970s and have built most of the country's road network as well as the national football stadium. Currently Chinese companies are building a vast convention centre in the capital and a hotel that is poised to become Rwanda's biggest.



PRESIDENT Ernest Koroma of Sierra Leone

## S/Leone president slams government corruption

SIERRA Leone President Ernest Koroma took aim at several of his cabinet ministers yesterday over corruption allegations, warning they faced the sack if they continued to undermine his government.

Koroma called a special meeting to reprimand his ministers of justice, internal affairs and presidential affairs as well as the nation's police chief, the mayor of the capital Freetown and other officials.

"I am warning all. Any minister or institution caught will be

dealt with accordingly not only by losing the job, but we will take the appropriate legal action for betraying the confidence of the people."

He told the carpeted officials that he was "not satisfied with the way and manner" in which they conducted their affairs, according to a statement he issued after the meeting.

"There seems to be some collaboration within these institutions to undermine the effort of my government."

Koroma said he has evidence

that corrupt officials were providing Sierra Leonean passports to African foreigners for between 250 to 500 US Dollars or anyone of Middle Eastern origin for up to 1,500 dollars.

"These actions could expose Sierra Leone to being branded a terrorist country," the president said.

More generally, he said customs officials and police worked together to "fleece the state" by abusing duty-free waivers, and energy authority officials allowed people to have illegal connections

so they could avoid paying bills.

"This year will be a year with a difference. It will not be business as usual. We must change the direction of this country.

The Sierra Leone public has had enough," said Koroma. Sierra Leone is slowly making progress against corruption which has plagued the nation, deterring investment after a bloody 10-year civil war which ended in 2002.

A tougher stance by the Anti-Corruption Commission has led to several high-ranking officials being axed.

## Lubanga's lawyer calls 'child soldiers' liars

WITNESSES lied when they claimed to have been recruited as child soldiers by Congolese warlord Thomas Lubanga's forces, his lawyer told the International Criminal Court yesterday.

"All the individuals presented as child soldiers, as well as their parents in some cases, deliberately lied before this court," Lubanga's lawyer Catherine Mabilie told the judges presiding over Lubanga's war crimes trial. "Six of them were never child soldiers, the seventh lied about his age and the conditions in which he enrolled, and the eighth never belonged to the UPC (Lubanga's Union of Congolese Patriots)." This false testimony was fabricated "with the collaboration of the office of the prosecutor," Mabilie charged. Lubanga, 49, went on trial a year ago charged with war crimes for using children under the age of 15 to fight for his militia during the 1997-2002 civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He pleaded not guilty.

Mabilie said many of the witnesses were "encouraged to lie" about their age, their parents' names and the schools they attended "so that it would be more difficult to verify the information relating to them."

"How can judges carry out their role, that is to say seeking out and establishing the truth, if the testimony that they have heard is the result of concerted efforts to deceive them?" Lubanga, his lawyer said, had "played no active role in the creation of the UPC military forces, and in no way did he take part deliberately in a common plan to recruit minors."

"Thomas Lubanga, during the few months where he did have responsibilities, did all he could to demobilise the minors who were present." Lubanga's defence got under way behind closed doors in the ICC yesterday with the testimony of the first witness.

Prosecutors allege that Lubanga's militia abducted children as young as 11 from their homes, schools and football fields and took them to military training camps where they were beaten and drugged.

## Zimbabwe 'won't honour regional court's land ruling'

A Zimbabwe high court has rejected a southern African court's ruling that blocked the government's move to resettle blacks on more than 70 white-owned farms, state media said yesterday.

"The registration and consequent enforcement of that judgment would be fundamentally

contrary to the public policy of this country," the Herald newspaper said, citing a judgment by Justice Bharat Patel. The Namibia-based tribunal of the Southern African Development Community ruled in 2008 that the white farmers could keep their land because the scheme amounted to racial discrimination.

Zimbabwe's government rejected the ruling, so the farmers turned to a Harare court to try to enforce the judgement. "In effect, the enforcement of the decision... would ultimately necessitate the government having to reverse all the land acquisitions that have taken place since 2000," Patel said in the 2008

judgement. Zimbabwe embarked on controversial land reforms in 2000 seizing white-owned farms in what President Robert Mugabe said was a way to correct colonial-era inequities. But critics blame the often violent land reforms for a dramatic drop in food production in the former regional breadbasket.

# International

## Boats scour sea for Beirut crash black boxes

INTERNATIONAL ships scanned Lebanon's coast for the black boxes and wreckage of an Ethiopian Airlines jet yesterday as DNA tests helped identify several victims, including two children whose remains were pulled from the sea.

The plane went down early Monday just minutes after take-off from Beirut in a fierce storm. All 90 people on board were feared dead, but only some bodies have been found so far.

Weather experts said lightning had struck in the plane's path around the time of the deadly crash, although it was too early to tell what caused the disaster.

The Lebanese army and witnesses reported the plane was in flames as it crashed.

At Beirut's government hospital, health officials handed over to families the remains of two victims who were identified using DNA, Health Minister Mohammed Jawad Khalife said.

The family members climbed into ambulances carrying the coffins and sped away.

## Saudis drive Yemeni rebels out of border region

SAUDI forces have driven Yemeni rebels out of the border region between the two countries, a top Saudi defense official said yesterday, suggesting that the three month conflict along the mountainous frontier may be winding down.

The announcement by Assistant Defense Minister Prince Khaled bin Sultan came a day after the rebels themselves announced a unilateral cease-fire.

Yemen's Hawthi rebels have been battling their own government since 2004 over neglect and discrimination, but when they crossed the border and killed two guards in November, Saudi Arabia launched a massive counteroffensive using artillery and airpower.

Speaking to reporters in the southern city of Jazan, Prince Khaled said most of the 133 Saudi soldiers killed in the battles died in the fierce fighting during the first three weeks of the offensive against a string of strategic mountains on the border.

Saudi forces captured some 1,500 Yemenis during the course of the conflict, though some were just smugglers rather than rebel fighters, Prince Khaled added.

He was skeptical of the rebel cease-fire, saying snipers were still operating in some areas. "We

have to know they are serious," he said.

The prince said the rebels must pull out of the mountains, retreat back 6 miles (10 kilometers), and return six missing Saudi soldiers. He said the Yemeni army would have to be present along the border for the conflict to be over.

The high death toll among Saudi soldiers underscores the ferocity of the fighting with the poorly armed Yemeni Hawthi rebels, who have been battling their own government intermittently for the last five years.

The rebels have gained a reputation for being cunning adver-

saries, taking full advantage of the rugged mountainous terrain of their homes in northern Yemen to fight a guerrilla war.

The Saudis relied on artillery and air power to defeat the rebels. Khaled called it an "unconventional war with mountain guerrillas."



SAUDI soldiers look out from Mt. Doud, yesterday, a high strategic position in the southern Saudi province of Jizan, near the border with Yemen.

## GOVERNOR MAMMAN ALI:

### One Year Remembrance

You are fondly remembered today for your exemplary leadership and wonderful impact on Yobe State and beyond.

A seasoned Administrator, Visionary leader and Defender of Public Interest, who partnered with SPIDEL while he was alive.

May God grant you eternal rest.

Signed:

**Chief J-K Gadzama, MFR, SAN, FCI Arb.**  
(Chairman)

**Mr. Victor Nwakasi, Esq.**  
(Secretary)

SPIDEL (Nigerian Bar Association's Section on Public Interest and Development Law)



**SENATOR MAMMAN ALI**  
Former Governor, Yobe State

## International

### Brazil's president gets hero's welcome at Social Forum

BRAZIL'S first working-class president got a hero's welcome at the World Social Forum, wowing 10,000 leftists with a vow to reproach the planet's business titans for causing the global meltdown when he meets with them this week at a Swiss ski resort.

Former radical union leader Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva — known almost everywhere as Lula — was greeted like a rock star by activists in a sports stadium chanting "Lula, Lula, the warrior of the Brazilian people!"

He got more cheers after promising to scold world leaders and bankers at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and to tell them the free market policies they have espoused for decades were to blame for the worldwide financial crunch.

"The financial system can't parade itself as a good example, because it ended up provoking the biggest crisis in recent years," said Silva, who left Brazil yesterday night for Davos, where he will become the first head of state to receive the economic forum's new "Global Statesmanship Award."

Silva said that the Davos gathering won't have as much glamour as it did when he first attended it just after his inauguration in 2003. Now, he said, developing nations like Brazil only recently viewed as second-class countries will have a strong hand in setting a new world economic order.

While appearances by celebrities such as Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have dropped off this year at Davos, organizers say overall attendance remains the same at about 2,500.

Also, given Silva's statesmanship prize and the growing role of nations such as China and India in the global economy, this year's forum is viewed by most as including a greater variety of world views than ever.

As a storied leftist union leader, Silva was a popular fixture at the World Social Forum — started in Porto Alegre a decade ago as a counterpoint to the yearly gathering of the business and political elite at the World Economic Forum.

Silva has angered some activists by turning to the center since being elected president and by embracing free-market economic policies loathed by the forum's leftists, but he also spent heavily on social programs that have lifted millions of out of poverty. Brazil is also riding an unprecedented economic boom.

### UK, Dublin offer compromise plan for N/Ireland



BROWN and Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen had presented rival Catholic and Protestant leaders with last-ditch proposals designed to keep their power-sharing government from unraveling.

THE prime ministers of Britain and Ireland presented a compromise plan yesterday to keep Northern Ireland's fractious politicians from breaking up their Catholic-Protestant government, but neither side accepted the deal.

Gordon Brown of Britain and Brian Cowen of Ireland ended their three-day diplomatic mission claiming to have dramatically narrowed the divisions between the Irish Catholics of Sinn Fein and the British Protestants of the Democratic Unionist Party. Yet Sinn Fein remained poised to withdraw from the power-sharing

coalition and bring it crashing down.

Both premiers held out hope the rivals could keep talking and fine-tune their proposals over the next two days. "We believe that we have produced a pathway to an agreement," Brown said with Cowen at his side.

"I don't think we've failed. I think we've made enormous progress," Brown said. "On Monday, quite frankly, parties were not talking to each other."

However, neither Sinn Fein nor the Democratic Unionists sounded close to achieving a deal

as the prime ministers departed for London and Dublin. The two local parties blamed each other for making impossible demands.

The premiers hurried to Northern Ireland on Monday in fear that the 2 1/2-year-old coalition was on the brink of collapse. Sinn Fein warned it was about to withdraw following a long dispute over when the coalition would take charge of the province's police and justice system from Britain.

Sinn Fein, Britain, Ireland and the United States all wanted the move to happen by 2008. But many Protestants remain upset

over the prospect that former IRA commanders in Sinn Fein — men involved in killing police officers and judges — would have any role now in overseeing law and order.

Democratic Unionist leader Peter Robinson said his party felt bullied by Sinn Fein threats to collapse their coalition.

"(We) will not accept any second-rate deal simply to get across the line to suit someone else's deadline," Robinson said. "If others choose to walk away, then I believe that the wrath of the community will be upon them for doing that."

## Sri Lankan challenger rejects president's poll win

SRI Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa won a resounding reelection victory yesterday, beating back a challenge from his former army chief, who rejected the official results and said he feared arrest as troops surrounded his hotel. The capital was tense even as people hit the streets in celebration, setting off fireworks, waving Sri Lankan flags and holding up posters of Rajapaksa. Policemen at intersections smiled and waved at the revelers.

The election commission declared Rajapaksa the winner with 57.8 percent of the vote to Sarath Fonseka's 40 percent. The president now must rebuild the

country after last year's successful offensive to destroy the Tamil Tiger separatists after 25 years of conflict. "After this election, everyone should now join together in building the country," Rajapaksa said.

In an apparent effort to dispel the acrimony of the campaign, he added: "From today onward, I am the president of everyone, whether they voted for me or not."

But Fonseka refused to accept the results and told the electoral commission in a letter that he would initiate legal proceedings to have the vote annulled.

In the letter, he accused Rajapaksa of using the state media

to attack him, of misappropriating public funds for his campaign and of preventing displaced minority Tamils, whose support the opposition candidate was counting on, from voting. The distraught election commissioner, Dayanada Dissanayake, appeared to agree. He said the state media violated guidelines he had crafted, government institutions behaved in a way that embarrassed him, and he pleaded to be allowed to resign his post.

"I request to be released," he said just before he announced the results. "I cannot bear this anymore." As the returns came in, troops surrounded the Cinnamon

Lake Hotel after about 400 people, including alleged army deserters, gathered inside with Fonseka, military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said. The troops remained there throughout the day.

"We don't know what's their motive, and as a protective measure we have deployed troops around the hotel, and people who go in and come out are being checked," Nanayakkara told The Associated Press. He said there were no plans to arrest Fonseka.

But, in a separate letter to the election commission, Fonseka said the troops were preventing him from leaving.

# HERE WE GO AGAIN... AS GOOD TRIUMPHS OVER EVIL!

**PDP disowns Obasanjo over call for President's resignation**  
Olusola Fabiyi, Abuja

**Falana faults Obasanjo's stance on Yar'Adua's health**  
PRESIDENT West African Bar Association, Mr. Femi Falana, has faulted former President Obasanjo's stance on Umaru Yar'Adua's health.

**More knocks for Obasanjo over speech**  
PDP, ANPP, AC descend on ex-President



## PDP tackles former President: Obasanjo is ridiculous

By Muldeen Olaniji

THE ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday described the Chairman of its own Board of Trustees (BOT) Chief Olusegun Obasanjo as an insincere man and a subject of ridicule over his call last week on President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua to resign from office

due to ill-health. Obasanjo had during the 7th Trust Annual Dialogue held in Abuja last Thursday, advised ailing President Yar'Adua to consider "taking the path of honour and the path of morality" by resigning from his office. He also berated the performance of the Federal Government in the power

sector since Yar'Adua took over, and he denied that he imposed a sick man on the nation as president in 2007. Speaking in Abuja yesterday, PDP's National Publicity Secretary Prof. Rufai Ahmed Alkali said "General Obasanjo has been a subject of ridicule despite his pre-eminent position in society is unfortunate and indeed a great disservice to all the accolades he has garnered for himself over the years. It is even worse that the odium he currently faces from friends and foes alike is self-inflicted because his comments are generally perceived as unwarranted and an insincere attempt at self-examination."

Continued on page 5

## Yar'Adua's Health: PDP, AC Query Obasanjo's Motives

More knocks for the former President... From Chuku Okocha... He said "If you take up an assignment, a job, should you do it, and then over time you find out it's not yours, you should not have accepted it."

### The return of Obasanjo

Lawan Muhammad Lawal

Recent events have made me feel sorry for this country. Politicians are now running better shelter in search of a solution to the problem they consciously created and the big culprit is chief (General) Mathew Okikeola Aremu Obasanjo. The man was clapping the other day when journalists accosted him at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport, Lagos and sought for his comment on the lingering health crisis of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua who is now being "incarcerated" and surrounded by selfish political

REUBEN ABATI

THE GUARDIAN CROSSROADS SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2010

As Obasanjo Ditches Yar'Adua

## Yar'Adua: Obasanjo Is Evil, Deceitful - Kalu, Balarabe, Bafarawa, ANPP

By ADEYEMUN BALOGUN president as the most dishonest not been seeing that the

### Presidential Crisis Why North Suspects Obasanjo's Motives

He's Working for Jonathan, Say Yar'Adua's Men

### Yar'adua More knocks for OBJ

- He has lost focus -PDP
- He is not saying the truth -AC
- His call lacks moral grounds -Yakassal

From Leon Uigbe, Kuse Odehemi and Kola Oyelowo

### Obasanjo, a confusionist - AYF

Olusola Fabiyi, Abuja declared that Obasanjo stood out as the most ungrateful human being on earth because 'no African has been blessed like him but he has been the... The statement reads in part, "It has become necessary (to attack Obasanjo) because some of the leaders have refused to take the path of honour to enrich the country's institutions (that)

THIS DAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2010 PRICE: N200

Missile Bafarawa to Obasanjo Obasanjo should not take Nigerians for granted. What he should do is to go to Saudi Arabia and collect a letter of resignation

Bin Laden thr... A 'SAVE NIGERIA PROJECT' ENLIGHTENMENT SERIES

## Job vacancies



Since 1971, Family Health International (FHI) has been at the forefront of public health research and intervention programs in the developing countries. In collaboration with national governments, local communities and leading research institutions, FHI delivers services and conducts research in HIV/AIDS, other infectious diseases and reproductive health to improve the lives and well-being of some of the world's most vulnerable populations. In Nigeria, FHI is engaged in providing public health services and implementing programs in HIV/AIDS, TB, reproductive health, malaria, and health systems strengthening in partnership with the Government of Nigeria. To strengthen our operations in the country, we are seeking qualified candidates for the following positions:

Position title	No. required	Location(s)
<b>Medical Services Department</b>		
Clinical Services Officer	1	Sokoto Zone
<b>Health Policy and Systems Management Department</b>		
Community Health Specialist	1	Kano Zone
Community Mobile Assistant	2	FCT Zone
<b>Communications Department</b>		
Associate Director, Strategic Behavioral Communication	1	Country Office, Abuja
Graphic/Web Designer	1	Country Office, Abuja
<b>Program Management Department</b>		
Senior Programs Officer	1	Anambra Zone
<b>Shared Services Department</b>		
Accountant	1	Country Office, Abuja

### Clinical Services Officer

With the Senior Medical Services Officer, the Clinical Services Officer will provide technical and programmatic support to implement high quality care and support activities with primary focus on clinical management of HIV/AIDS and prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV/AIDS at the zonal and state levels.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Provide day-to-day technical and programmatic support related to clinical management of HIV/AIDS at the facility level guided by strategies and approaches related to the implementation programs
- With the Senior Medical Service Officer, coordinate the implementation of components related to clinical management of HIV/AIDS and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS at the facility level
- Provide technical assistance in HIV/AIDS clinical management capacity building and PMTCT at the facility level
- Contribute to the development of lessons learnt from programs and projects related to clinical management of HIV/AIDS and PMTCT and apply these lessons to modify existing programs and improve the design of new programs
- Assist in strengthening a system of reporting on

program progress against stated objectives and monitoring and evaluation frameworks

- Contribute to the development of program strategies, subproject documents, work plans and budgets
- Assist in the provision of programmatic assistance to local partners in programming HIV/AIDS/STI activities
- Remain informed of current programs in the field of clinical management of HIV/AIDS and related development by reviewing current literature and staying alert to any implication of such experience and research to the project implementation especially the clinical management of HIV/AIDS and PMTCT at the facility level

#### Minimum Requirements

- MBBS/MD with 1-3 years experience in clinical care with a sound understanding of HIV/AIDS
- 2-3 years experience in the provision of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in resource-constrained settings
- Postgraduate degree in public health is desirable
- Familiarity with the Nigerian public sector health system and NGOs and CBOs will be an advantage

### Community Health Specialist

The Community Health Specialist will provide technical assistance in the design, implementation, and evaluation



## Job vacancies cont'd.

on critical issues in FHI Nigeria's thematic areas in terms of service delivery and its design

- Manage and quality-control the output of all SBC materials utilized by FHI Nigeria
- With the Zonal Managers and technical leads develop work plans in SBC for all disease programs
- In coordination with the Associate Director Technical Documentation and Knowledge Management, develop and maintain good relations with the Nigeria-based media at state and national levels
- In coordination with the Associate Director Technical Documentation and Knowledge Management identify cost-effective media service providers for the commissioning of SBC materials necessary for zonal programs
- Build the capacity of technical and program staff in the country and zonal offices on SBC and its applications in disease programs, including community mobilization for demand creation and treatment adherence
- Review job descriptions for SBC officers and set targets for achievements and outputs for each zone and for the country office
- In coordination with the Associate Director Technical Documentation and Knowledge Management provide training, capacity building and quality control to SBC staff at the zonal and country offices in documenting programs and events
- Provide technical capacity building to country office SBC Department and zonal SBC officers in SBC skill areas
- Identify with technical leads gaps in SBC materials for all disease programs
- Identify SBC materials from other countries (e.g. South Africa, Thailand, etc) which can be adapted for the Nigerian context
- Provide regular SBC status analysis to GHAIN senior management
- Ensure that all FHI SBC activities conform to FHI's policy and guidelines on ethical conduct
- In coordination with the Director of Programs Management and Zonal Managers assist in the identification of implementing agencies for SBC-related activities in Nigeria
- Participate in the initiation, design, and monitoring of project activities, including sub-agreements and budgets

### Minimum Requirements

- Master's degree (plus 7-9 years) or B.Sc. (plus 9-11 years) in any subject
- At least 5 years working experience in a similar position
- Demonstrated ability to manage external and internal communications in a large complex health-related project
- Ability to travel within Nigeria at least 25% of work time

### Graphic/Web Designer

The Graphic/Web Designer, under the supervision of the Strategic Communications Manager, will be responsible for designing, producing and maintaining various organizational websites and contributing to the overall web communications strategy and special projects. S/he will develop visual concepts and designs that reflect business and creative requirements.

### Web Designing Responsibilities

- Create and design prototypes, including graphic design, site navigation, and layout of content, for websites
- Build websites using technologies that conform to international standards and make sure that they are universally accessible
- Ensure that the layout of the web content is accessible and logical and recommend improvements if necessary
- Add new functionalities, upgrades, debugging and enhancements for web applications
- Participate in the preparation of systems requirements and design specifications for web-enabled solutions
- Perform maintenance and updates to existing websites
- Provide training on maintenance and update procedures on web content management
- Contribute to the overall development of the web communications strategy of the organization

### Graphics Designing Responsibilities

- Design/create graphics to meet specific promotional needs such as packaging, displays or logos
- Create visual concepts that match the content and image that fit into the organization's image
- Determine the size and arrangement of illustrative material and select style and size
- Study illustrations and photographs to plan presentation of materials, products or services
- Draw and print charts, graphs, illustrations and other artwork using the computer
- Develop negatives and prints to produce layout photographs, using negative and print developing equipment and tools
- Review final layouts and suggest improvements as needed

### Minimum Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in communications, graphic design, publishing or other discipline related to the primary responsibilities
- Minimum of 5 years experience (possession of a Masters degree with 3 years experience will be considered) with 2 years experience in web design
- Minimum of one year experience in producing standards-compliant cross browser websites using Adobe CS4 Web Premium software suite
- Experience working in a communications/public



## Job vacancies cont'd.

on critical issues in FHI Nigeria's thematic areas in terms of service delivery and its design

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- Review job descriptions for SBC officers and set targets for achievements and outputs for each zone and for the country office
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- Provide technical capacity building to country office SBC Department and zonal SBC officers in SBC skill areas
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- Review final layouts and suggest improvements as needed

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- Bachelor's degree in communications, graphic design, publishing or other discipline related to the primary responsibilities
- Minimum of 5 years experience (possession of a Masters degree with 3 years experience will be considered) with 2 years experience in web design
- Minimum of one year experience in producing standards-compliant cross browser websites using Adobe CS4 Web Premium software suite
- Experience working in a communications/public



## Job vacancies cont'd.

relations environment, particularly in an NGO setting will be an advantage

### Senior Program Officer

Under the supervision of the Zonal Manager, provide support to and coordination in program planning, design, review and the monitoring of project activities to the country and field offices.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Work with the Zonal Manager to provide support to and coordinate FHI Nigeria activities within USAID and PEPFAR guidelines and regulations
- Assist in strengthening a system of reporting on program progress against stated objectives and monitoring and evaluation frameworks
- Assist the Zonal Manager in the development of program strategies, sub-project documents, work plans and budgets
- Supervise the work of the Program Officer and State M&E Officer
- Assist the Zonal Manager in the provision of programmatic assistance to local FHI partners in programming HIV/AIDS/STI activities
- Work with the Zonal Manager to oversee technical capacity building activities at the national, state and local government levels and for local implementing agencies
- Remain informed on current programs and research in the STI/HIV field
- Hone skills by working closely with international prevention specialists

#### Minimum Requirements

- Masters degree in public health or the behavioral sciences with 5-7 years experience (or B.Sc. with 7-9 years)
- Minimum of 5 years in HIV/AIDS programming
- Experience working with NGOs and CBOs
- Candidates with Bachelor's degree and additional experience will be considered
- Strong knowledge of HIV/AIDS programming and of project monitoring

### Accountant

Under the direction of the Finance Manager, the Accountant shall assume accounting responsibilities in the national office and ensure compliance with the contractual financial requirements of FHI.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Assist the Finance Manager in ensuring accurate keeping of all books of account for the project, including checking account, equipment and supply registers and all accounting records
- Works with the Finance Manager to lead the preparation of monthly and annual financial reports, including financial status of sub-projects account

activities with accompanying bank documentation and receipts

- Assist the Finance Manager in monitoring subproject budgets in accordance with approved work plan activities
- Provide support for accounting workflow in the review and audit of national office and sub-recipient reports for reimbursement of expenditures
- Work with the Finance Manager to analyze, develop, and monitor accounting/fiscal control procedures and program budgets including monitoring cash flows and requesting for fund transfers from FHI headquarters
- Prepare financial reports to monitor and track obligations and expenditures

#### Minimum Requirements

- University degree in accounting, finance, business administration or its recognized equivalent
- CPA, ACA, ACCA or recognized equivalent
- 3-5 years experience in accounting related to NGOs and community level programs, with increasing responsibility
- Familiarity with USAID-funded programs and non-governmental organizations in Nigeria

#### Method of Application

Interested candidates should forward their suitability statement (application) and resume (CV) as a single MS Word document within 10 days from the date of this publication to:

[Medservicesjobs@ghain.org](mailto:Medservicesjobs@ghain.org) for Medical Services Department vacancy

[Commsjobs@ghain.org](mailto:Commsjobs@ghain.org) for Communications Department vacancies

[PMjobs@ghain.org](mailto:PMjobs@ghain.org) for Program Management Department vacancy

[Healthpolicyjobs@ghain.org](mailto:Healthpolicyjobs@ghain.org) for Health Policy and Systems Management Department vacancies

[Sharedservicesjobs@ghain.org](mailto:Sharedservicesjobs@ghain.org) for Shared Services Department vacancy

*Only applications sent electronically (i.e. by e-mail) with the job title and location clearly indicated as the subject of the mail will be considered, and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.*

Please do NOT send more than one application. Failure to follow these instructions will lead to automatic disqualification.

**DISCLAIMER:** Family Health International (FHI) does not test/interview candidates for a fee and all our tests/interviews are conducted in the country office Abuja or our zonal offices.

**IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT  
HOLDEN AT LAGOS, NIGERIA**

**SUIT NO. FHC/L/CS/57/2010**

**BETWEEN:**

**THE CHAIRMAN, ECONOMIC AND  
FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION ..... PLAINTIFF**

**AND**

**DR. (MRS) CECILIA IBRU ..... DEFENDANT**

**ORDER**

**UPON THIS MOTION EX-PARTE dated and**

**filed on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010; Praying the  
Court for the following Orders:-**

- 1. An ex parte Order restraining:**
  - 1.1 Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, by herself, or directly or indirectly, or**
  - 1.2 The said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru through (i) any other persons, (whether natural or non-natural), in particular, but limitation, the parties listed in Schedule A hereof, (ii) her family, office, trustees, trust bodies, corporations, privies, relatives, solicitors, servants, associates, attorneys or agents, (iii) partnerships, firms, joint ventures, or companies she owns, directs or controls, (including in particular companies listed in Schedule B hereof) and**



**A. O. ADARINWA  
PRESIDING JUDGE**

**A. A. SANYAOLU (SR)  
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CHIEF REGISTRAR  
FEDERAL HIGH COURT  
LAGOS.**

1.3 any of the persons listed in paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 above acting alone, jointly or severally, (all parties listed in paragraphs 1.1 to this 1.3, hereinafter described as 'Receivers');

From removing, alienating, disposing of, dealing with or diminishing the value of assets, proceeds of economic and financial crimes, or otherwise held or owned by the Receivers, that are: (a) in the name of the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, or (b) held indirectly, by, or for the benefit, or on behalf, of Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru; or (c) represented by interest in such assets held by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru legally, beneficially or otherwise, or (d) solely or jointly held or owned by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, or (e) legally or beneficially held, owned or controlled by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, (f) such that the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru has power, directly or indirectly, to dispose of or deal with, as if it were her own, or (g) owned, held or controlled by Receivers, (whether or not), at the pleasure, direct or indirect instructions of the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, and (h) located within the jurisdiction of this Court in Nigeria, or elsewhere in the world, (including without limitation known or traced assets listed in Exhibit EFCC04 to the Affidavit in Support of the Ex-parte Originating Motion herein), (all assets listed in items (a) to (h) above, hereinafter described as 'Property') -

to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,039,009.00 (Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Billion Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million, Thirty seven Thousand and Nine Naira).

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2. An ex parte Order, restraining : (a) the said Dr. (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru, directly or indirectly, or through the means enumerated in sub paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3 in prayer I above, (without prejudice to, and to the extent not covered by, the orders made on the Originating Motion herein), and (b) the Receivers - from giving instructions or directions, for the withdrawal from, transfer out of, alienating, disposing of, dealing with, or diminishing the value of that part of the Property, in the form of money kept in all bank accounts in Nigeria and worldwide, (including without limitation accounts mentioned in Schedule C hereof) - to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,037,009.00 (Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million, Thirty Seven Thousand and Nine Naira).

3. An ex parte Order restraining (a) the said Dr. (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru, (without prejudice to, and to the extent not covered by, the orders made on the Originating Motion herein), by herself, directly or indirectly, or through the means enumerated in sub paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3 in prayer 1 above, and (b) (the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru through or by) the Receivers - from giving instructions or directions for the sale, transfer, alienation, disposal, dealing with or diminution of the value of that part of the Property comprising shares, stocks and other forms of securities held or kept by: (i) the Central Securities Clearing Systems in Nigeria, or (ii) any custodian, depository, stockbroker, registrar, company secretary, nominee, trustee or director, in Nigeria, or anywhere in the world, (in particular with parties named in Schedule D hereof), (aa) whether or not in her own name, or (bb) in the

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name of the Receivers, or (cc) whether solely or jointly owned by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru and any, some or all of the Receivers, or (dd) whether held directly, indirectly or for the benefit said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru - to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,037,009.00 (Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Billion Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million Thirty Seven Thousand and Nine Naira.)

4. An ex parte Order made consequent upon the first to third prayers hereof be subject to an allowance for such reasonable sums for the living expenses and obtaining and retaining legal advisers up to a maximum sum of N5, 000,000 per month provided such permitted withdrawals will not deplete or diminish or reduce the aggregate value of the Property below the sum of N399, 815,037,009.00 until conclusion of prosecution.

5. An ex parte Order directing that the orders made consequent upon the first to fourth prayers above subsist till the final determination of the criminal charges against the said Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru, (and her accomplices).

6. An ex parte Order directing and compelling the said Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru and the Receivers to provide, on oath, or otherwise, all information, (including name, nature, type, location and source of funding), about the Property.

7. An ex parte Order directing service of the orders made herein on parties affected thereby, (including in particular, the persons listed in Schedules A, B and D), by way of advertisement in newspapers.

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LAGOS

FOR SUCH FURTHER ORDER OR ORDERS as this Honourable Court may deem fit to make in the circumstances.

AND UPON READING through the Affidavit

in Support, Affidavit of Urgency sworn to by Wali Aliyu, male, officer of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Exhibits attached thereto all dated and filed at the Court Registry, Lagos.

AND AFTER HEARING Dr. O. Ajayi SAN

(with him Miss D. Babalola and B. Makanjuola Esq.) of Counsel for the Applicant move in terms of the Motion Paper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:-

1. That Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, by herself, or directly or indirectly, or through (i) any other persons, (whether natural or non-natural), in particular, but limitation, the parties listed in Schedule A hereof, (ii) her family, office, trustees, trust bodies, corporations, privies, relatives, solicitors, servants, associates, attorneys or agents, (iii) partnerships, firms, joint ventures, or companies she owns, directs or controls, (including in particular companies listed in Schedule B hereof) and any of the persons listed in paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 above acting alone, jointly or severally, (all parties listed in paragraphs 1.1 to this 1.3, hereinafter described as 'Receivers'); are hereby restrained From removing, alienating, disposing of, dealing with or

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diminishing the value of assets, proceeds of economic and financial crimes, or otherwise held or owned by the Receivers, that are: (a) in the name of the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, or (b) held indirectly, by, or for the benefit, or on behalf, of Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru; or (c) represented by interest in such assets held by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru legally, beneficially or otherwise, or (d) solely or jointly held or owned by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, or (e) legally or beneficially held, owned or controlled by the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, (f) such that the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru has power, directly or indirectly, to dispose of or deal with, as if it were her own, or (g) owned, held or controlled by Receivers, (whether or not), at the pleasure, direct or indirect instructions of the said Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, and (h) located within the jurisdiction of this Court in Nigeria, or elsewhere in the world, (including without limitation known or traced assets listed in Exhibit EFCC04 to the Affidavit in Support of the Ex-parte Originating Motion herein), (all assets listed in items (a) to (h) above, hereinafter described as 'Property') - to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,039,009.00 (Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Billion Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million, Thirty seven Thousand and Nine Naira).

2. That Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru, directly or indirectly or indirectly, or through the means enumerated in sub-paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3 in prayer 1 above, (without prejudice to, and to the extent not covered by, the orders made on the Originating Motion herein), and (b) the Receivers are hereby restrained from giving instructions or directions, for the withdrawal

Continued from previous page...

from , transfer out of, alienating, disposing of, dealing with, or diminishing the value of that part of the Property, in the form of money kept in all bank accounts in Nigeria and worldwide, (including without limitation accounts mentioned in Schedule C hereof) - to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,037,009.00 (Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Billion, Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million, Thirty Seven Thousand and Nine Naira).

3. That Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru, (without prejudice to, and to the extent not covered by, the orders made on the Originating Motion herein), by herself, directly or indirectly, or through the means enumerated in sub paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3 in prayer 1 above, and (b) through or by the Receivers are hereby restrained from giving instructions or directions for the sale, transfer, alienation, disposal, dealing with or diminution of the value of that part of the Property comprising shares, stocks and other forms of securities held or kept by: (i) the Central Securities Clearing Systems in Nigeria, or (ii) any custodian, depository, stockbroker, registrar, company secretary, nominee, trustee or director, in Nigeria, or anywhere in the world, (in particular with parties named in Schedule D hereof), (aa) whether or not in her own name, or (bb) in the name of the Receivers, or (cc) whether solely or jointly owned by the said Dr. (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru and any, some or all of the Receivers, or (dd) whether held directly, indirectly or for the benefit said Dr. (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru - to the extent not covered by the orders given on the Originating Motion herein, for up to the amount of N399,815,037,009.00. (Three Hundred and Ninety

Nine Billion Eight Hundred and Fifteen Million Thirty Seven Thousand and Nine Naira.)

4. That the Orders made consequent upon the first to third prayers hereof be subject to an allowance for such reasonable sums for the living expenses and obtaining and retaining legal advisers up to a maximum sum of N5, 000,000 per month provided such permitted withdrawals will not deplete or diminish or reduce the aggregate value of the Property below the sum of N399, 815,037,009.00 until conclusion of prosecution.

5. That the Orders made consequent upon the first to fourth prayers above subsists till the final determination of the criminal charges against the said Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru, (and her accomplices).

6. That Order is made directing and compelling the said Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Ibru and the Receivers to provide, on oath, or otherwise, all information, (including name, nature, type, location and source of funding), about the Property.

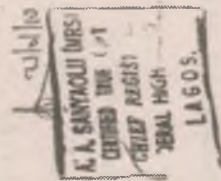
7. That Order is made directing service of the orders made herein on parties affected thereby, (including in particular, the persons listed in Schedules A, B and D), by way of advertisement in newspapers.

8. That the order shall be notified to the Honourable Chief Judge who is trying the Respondent in the subsisting criminal case.

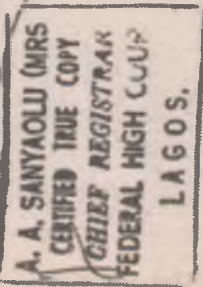
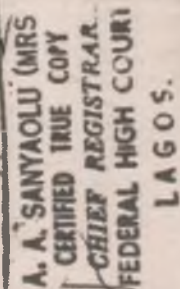
ISSUED AT LAGOS, UNDER THE SEAL OF THE COURT AND THE HAND OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE THIS 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2010

*Asimade*  
ASHADA BABATUNDE M.  
REGISTRAR

*S.S. Babatunde*  
*R. Babatunde*  
*21/1/10*



*pd*  
*21/1/10*



Continued from previous page...

## SCHEDULE A: LIST OF NATURAL RECEIVERS

1. Dr (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru
2. Mr. Oboden Valentine Ibru
3. Mr. Obaru Ibru
4. Mr. Kenneth Ibru
5. Mr. Mamemo Ibru
6. Ms. Edesiri Onatejirghene Ibru
7. Ms. Janet Osio Ibru
8. Ms. Hirut M. Ibru
9. Mrs Vivi Oduvesiri Aleksander (Nee Ibru)
10. Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Ibru
11. Mr. Stankov Aleksandar
12. Mr. Dele Oye
13. Mrs Nanashetu Abdullahi (a.k.a. Nana Beddell or Priscilla Beddell)

## SCHEDULE B: LIST OF NON-NATURAL RECEIVERS

1. Africa Lloyd Limited
2. BFCL Assets & Securities Limited
3. Bliss Bloss Integrated Services Limited
4. Casi Properties & Investments Limited
5. Circular Global International Limited
6. Cloudy Heights Limited
7. Comvet Trades & Services Limited
8. Dilivent International Limited
9. Flotsome Investment Limited
10. LV Development Company Limited
11. Mas-Mackoy Limited
12. Meeky Enterprises Limited
13. Nansheet Nigeria Limited
14. Prisky Gold Nigeria Limited
15. Waves Project Nigeria Limited
16. Zatlins Ventures Limited
17. Velvox Investments Nigeria Limited

## SCHEDULE C:

## SUSPECTED BANK ACCOUNTS HELD PERSONALLY OR THROUGH OTHERS

Special, current, savings, deposit or domiciliary accounts in the name of Dr. (Mrs) Cecilia Ibru, (and parties bound by the order), in particular in Oceanic Bank International Plc as detailed below:

1. Cecilia Ibru  
A/C no. 001300300221
2. Cloudy Heights Limited  
A/C no. 0011101024709
3. Mas Mackoy Limited  
A/C no. 0013003000074  
A/C no. 001481200325
4. Nansheet Nigeria Limited  
Call Account (a/c no. 0015601002503)

- Commercial Account (a/c no. 0011201000977)
- Domiciliary Account (a/c no. 0013003000224)
- Pearl Account (a/c no. 0011701200494)
- Pearl Account (a/c no. 0011701200593)
- Corporate Account (a/c no. 0541101005222)
- Dele Oye & Associates A/C No. 0011701200720
- Dilivent International Limited- A/C No 0011101022989
- Waves Project Nigeria Limited  
Domiciliary Account (a/c no. 00111010022989)  
A/C no. 0011101014863.

8. Other bank accounts of the persons, including parties listed in Schedule A and B above, and such other bank accounts set out in Exhibit EFCC06 attached to the affidavit in support of the Ex-parte Originating Motion.

## SCHEDULE D: NAMES OF BROKERS &amp; REGISTRARS

## STOCKBROKERS (including but not limited to)

BGL Plc  
BFCL Asset & Securities Limited  
ValueLine Securities & Investments Limited  
Falcon Securities Limited  
Integrated Trust & Investments Limited  
Afrinvest West Africa Limited  
Cashcraft Asset Management Limited  
Corporos Capital Limited  
IBTC Asset Management Limited  
MBC Securities Limited  
Springboard Trust & Investment Limited  
Clearview Investments Company Limited  
Vetiva Capital Management Limited

## REGISTRARS (including but not limited to)

Oceanic Registrars Limited  
United Securities Limited  
Zenith Registrars Limited  
Union Bank Registrars Limited  
GT Registrars Limited  
Afribank Registrars Limited  
UBA Registrars Limited  
FBN Registrars Limited  
Custodians & Clearing Systems  
Sterbic Nominees Limited  
Central Securities Clearing System

# BUSINESS

0805 1000 536

## Bank PHB cuts MD's pay by 47%, EDs 26%

... Can't sustain 5,000 workforce; explains \$120,000 MD's allowance blocs

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

THE group managing director of Bank PHB Cyril Chukwumah said yesterday that his salary and those of the Executive Directors (EDs) have been slashed.

The MD's pay has been cut by 47 per cent while the salaries of the Executive Directors have been slashed by 26 per cent. The bank also said it cannot sustain a 5,000-strong workforce, hence the urgent need to downsize to keep the bank afloat.

Speaking with newsmen in Lagos, Chukwumah said with the bank's current 35 per cent earning with huge loan, there is serious mismatch which necessitated the need to cut cost and do credit banking business. "There is going to be serious operational cut. This will cut across all our processes and it will affect people. Today, 70 per cent of our 240 branches are making losses. Again, currently, today's industry cost income is 60 per cent. Based on our depleted earnings, we are closing to 80 per cent", he said.

Chukwumah also explained that he slashed his salary and that of his executive directors as a sacrifice for the growth of the bank and to set example.

"When I resumed in the bank on October 2, 2009, one of the mandate given to me by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) was that I should take whatever my predecessor was taking as remuneration. The first thing I did was to cut the CEO remuneration by 47 per cent. Thereafter, I looked at the benefit in kind and I asked myself why you want to deplete the liquidity you don't have to buy new cars. I asked for monetization of one instead of buying three cars."

He said he did the same thing with the EDs by cutting their salary by 26 per cent, adding that the essence was to ensure that the bank is liquid all the time and the leaders live by example. He said the board of directors of the bank on Monday approved the management proposals to recapitalize the bank, debt recovery, business streamlining, risk management, governance and control, adding that the management is working closely with the recent financial advisers of the bank to know which would be suitable for the recapitalization process of the bank.

"My first tasks upon resumption were two-pronged. First was to reposition the bank in a way as to successfully manage any run on the bank by the depositors.



CYRIL Chukwumah

We achieved this through daily asset and liability committee meetings and involvement of all our senior marketing officers in tracking branch-level and treasury activities. The second was to get the remaining management staff of the bank to come to terms with the new realities as soon as possible and to see the task at hand as a joint responsibility", he said.

Chukwumah emphasized that the bank had only recovered N10 billion from the bank's debtors while efforts would be geared toward recovery of N61 billion by the end of second quarter in 2010. "We had a serious challenge when I came in which borders on integrity of the loan data. What we did was to bring 10 top debtors to the table but there was a dispute over the figures. In the process, we had concerns. What we did was to halt the process and reconstruct the loan books and the exercise took us up to the middle of December, 2009 and so far, we have recovered N10 billion. The recovery was from the people who want their names off the books", he said. He said based on the new re-alignment of the bank's business units, the bank is set to do business with sincere custom-

ers who meet the bank's risk criteria.

He said: "We will also implement our business model which seeks to grow our wallet share of customers deposit in all key customer segments, especially in the commercial and retail space." He noted that the bank had since September 2009, commissioned an audit of its books and that a new foundation for transparency and data integrity has been built as part of effort to attract serious minded investors.

On \$120,000 travelling allowance, Chukwumah explained that there is nothing new in what he did, adding that the allowance was meant for his holiday between October 2, 2009 and September 30, 2010. "When I came, I conducted a survey by looking at those allowances collected in the industry and I said to myself, this has to be scaled down and agreed with \$120,000 per annum, against my predecessor's \$480,000 per annum besides the first class ticket."

He said the \$120,000 he collected covered everything, allowance including his ticket and that of his family for a year.

## Dantata group to build refinery

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

AN indigenous company in the nation's downstream sector, MRS Oil and Gas Limited, has disclosed plans to build a refinery in the country. Managing Director of the company, S. B. Prasad, who announced this in Lagos when the Chairman of the Petroleum Product Pricing Regulatory Agency [PPPRA], Senator Ahmadu Alli visited him, said the refinery would be a joint venture arrangement with a company, which he did not disclose. According to him, his company is venturing into refinery in order to lessen the pains being experienced by Nigerians in the consumption of petroleum products. Prasad, who said his company would at the appropriate time approached banks for facility to finance the refinery, said it is only through the regime of deregulation of the petroleum sector that such refinery would see the light of the day.

"We are going into refinery business and the arrangement is going to be a joint effort. Our company is embarking on this project in order to ease the pains being experienced by Nigerians in the consumption of petroleum products. Our dream on this project would however be realized through deregulation of the petroleum industry by the government". Prasad further expressed his company's support for the proposed deregulation of the oil sector, saying the development is the only way to drive the sector in line with Nigerians and government aspiration. According to him, his company has in the meantime embarked on massive and continual importation of fuel into the country in order to support government effort to nip the current scarcity of the product in the bud. He said his company is one of the few companies currently importing products into the country, adding that this is an indication that MRS Oil and Gas Limited is in tune with the needs of Nigerians.

## Trust Index

Inflation	→	12%
GDP	→	6.90%
Budget	→	N3.1tr
External Reserves Acct	→	\$42.47bn
Excess Crude Acct	→	\$6.7bn
Poverty Ratio	→	54.4%
Interest Ratio	→	6%
Banks	→	24
Oil Price	→	\$74 a barrel
Power Supply	→	3,700MW
Oil output per day	→	1.9mbd

CBN	CBN EXCHANGE RATES			BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES		
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)	BUYING		
26/1/2009				DOLLAR.....	N152	
				EURO.....	N213	
				POUNDS.....	N250	
				SELLING		
				DOLLAR.....	N153	
				EURO.....	N216	
				POUNDS.....	N253	
				Source: S&J Bureau de Change, Wise Zone 4, Abuja.		

## Stock Market Index

Date:	Wednesday, January 27, 2010
Index:	22,431.00
Deal:	6,538
Volume:	467,299,408
Value:	N 2,505,921,947.82
Cap.:	N 5,402,114,293,611.62

## Business

# Ghana's power reforms: Lessons for Nigeria

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

THE West African nation called Ghana has evolved an endearing, enviable, socio political and economic history that is characterized by many firsts. In 1957, for instance, the former British colony hitherto known as the Gold Coast gained political independence thus becoming the first country in the sub-Saharan Africa to become free from the grip of colonial rule.

Following her independence Ghana assumed the leadership role in the African continent's struggle for national liberation. Today Ghana has one of the strongest economies in West Africa that is, interestingly, Agriculture driven.

With Gold mining, cacao production and tourism as the main sources of its revenue, the country gained reputation in gold production hundreds of years ago. Little wonder that European explorers who arrived in search of gold in the 1400's and 1500's have named the region as the Gold Coast.

Although the country experienced a period of severe economic decline from the 1960's as a result of political instability Ghana later introduced result oriented economic recovery programmes by the mid 1980s. These economic reform programmes which sought to encourage and expand private sector investment attracted support from both the International Monetary Fund [IMF] and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [World Bank].

Apparently realizing that the development of the various sectors of the economy depend heavily on reliable, adequate and economically prized power supply, Ghana has over the years accorded the power sector a top priority of its economic growth.

This can be clearly seen through the articulated vision of Ghana's energy sector which succinctly states: "To provide adequate and reliable energy supplies to all sectors of the Ghanaian economy to support socio-economic development, poverty reduction and also for export."

**'How Ghana kept the lights on'**

In July last year Ghana's Deputy Minister for Energy, Dr. Kwabena Dankor, undertook a visit to Nigeria. During the visit the Minister delivered a thought provoking address at the fifth ALEX Annual lecture series which took place in Lagos on July 30, 2009.

As if the organizers had deliberately adopted the theme to enable Nigeria draw lessons



PRESIDENT Attah Mills of Ghana

from Ghana's result oriented power sector reforms; that country's Deputy Minister for Energy was chosen as a resource person.

Speaking on the theme: "How Ghana kept the lights on", not a few of Dankor's listeners were left in bewilderment and even amazement as to why a country like Ghana could assume the pedagogical role of proffering the recipe for stable power supply to the "Giant of Africa."

The visiting Minister identified effective management of the power system and a strong political will to achieve the overall agenda of government as a major ingredient for improving power generation.

He said: "Let me state that keeping the lights on would require an effective management of the power system and a strong political will to ensure adequate, reliable and cost effective power supply to achieve the overall agenda of the government."

In line with Ghana's overall vision of becoming a middle-income country in the near future, the Minister said: "The government of Ghana has committed itself to increasing the current installed power generation capacity of about 2,000MW to 5,000MW in the medium-term by 2015. This is to make electrical energy available for industrial as well as domestic use."

Dankor also informed the gathering that part of the vision of the power sector of Ghana was to become a net exporter of power. "To achieve these objectives, the government is undertaking the construction of some power plants, notable among which is the Bui Hydroelectric Power Project that seeks to add

400MW capacity to the existing power generation in the country", he stated.

Realizing that the challenge of adding 3,000MW generation capacity over a period of five years would require huge investment which government alone could not provide, Dankor said the Ghanaian government was encouraging the participation of Independent Power Producers into the power generation business. He said: "It is expected that 2,000MW of the proposed 3,000MW to be added to the power system in the medium-term would come through private sector investment."

The visiting Energy Minister did not end his address without harping on the need for a strong political will as a requirement for keeping the lights on. "Let me state that keeping the lights on would require an effective management of the power system and a strong political will to ensure adequate, reliable and cost-effective power supply to achieve the overall developmental agenda of government", he said.

Paradoxically lack of political will has often been identified as the main reason behind poor electricity generation in the sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria inclusive. At the signing ceremony to host the Annual Conference and General Assembly of the African Forum for Utility Regulators which took place in Abuja in August last year, the Administrator of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission, Immamudeen Talba, said most sub-Saharan African countries [including Nigeria] were yet to solve their electricity problems due to bad leadership.

According to him it was in view of this that Nigeria had embarked on serious reforms that would remedy the problems in the power sector, pointing out that Nigerian leaders are now committed to addressing the challenges.

Although power supply occupies a vantage position in President Umaru Yar'adua's Seven-Point Agenda, the big question remains that of the level of commitment by government and the

relevant agencies responsible for regulating, generating and distributing electricity in the country. In April last year, the President made a promise to Nigerians that he would deliver 6,000MW of electricity to them before the end of December last year. But in spite of spending a whopping N762.93 billion through the special intervention fund for the power sector last year, the 600MW promise became a tune lacking in staccato.

This is in addition to the approval by the federal executive council and the Power Ministry's Tenders Board of award of various contracts in generation, transmission and distribution in order to improve power supply to the nation by December 2009.

With the failure of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria [PHCN], as well as the Power Ministry, to live up to expectations with regards to the presidential promise, Nigerians have gone back to seeking alternative sources of generating electricity for both domestic and commercial purposes.

Statistics from the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria [MAN] shows that about 60 million Nigerians depend on power generating sets for their electricity needs. This is in spite of the various hazards associated with the use of generators at home.

Also it is estimated that Nigerians spend about N16.408 trillion annually on fuelling generators in the country. The breakdown shows that in the telecom sector alone N6.7trillion is spent annually to purchase diesel while filling stations spend N43.98 billion. The breakdown further shows that factories expend N11.7billion; Insurance companies N80billion; residential N7.812trillion; and commercial enterprises N1.57trillion.

Ironically the federal government made a provision of N2billion for the purchase, fuelling and maintenance of generators for government offices in the 2009 budget. No wonder Nigeria has been rated as one of the world's largest importers of generators. This simply implies that there may be no end in sight to the darkness that has enveloped Nigeria.

For Nigeria to be able to generate and distribute enough electricity to power its economy and for domestic purposes, the success story of 'how Ghana kept the lights on' must serve as a big lesson; particularly with regards to applying a strong political will in effective management of the power sector. Alternatively Nigeria might have to start importing electricity from the former Gold Coast in order to keep her citizens out of darkness.

“Although the country experienced a period of severe economic decline from the 1960's as a result of political instability Ghana later introduced result oriented economic recovery programmes by the mid 1980s. These economic reform programmes which sought to encourage and expand private sector investment attracted support from both the International Monetary Fund [IMF] and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [World Bank].”

## Business/Agric

# Yobe loses N2b to tax defaulters

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

YOBE State Government has lost more than N2 billion in the last three years because of the failure of some top political office holders to pay personal income Tax (Payee), chairman, Yobe State Board

of Internal Revenue Alhaji Bukar Chidani Gujba stated in Damaturu yesterday.

He said the revenue base of the state was also depleted because of the failure of contractors to pay what was due to the government as well as non remittance of revenue by

government owned Companies.

Gujba, who described revenue as the bedrock of any economic and social development lamented that political office holders including commissioners, state House of Assembly Members,

Special Advisers and local government chairmen are always reluctant to pay tax to the government.

"The situation has created gap in the expected revenue generation of the state. Apart from Governor Ibrahim Gaidam Who paid

N2million last year as Payee, no any political office holder had declared his personal income and paid tax", Gujba said.

"We know that most of them have private businesses and they earn a lot from such ventures...The

Board would have generated more than N1billion from personal income tax last two years assuming people have paid, unfortunately, we realized less than N10 million from normal staff payee deduction", the chairman said.

## NSE cuts fees on bonds, levy

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

THE Council of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) on Tuesday announced reductions in the transaction charges for government bonds in a bid to encourage more investment in the market.

NSE in a statement signed by its management said the reductions cover federal, state and local government bonds.

On federal government bonds for primary market (new issues), annual listing cost fixed is N20 million irrespective of the number of bonds listed by the Debt Management Office of the Federal Government while for secondary market (daily Trading), NSE gets N1 per million of the underlying traded (charged on sell side only), Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS) also gets N1 per million of the underlying traded (charged on both buy & sell sides) and stockbrokers receive N5 per million of the underlying traded (charged on both buy & sell sides).

NSE management also explained that on State Government/Local Government (Municipal) & Corporate Bonds annual listing fees remains on a sliding scale with no changes, ranging from a minimum of N189,000 (for issues less N50 million) to a maximum of N4.2 million (for issues above N200 billion) while NSE application levy remained at 0.15 per cent against 0.3 per cent, about 50 per cent reduction for issues up to N2 billion, 0.1 per cent for issues above N2 billion while CSCS gets 0.0125 per cent

On Secondary market, NSE said it would receive N5 per million of the underlying traded (charged on sell side only), CSCS N10 per million of the underlying traded (charged on both buy & sell sides) while stockbrokers get N10 per million of the underlying traded (charged on both buy & sell sides).

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## BIRNIN KUDU OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION (BIKOBA)

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members of the Association are hereby informed that this SPECIAL EVENT Coincides with 50 years of the College existence since it's inception as a Secondary School and 59 years as a Senior Primary School, will be held, God willing, at the College premises for the first time as follows:

**VENUE:** Government College Birnin Kudu  
**DATE:** Saturday 30th January, 2010  
**TIME:** 9:00am

#### MAIN EVENTS

1. Gifts/Honours/Awards to the College by BIKOBA Chapters
2. Launching of BIKOBA Foundation
3. BI-Elections: Post of 2nd Vice President and Asst. Financial Secretary
4. Presentations and activities by the Students of the College
5. The Presidential Key Note Address
6. Speech by the Guest Speaker on Topical Issues on Education
7. Financial Report by the National Treasurer

#### DIGNITARIES

**Special Guest of Honour**  
 His Excellency AM. Sule Lamido, Governor of Jigawa State

**Royal Father of the Day**  
 AM. (Dr.) Nuhu Mohammed Sa'ad CBN, Emir of Soba

**Chairman of the Occasion**  
 Hon. Justice Bahru Mesdapher CBN, Judge, Supreme Court of Nigeria

**Chief Launcher**  
 Alhaji Abba Dangote OON, OFR, President/Chief Executive Bagota Group of Companies

AS WE ARE PROUD OF BIKOBA, DO PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH SOUND EDUCATION

#### SIGNED:

Col. (Rtd) Umaru Malami Mohammad  
 National President  
 (BIKOBA Class '69' Chapter)  
 08037874766

## Business

## '100 million Nigerians are hungry'

By Tina A. Hassan

ABOUT hundred million Nigerians are hungry, researches have shown. The Federal Government has continued to claim that it is according high priority to agriculture especially food production. It is one of the seven point agenda of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

National Coordinator of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) Dr. Magnus Kpakol said poverty rate has fallen to around or less than 50 per cent. But the official poverty rate in Nigeria is 54 per cent.

Dr. Oluwole Moses Okelola, an agro-economist and development consultant in agricultural development with the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) said 70 per cent of Nigerians are believed to be poor. He however attributed the current low food production to the continuing use of primitive tools by rural farmers.

According to him, successive government policies failed because attentions were not also given to farm business management practices.

Farm Business Management (FBM) education among farmers and agriculture stakeholders plays a central role in ensuring self sufficiency of food in any nation bearing in mind that food is an essential element of growth and development and is also very vital to human existence, experts say.

This is where the status of farm business management education comes into practice and comes into importance because stakeholders in the industry must share knowledge on favorable and unfavorable farm practices in order to know those that can be adopted for better crop and animal production.

Dr. Okelola said agricultural development includes the capacity to implement improved practices and effective utilization of technologies and infrastructures and other human resources that are invested by government, the farmers and other entrepreneurs as part of food security programs.

Initiatives like the Coopera-



CHILDREN of school age roaming the streets in search of food.

tives of 1935 National Livestock Production Program and the National Grains and Roots Crop Production program of 1975, the Green Revolution of 1980 and the Presidential Initiative on selected commodities like Cocoa, Rice, Vegetable Oil, Cocoa, Livestock and Fisheries of 1999 among others have continued to escape the major purpose of setting them

up as long as the basic models of agricultural commercialization or market orientation that would stimulate agricultural growth and food sustenance is not taught to the local farmers.

These policies that are supposed to stimulate growth and productivity may continue to be in doubt if farmers are left to continue to practices old outdated practices and if the necessary infrastructures necessary to practices modern methods and technologies are not placed within reach of local farmers who constitute the largest farming population in Nigeria.

He said: "Current statistics has shown that the old people in the rural areas are getting tired and unable to keep up with the pace of new technologies necessary to turn around the agricultural sector."

"Secondly, the teeming population of youths is moving out of the rural areas to the cities in search of elusive jobs and thereby compounding the poverty situation. This dangerous trend is also heightened by the poor and declining quality of education among the youths such that the prospect for useful self employment remains

bleak."

He added: "Majority of unemployed youths do not have the technical capacity to be self employed in the agricultural industry which has the largest capacity to absorb them."

Okelola argued that the establishment and operation of a national farm business management data and information system is a sure answer to the many problems that bedevil the sector because it is a vital infrastructure for the development of sustainable commercial agriculture and self sufficiency in food production in Nigeria.

The concept of FBM is basically the teaching of valuable agricultural research application of technical skills, economic principles and experience to run a farm for profit, food availability and growth sustenance based on set objectives.

Apart from this, farm management advised is also made available to farmers to enable them learn and adopt improved technologies for best yields.

He gave instances where the use of farm business management (FBM) gave good returns to include the 'farmer

to farmer' approach used by the government of Kano State in collaboration with the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the provision of extension farm services by an international Non-governmental Organization known as Sasakawa Global 2000 which has transferred inputs and technological packages to small holder farmers in some six states in the northern part of Nigeria, using the states' Agricultural Development programs (ADPs).

It is also hoped that the Federal government would include the use of FBM in the implementation of agricultural initiatives so that good and adequate technical and financial data can be collated, processed and analyzed to get standard information across to farmers so that Nigeria can then be able to attain the much desired food security and the local smallholder farmer's income would at the same time be uplifted.

Dr. Okelola also warned: "Repositioning the Nigerian agricultural food production should be the main concern of government if interventions in the sector are to make meaningful impacts."

The teeming population of youths is moving out of the rural areas to the cities in search of elusive jobs and thereby compounding the poverty situation. This dangerous trend is also heightened by the poor and declining quality of education among the youths such that the prospect for useful self employment remains bleak.

## Business/Finance

## Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Wednesday, January 27, 2009

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)				
<b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>								
CAPITAL OIL PLC	6	0.50	280,585	140,292.50				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>280,585</b>	<b>140,292.50</b>				
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>								
AFPRINT NIGERIA PLC	1	0.86	1,875	1,612.50				
FTN COCOA PROCES. PLC	14	0.66	1,874,783	1,203,408.29				
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	28	0.71	1,417,249	1,006,141.79				
OKOMU OIL PALM COY PLC	1	22.75	2,000	43,240.00				
PRESCO PLC	9	4.60	266,948	1,237,285.80				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>3,562,855</b>	<b>3,491,688.38</b>				
<b>AIR SERVICES</b>								
AIRL/SERV. & LOG. COY	6	3.06	100,500	307,500.00				
NIG. AV. HAND. COY PLC	74	8.20	489,461	4,034,776.81				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>80</b>		<b>589,961</b>	<b>4,342,276.81</b>				
<b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>								
DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC	4	0.50	89,850	44,925.00				
INCAR NIGERIA PLC	2	2.39	90,100	215,339.00				
<b>R. T. BRISCOE (NIG.) PLC</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6.23</b>	<b>140,215</b>	<b>830,341.30</b>				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>320,165</b>	<b>1,090,605.30</b>				
<b>BANKING</b>								
ACCESS BANK PLC	172	8.12	10,862,429	88,728,252.28				
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	54	2.70	1,117,433	3,076,128.80				
DIAMOND BANK PLC	95	8.07	7,544,515	60,571,694.78				
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	7	8.67	12,705,235	110,154,387.45				
F/CITY MON. BANK PLC	111	8.80	9,504,965	83,491,569.07				
FIDELITY BANK PLC	175	2.50	12,289,186	30,734,129.61				
FIRST BANK OF NIG. PLC	867	14.65	27,077,357	395,444,464.07				
FINBANK PLC	221	0.74	144,624,631	104,119,492.83				
GTBANK PLC	420	17.15	6,565,200	112,073,806.96				
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	75	8.30	6,979,139	58,757,938.68				
INTERCONT. BANK PLC.	153	2.32	4,881,300	11,305,232.34				
OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC	207	2.46	8,923,278	22,423,664.91				
BANK PHB PLC	41	2.28	4,663,883	10,633,653.24				
SKYE BANK PLC.	158	6.20	11,620,591	71,756,123.01				
SPRING BANK PLC	3	1.07	53,362	57,097.34				
STERLING BANK PLC	76	1.62	9,844,558	15,597,861.30				
UNT. BANK FOR AFR. PLC.	227	11.30	18,670,772	209,034,661.24				
UNION BANK OF NIG. PLC	167	6.49	1,561,066	10,174,051.55				
UNITYBANK PLC	77	0.99	9,713,860	9,497,509.40				
WEMA BANK PLC	55	1.05	1,470,766	1,556,285.29				
<b>ZENITH BANK PLC</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>15.12</b>	<b>22,158,037</b>	<b>335,169,203.72</b>				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>3,611</b>		<b>332,831,563</b>	<b>1,744,357,207.87</b>				
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>								
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	77	13.40	2,531,194	33,499,689.10				
BEN. CEMENT COY PLC	41	50.00	1,296,851	64,848,107.14				
CEM. CO. OF N/NIG. PLC	32	14.60	664,861	9,770,235.01				
<b>LAFARGE WAPCO PLC</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>32.15</b>	<b>1,333,088</b>	<b>42,756,874.20</b>				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>216</b>		<b>5,825,994</b>	<b>150,874,905.45</b>				
<b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>								
BERGER PAINTS NIG. PLC	3	3.36	13,100	46,112.00				
CHEM. & ALL. PROD. PLC	5	28.00	5,336	149,438.58				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>18,436</b>	<b>195,550.58</b>				
<b>COMMERCIAL/SERV.</b>								
<b>AFROMEDIA PLC</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>65,859</b>	<b>43,835.53</b>				
COURTVILLE INVEST. PLC	2	0.50	46,000	23,000.00				
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	24	2.47	417,313	1,029,410.02				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>528,672</b>	<b>1,096,245.55</b>				
<b>COMP. &amp; OFFICE EQUIP.</b>								
H/MARK PAPER PROD. PLC	1	3.22	1,400	4,284.00				
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC.	1	8.13	3,600	29,268.00				
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	15	0.65	1,836,000	1,157,568.13				
TRIP/GEE AND COY PLC	1	4.60	2,647	11,567.39				
WIG. TEAPE NIG. PLC	2	2.92	600	1,668.00				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>1,844,247</b>	<b>1,204,355.52</b>				
<b>CONGLOMERATES</b>								
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIG.) PLC	4	2.81	110,000	309,091.72				
CHELLARAMS PLC	1	14.13	1,000	13,430.00				
JOHN HOLT PLC	1	9.28	58	511.56				
PZ CUSSONS NIG. PLC	60	26.00	1,043,442	26,977,570.28				
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	2	8.71	335	2,773.80				
TRANS. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	44	0.50	3,476,126	1,738,478.00				
<b>UAC OF NIGERIA PLC</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>39.44</b>	<b>1,780,663</b>	<b>70,061,483.01</b>				
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	93	23.50	1,939,651	45,361,755.58				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>251</b>		<b>8,351,275</b>	<b>144,465,093.94</b>				
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>								
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	72	4.47	1,334,462	5,945,784.57				
<b>JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>28.50</b>	<b>48,400</b>	<b>1,310,622.00</b>				
MULTIVERSE RES. PLC	6	0.50	1,117,850	558,925.00				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>91</b>		<b>2,500,712</b>	<b>7,815,381.57</b>				
<b>ENGINEERING TECH.</b>								
CUTIX PLC	4	3.45	5,200	17,328.00				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>5,200</b>	<b>17,328.00</b>				
<b>FOOD/BEVERAGES &amp; TOB.</b>								
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	13	30.60	7,335	224,281.56				
BIG TREAT PLC	12	0.85	630,537	530,962.56				
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	58	17.50	522,205	9,123,004.17				
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	220	13.30	3,349,376	44,484,959.36				
DANGOTE SUGAR REF. PLC	70	15.01	935,272	14,040,604.07				
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	43	38.79	175,074	6,730,486.60				
H/WELL FLOUR MILL PLC	6	8.07	11,480	91,393.60				
NAT. SALT COY NIG. PLC	81	6.82	1,580,647	10,638,501.83				
NIG. BOTTLING COY PLC	13	26.00	38,683	1,008,563.02				
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	73	252.00	399,493	105,208,426.20				
TANTALIZERS PLC	20	0.95	1,354,900	1,290,675.00				
UTC NIGERIA PLC	7	0.90	32,746	30,502.92				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>616</b>		<b>9,037,748</b>	<b>193,402,360.89</b>				
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>								
EKOCORP PLC	2	5.58	9,680	51,400.80				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC.	4	1.05	9,406	9,690.12				
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	19	2.09	551,008	1,122,984.47				
GLAXOS. CONS. NIG. PLC	16	24.26	317,780	7,670,515.00				
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC.	19	5.50	85,982	459,634.11				
NEIMETH INT. PHARM. PLC	13	1.70	111,644	190,397.60				
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	2	4.97	2,000	9,460.00				
UN/DIAG. & CLIN. SERV. PLC	11	0.72	410,767	294,079.07				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>1,498,267</b>	<b>9,808,161.17</b>				
<b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>								
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	1	1.80	78,000	140,400.00				
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	2	1.00	20,000	19,000.00				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>98,000</b>	<b>159,400.00</b>				
<b>INDUST/DOMEST. PROD.</b>								
ALUMACO PLC	1	22.59	100	2,147.00				
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIG. PLC	3	0.50	1,080,400	540,200.00				
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	54	4.99	1,642,214	7,958,391.88				
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	2	0.66	21,096	13,290.48				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>60</b>		<b>2,743,810</b>	<b>8,514,029.36</b>				
<b>INF. &amp; COMM. TECH.</b>								
CHAMS PLC	28	0.73	4,391,570	3,205,846.10				
E-TRANZACT INTERN. PLC	1	5.50	2,000	10,460.00				
IHS NIGERIA PLC	1	4.24	2,000	8,060.00				
STARCOMMS PLC	57	2.05	8,112,682	16,632,498.10				
<b>SECTOR TOTALS</b>	<b>87</b>		<b>12,508,252</b>	<b>19,856,864.20</b>				
<b>INSURANCE</b>								
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INS. PLC	1	0.70	1,000	670.00				
AIICO INSURANCE PLC.	112	0.95	12,465,902	12,460,317.11				
CONTINENTAL REINS. PLC	9	1.04	3,176,100	3,311,144.00				
C/STONE INSUR. CO. PLC.	11	0.54	1,142,109	611,309.79				
CUST. AND ALL. INS. PLC	19	2.79	5,523,139	15,313,889.20				
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	2,100	1,050.00				
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	22	0.52	1,580,854	841,438.97				
GUAR/TRUST ASSUR. PLC	30	2.13	2,512,473	5,371,031.97				
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC.	1	0.50	11,800	5,900.00				
CONSOL. HALLMA. INS. PLC	4	0.50	806,300	403,150.00				
INT. ENERGY INS. COY PLC	25	0.60	4,264,875	2,596,451.70				
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC.	34	0.55	2,636,560	1,425,160.40				
LAW UNION & ROCKINS. PLC.	1	0.57	31,500	17,955.00				
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	20,000	10,000.00				
MUTUAL BEN. ASSUR. PLC	3	0.64	56,295	36,028.80				
N.E.M. INS. CO. (NIG.) PLC.	35	0.57	1,691,994	932,354.03				
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	6	0.96	100,873	96,838.08				
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	1	1.49	1,500	2,130.00				
<b>PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3.80</b>	<b>35,463</b>	<b>128,028.6</b>				

# DIGEST

## The world's second pregnant man is 'blissfully happy' as he prepares to give birth to baby boy next month

A transgender couple have revealed they are expecting their first baby in a month's time.

Scott Moore - thought to be only the second 'pregnant man' to go public - is due to give birth to a boy in February, with husband Thomas by his side.

The couple were both born girls and have undergone surgery to transform their sex.

Scott, 30, who is legally married to Thomas because he still has a female birth certificate, says he is eagerly looking forward to giving birth.

They have decided to call the child 'Miles'.

'We know some people will criticise us but we are blissfully happy and not ashamed,' Scott said.

The couple, from California, already have two children - Gregg, 12, and Logan, 10 - who Thomas had with a previous female partner.

The case is similar to that of Thomas Beatie, from Oregon, who made headlines around the world in 2008 when he gave birth to a girl. It's a boy! The scan reveals Scott is expecting a boy - which will be named Miles.

Scott, who started out in life as a girl named Jessica, first realised he wanted to be a man when he hit puberty aged 11.

'When I told my family they thought I was crazy but they gradually realised I was serious and allowed me to start taking male hormones when I was 16 years old,' he said.

His parents paid £4,600 for Scott to have his 36DDD chest removed. However, he could not afford the gender surgery, so still

has female organs.

Thomas, who used to be called Laura, had a hysterectomy and gender reassignment surgery last year.

'Not ashamed': Scott and Thomas posted photos of themselves online. They have been together since 2007 after meeting at a support group for transgender men.

They met in 2005 at a support group meeting for transgender men but lost touch - but saw each other again in 2007.

'We knew we had to be together,' Scott said. 'Two months later I gave up my job to live with Thomas and the boys.'

'Now they call me "dad two".' The couple, who live in a four-bedroom house, decided in December 2008 to try for a baby.

Scott was inseminated with the sperm of a male friend and fell pregnant in June 2009.

'We were so happy we did what all gay men do when they get excited - we went shopping,' Thomas said. The couple have dismissed concerns that Miles might be teased at school, saying they are confident they can deal with it.

'We've been through it already,' Thomas said. 'My son Logan was bullied but now he just says to teasers: "You may have a problem with my two dads but I don't so you're not hurting me".'

Scotts plans to have a natural birth at their local hospital. Their doctor and obstetrician have told the medics at the local hospital.

'We didn't want everyone to be shocked when a man turns up to give birth,' Scott said. 'We found it very difficult to get a doctor and midwife at first. It was hard when



SCOTT Moore, pictured with husband Thomas, is due to give birth next month to a boy. The couple - who were both born as girls - live in California

people didn't want to treat me. No pregnant person should be denied healthcare just because they are a man.'

But he added: 'I'm looking forward to giving birth now. With Thomas at my side everything will be just fine.'

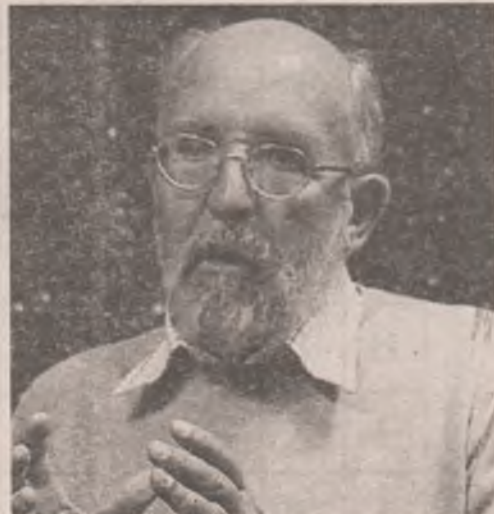
Thomas said: 'We want to show the world that trans-families can be healthy, loving and nurturing.'

## Earth's twin planet will be found by the end of the year, leading astronomer says

THE first Earth-like planet outside the solar system will have been discovered by the end of the year, one of the world's leading astronomers said yesterday.

Professor Michel Mayor, the scientist in charge of the team who detected the first extrasolar planet in 1995, claimed that the chance of finding a planet that is habitable for humans is now imminent. The astronomer, of Geneva University, said that recent technological progress that allows the observation of planets outside the solar system now makes the prospect of locating a planet of a similar make-up to Earth extremely likely.

Professor Mayor said: 'The search for twins of Earth is motivated by the ultimate prospect of finding sites with favourable conditions for the development



PROFESSOR Michel Mayor

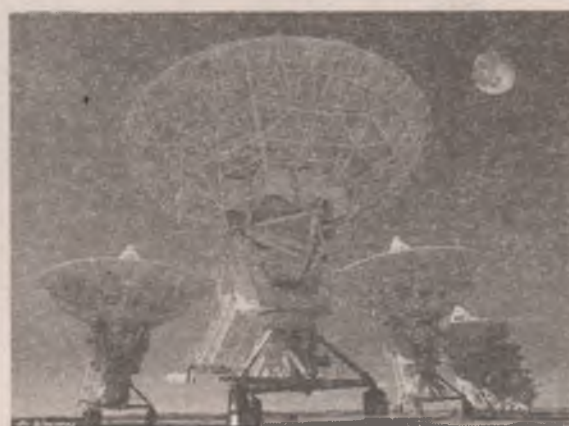
of life.

'We've entered a new phase in this search.' He was speaking at a conference at the Royal Soci-

ety to mark the anniversary of the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, known as SETI.

Among those in attendance

included representatives from NASA, the European Space Agency and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.



NASA'S Kepler spacecraft is likely to be the first to locate the ideal planet to sustain human life because it is carrying the largest telescope to ever have been sent beyond the Earth's orbit

Professor Mayor said that NASA's Kepler spacecraft is likely to be the first to locate the ideal planet to sustain human life because it is carrying the largest telescope to ever have been sent beyond the Earth's orbit.

The telescope, which is in orbit around the Sun, is monitoring more than 100,000 stars every half hour and is focused on a star field in the Orion spiral arm of the Milky Way.

More than 400 extrasolar planets - or exoplanets - that orbit stars similar to the Sun have been discovered in the last 15 years, Professor Mayor told the conference.

But most of these planets are too large to be habitable for human life, due to having active tectonic plates that would make for an unstable environment.

### Sign Language



Special offer? What about the normal offer?

Photo location: Kenya, by Erling Rasmussen.

Culled from www.signspotting.com

# SUDOKU

The Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 square grid made up of smaller 3x3 square grids (regions). The numbers already present within the puzzle are "given" - these are there to start you off. The aim is to complete the puzzle by filling the empty cells. Every digit from 1-9 needs to fit in each row, column and region of 9 squares. Each row, column and region must contain just one instance of each number, 1-9.

74

	1			4		9		
3	8			2		6	7	
	2							1
	9			1			6	5
		4		7		2		
8	6			5			4	
9							5	
	7	2		6			3	8
	5		8					2

### Solution to Sudoku 73

2	5	9	3	7	4	8	6	1
6	3	1	9	2	8	7	4	5
7	8	4	1	6	5	2	9	3
9	6	2	8	3	1	5	7	4
5	4	3	7	9	6	1	2	8
8	1	7	5	4	2	9	3	6
3	2	8	6	1	9	4	5	7
1	9	6	4	5	7	3	8	2
4	7	5	2	8	3	6	1	9

## EASY CROSSWORDS

**ACROSS**

- Gumbo ingredient
- Tres elegant
- Elderly
- Sweater fabric
- Jalopy
- Low neckline
- Pungent cheese
- A Gabor
- Braying beast
- Hannah of "Kill Bill"
- Office temp
- Armstrong and Young
- Not difficult
- Tells
- What a nurse gives (abbr.)
- \_\_\_ War
- Comic strip shriek
- Wheedies
- "Bom \_\_\_"
- Single thickness
- Covered with lichen
- Exhaust
- Berlin's land (abbr.)
- Squeal
- Ever-lastingly
- \_\_\_ to "Pieces" (2 wds.)
- Spot
- "For \_\_\_ Love"

**DOWN**

- Night bird
- Japanese carp
- CD-\_\_\_
- New York's capital
- Hardtops
- Bear \_\_\_
- Adherent (suffix)
- Friendly
- Managers
- Eugene of "American Pie"
- FDR's New \_\_\_
- Hope
- perform-ance locale
- Model Carol
- Became firm
- Soft mineral
- Mall feature
- Not at all
- Actor Wallech et al.
- Annoy
- Notices
- Bashful quality
- \_\_\_ lime pie
- \_\_\_ alai
- Incursions
- Alcott sequel,
- "Little \_\_\_"
- Sink malfunction
- Blow one's stack
- Dharma's sitcom mate
- Oz's \_\_\_ Man
- Airport monitor abbr.
- Mauna \_\_\_
- Tote laboriously
- Parts of centuries (abbr.)

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### Solution to Easy Crosswords

S	I	C	K		O	N	O	R		M	R	S		
A	S	T	A		A	N	N	A		I	I	I		
C	A	R	T	W	H	E	E	L		S	S	N		
				I	O	U			P	E	T	E	S	
E	M	E	R		A	B	H	O	R					
T	E	A		E	R	L	E		N	E	W	S		
R	O	C	K		E	E	R		S	A	R	A		
E	S	A	U		E	R	G	O		T	I	M		
				D	R	A	F	T		W	A	S	T	E
B	R	A	T	T					I	L	L			
L	A	M			T	R	A	N	S	L	A	T	E	
T	R	I			Y	A	N	K		O	W	E	N	
S	E	A			S	E	T	S		W	E	D	S	

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## ABUJA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY

### INVITATION FOR PRE - QUALIFICATION OF MANUFACTURERS, CONTRACTORS, SUPPLIERS AND CONSULTANTS FOR 2010 FISCAL YEAR

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Power Holding Company of Nigeria Plc, Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC) wishes to notify the General Public of its intention to procure works, Goods and Services in the 2010 Fiscal Year. These are to be funded through Year 2010 Federal Government Budget Appropriation, etc.
2. Interested reputable and qualified Manufacturers/Contractors, Suppliers and Consultants are hereby invited to submit pre-qualification documents for desired LOT(s) listed below:

LOT	DESCRIPTION
<b>GROUP 1</b>	<b>EXPANSION</b>
<b>A.</b>	<b>CABLES &amp; KITS FOR NETWORK EXPANSION</b>
1A-1	Supply of HT Underground Cables
1A-2	Supply of LT Underground Cables
1A-3	Supply of Termination Kits
1A-4	Supply of Control Cable
<b>B.</b>	<b>CONSTRUCTION OF 33KV &amp; 11KV OVERHEAD LINES</b>
1B-1	Construction of 33KV Overhead lines
1B-2	Construction of 11KV Overhead lines
C.	Construction of 2 x 15MVA Injection Substation
D.	Construction of Relief Distribution Substation
E.	Construction of Underground Cable Network
<b>GROUP 2</b>	<b>OPERATIONS</b>
2A.	Replacement of 11KV Obsolete Switch gear
2B.	Replacement of 33KV Switch gear & Circuit Breakers
2C.	Retrofitting of Panels and Circuit Breakers
2D.	Provision of Test Equipments
2E.	Provision of Safety Boots, ladders & Safety Kits
2F.	Supply of Feeder Pillars
2G.	Supply of SF6 RMUs & Extensions
2H.	Supply of SF6 Gas
2I.	Supply of Overhead lines materials (Poles, Aluminum Conductor, etc).
2J.	Supply of Transformer Oil
<b>GROUP 3</b>	<b>CIVIL WORKS &amp; BUILDING CONSTRUCTION</b>
3A.	Construction of Standard Company Stores
3B.	Construction of Business Unit Offices
3C.	Substation Block wall fence
3D.	Renovation works (offices, substation building & stores)
3E.	Partitioning of offices
3F.	Borehole works
<b>GROUP 4</b>	<b>MAINTENANCE</b>
A.	Rehabilitation of Overhead lines
B.	Rehabilitation of Distribution Transformer/Substations
C.	Trace Clearing for 33KV & 11KV lines
D.	Reconductoring of 33KV & 11KV line
<b>GROUPS</b>	<b>SUPPLY OF OTHER ITEMS</b>
SA.	Supply of Heavy Duty/Articulated Vehicles
SB.	Supply of Operational Vehicles (Pick-up vans & official vehicles)
5C.	Office Furniture (tables, chairs, cabinets, refrigerators, water dispenser, Air conditioner, shredder)
5D.	Office equipment (Computers, Laptops, Printers, Photocopier, Cash Receipting Machines, Calculators/Casting machines and associated accessories)
SE.	Tools for Masons, Electrical, Plumbing & Carpentry
SF.	Safes
SG.	Office Stationary
<b>GROUP 6</b>	<b>METERS</b>
6A.	Panel Meters (33KV & 11KV)
6B.	LVMD
6C.	PPM (3-Phase & Single Phase)
6D.	Analogue Meters (3Phase & Single Phase)
6E.	Meter Installation Accessories (Current Transformers, Test Terminal Block, Termination Kits, Cables etc).
<b>GROUP 7</b>	<b>CONSULTANCIES TRAINING &amp; SERVICES</b>
7A.	Consultancy (Building/Civil Engineering Project)
7B.	Consultancy (Legal Services)

- 7C. Training (Technical, Marketing, Human Resource Management Training, Finance & Accounts and Audit)

#### GROUP 8 SUPPLY OF TRANSFORMERS

##### PRE - QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The following pre-qualification documents are required:

1. Photocopy of Certificate of Incorporation/Business Registration in Nigeria.
2. Photocopy of Current Company Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years. (2006, 2007 and 2008)
3. Photocopy of Value Added Tax (VAT) Registration Certificate and evidence of VAT remittances.
4. Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years. (2006, 2007 and 2008), duly signed.
5. Comprehensive Company profile including details of the Management and professional staff and copy of Company Brochure with convincing evidence of competence to undertake the relevant job.
6. Evidence of technical, operational and managerial capabilities.
7. Evidence of Financial capability to execute the work. This shall include certified statement from a reputable Bank. (Bank reference letter only is not acceptable).
8. Verifiable evidence of previous experience i.e. having successfully carried out similar work/supply in the last five years.
9. Manufacturing Companies must submit evidence of relevant manufacturing capability and facilities and SON or ISO Certificate.
10. Test certificate issued by well known international standard Test Laboratory for Manufacturers of Equipment.
11. Sample of Test Report of Manufactured Equipment
12. Evidence of shipping documents to be enclosed for previous shipment (for Stockist and Suppliers).
13. A sworn affidavit affirming that none of the Directors of the Company was ever convicted in a court of Law.
14. Any other relevant document that will place the company on a comparative advantage.

##### NOTE:

- i. Pre-qualification documents **MUST** be arranged in the order listed above. Submissions could be disregarded for failure to comply with this instruction.
- ii. Any Company that submits fake documents shall be disqualified.
- iii. Submissions of items 1-4 is a pre-condition for further consideration. Failure to do so disqualifies the submission.

##### CLOSING DATE

Companies are to submit two (2) copies of the Pre-qualification documents in sealed envelopes, boldly marked "PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR 2010 FISCAL YEAR PROJECTS" and the LOT number. This must be delivered by hand or registered mail to reach the undersigned on or before 5pm on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

The Chief Executive Officer,  
Abuja Electricity Distribution Company  
No.1 Ziguinchor Street, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.

##### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- i. The documents submitted will be opened on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 by 9am at AEDC Conference Room.
- ii. All successful pre-qualified Companies will subsequently be invited to bid for the relevant Lot.
- iii. Abuja Electricity Distribution Company shall not enter into any correspondence with any unsuccessful Company.

This advert shall not be construed to be a commitment on the part of AEDC nor shall it entail the Company to make any claim(s) whatsoever and/or to seek any indemnity from Abuja Electricity Distribution Company by virtue of such Company having responded to this Advertisement.

SIGNED  
MANAGEMENT  
ABUJA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY

# MEDICAL AND DENTAL COUNCIL OF NIGERIA

BLOCK 11, F-CLOSE, OFF 1ST AVENUE, FEDERAL HOUSING AUTHORITY ESTATE GWARIMPA, ABUJA  
Tel: 09-2902900, 2901435, 07098200749, 7803059, 7802977, 7803357. Website: www.mdcnigeria.org E-mail: medicalcouncil@yahoo.com



## INVITATION TO ATTEND INAUGURAL MEETING OF COUNCIL



The Registrar of the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria, Dr. Abdulmumini A. Ibrahim on behalf of the Chairman, Dr. Roger Olatokunbo Aderibigbe Makanjuola invites:

- ↳ Directors of Medical Services of the 36 States and FCT,
- ↳ Approved representatives of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) and Nigerian Dental Association (NDA),
- ↳ Nominees of the Minister of Health,
- ↳ Representatives of Colleges of Medicine of Universities,
- ↳ President of the National Post-Graduate Medical College of Nigeria (NPMCN),
- ↳ Pathologists nominated by the NPMCN,
- ↳ Representative of the Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS),
- ↳ Representatives of the Federal Ministry of Health,
- ↳ Representative of the Alternative Medicine practitioners,

Who are statutorily members of the newly constituted Governing Council of the MDCN to its inaugural meeting scheduled to hold as follows:

**Date: Wednesday 3rd February - Friday 5th February 2010**

**Time: 10.00am each day**

**Venue: Parkview Hotels,  
Takoradi Street, Opposite Amusement Park,  
Wuse Zone I, Abuja**

Jackets containing individual invitation have been sent to addresses of members.

**For details pls. visit our website at [www.mdcnigeria.org](http://www.mdcnigeria.org) or call any of the Telephone Nos above.**

Dr. Abdulmumini A. Ibrahim  
Registrar/Secretary to Council



# Head of Northern Office, Kano

DFID Nigeria (DFIDN) is responsible for managing the British Government's contribution to development in Nigeria, with the objective of supporting governments at federal and state level to reduce poverty in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Appointments will be under local terms and conditions and are subject to security clearance.

## HEAD OF NORTHERN OFFICE, KANO

The post holder will represent DFID, lead policy dialogue, build relationships with key states in the north, ensure effective programme coordination of DFID's work in Northern Nigeria as well as shape the strategy and delivery of UK aid within Nigeria.

### The key responsibilities of this post are:

- Maintain effective overall management of the DFID Northern Office, ensuring effective implementation of the DFID systems, policies and procedures.
- Ensure regular and effective external communications of the work of DFID funded programmes in Northern Nigeria.
- Support Advocacy and political dialogue as part of visiting High level DFID/FCO missions.
- Interact with senior officials whilst supporting Human Development programmes in the north such as PRINN-MNCH, GEP, Malaria, and Water and Sanitation Programmes.
- Ensure effective partnership/ bilateral cooperation with state partners, support and maintain good relationship with Governor's offices and key development actors in the states.
- Deepen dialogue and consultation with SLP's in Lead state, supporting well coordinated implementation.
- Work cooperatively with the UK FCO promoting regional advocacy and supporting development opportunities as part of collective UK government presence in Nigeria.

### You will have the following technical competencies:

- A postgraduate qualification or equivalent from an internationally recognised programme.
- A minimum of 4 years experience and demonstration of a successful track record of achievement as a development professional.
- A wide knowledge of development challenges in Nigeria, practical experience of aid delivery in the north, a deep understanding of the political economy, and good appreciation of the social and cultural sensitivities.

### You will demonstrate the following behavioural competencies:

- **Leading and managing:** Team leadership and management experience is crucial. Representational and diplomatic skills are essential in providing leadership, and effectively dealing with key government officials at the highest level of policy in different states.
- **Working with others:** Temperament and sensitivity to work in a multidisciplinary team, providing leadership and support.
- **Influencing:** Engaging effectively with a wide range of stakeholders with complex agendas including: contractors, other donors, senior officials, politicians, religious and traditional leaders.
- **Analysis and use of information:** Mastery of a great deal of complex material, news, data, information, and, process and communicate these effectively for use within the office feeding into DFID North management team to inform strategy.
- **Planning and delivery of work:** Need to ensure datelines to tasks are met and different members of your team are motivated to meet corporate requirements.
- **The ability to demonstrate the capacity for team leadership, management and administrative skills in addition to capacity to lead a multi-cultural team.**

### Benefits:

Remuneration: DFID offers a competitive salary and benefit package. Starting Salary of N15,269,736 per annum.

### How to apply:

1. If you are interested in applying for this position please send an email to [hok@kimberly-ryan.net](mailto:hok@kimberly-ryan.net) to obtain the application form and send the completed application forms to [tosubmit@kimberly-ryan.net](mailto:tosubmit@kimberly-ryan.net)
2. The closing date for applications is 18th February 2010. Under no circumstances will applications be accepted after this date.
3. All enquiries should be directed to Kimberly Ryan Ltd.  
No. 29 Kampala St, Off Cairo St, Off Adetokunbo Ademola, Wuse II Abuja. 09-8703188.

DFID is an Equal Opportunities employer. Applications are welcomed from all parts of the community, and we actively encourage interest from women, ethnic minority groups and those with disabilities. Selection is on merit.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted

# Kimberly Ryan

A HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

• PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT • OUTSOURCING • PLACEMENT • HR SYSTEMS & STRUCTURES



## SUBJECT: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR OVC SUPPORT

**TO: All potential Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) working in one or more of the following states: Delta, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Rivers, Gombe, and Taraba.**

Dear CBO or FBO:

The Community Based Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program (CUBS-OVC) in Nigeria will provide small grants to CBOs, NGOs, and FBOs with the goal to improve well being of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) through delivery of critical community-based services. The OVC Program in Nigeria will support the National Plan of Action on OVC by developing and strengthening community based service delivery for orphans and vulnerable children as well as building community ownership, reducing gender discrimination and increasing OVC involvement and advocacy.

Examples of services may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Psychosocial support
2. Education
3. Health
4. Child protection
5. Shelter and care
6. Food/nutrition
7. Economic strengthening/income generation

In addition to awarding the small grants, the CUBS project will provide CBOs with some training and capacity building to assist them in improving their services and support.

Any organization interested in being considered must indicate an interest and then we will send a prequalification questionnaire to fill. The organizations which prequalify will be sent a Request for Application (RFA) to submit a full proposal.

All CBOs and FBOs must currently be registered in Nigeria and be physically resident in the Local Government Area (LGA) where they propose to work and be considered. Ensure you indicate your contact person's name, telephone number, state and local government in which you are operating.

Interested groups should kindly send their indication of interest by email to [bids\\_Nigeria@msh.org](mailto: bids_Nigeria@msh.org) with the subject "Indication of Interest to provide OVC Support Services" on or before 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.



## NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF TECHNOLOGISTS IN ENGINEERING

# Job opportunities

Nigerian Association of Technologists in Engineering is recruiting experienced staff in strengthening and repositioning its work force

### 1. Admin./Technical officer

**Qualification:** applicants must possess at least HND in any field of engineering.

### 2. Accountant

**Qualification:** applicants must possess at least HND Accounting and Finance

### 3. Information Officer

**Qualification:** applicant must possess at least HND or BSC in Mass Communication.

Interested candidates with relevant qualifications should forward their applications with detailed Curriculum Vitae within 7 days of this advertisement to

**HON. general secretary**

26 Ajose Adeogun street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Peace Motor Park Utako District, Abuja

e-mail [nate88et76@yahoo.com](mailto:nate88et76@yahoo.com) or [info@nate-ng.com](mailto:info@nate-ng.com)



# FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS

## ASSESSMENT REPORT OF BAUCHI-GOMBE ROAD

Below is the assessment of the general road condition, furniture and analysis of the crashes on 150km section of road from Bauchi to Gombe.

### POINT TO POINT ASSESSMENT OF THE 150KM LENGTH BAUCHI-GOMBE ROAD

Generally, the road is a single carriageway of 7.4m width and shoulder width of 2.3m, with only about 7km dual carriageway from Mile 3 by Kaltungo junction to Gombe town. The pavement is made up of Laterite sub base and crushed stone base materials. The assessment proper started just after the railway crossing in Inkil, Bauchi State. During the assessment, Chainages were created using the vehicle speedometer reading and the few kilometer stone sighted along the road. Below is a tabulated detailed point to point report of the exercise:

### DETAILED INSPECTION RECORDS FROM: Railway crossing (Inkil, Bauchi) TO: Gombe

SN	ITEM	LOCATION & CHAINAGE	OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS
1	Railway Crossing	00+00 INKIL	The railway crossing is satisfactorily signed. The site also shows that FERMA has carried out a resurfacing work on the road pavement, but the hard shoulder however, is still bad. The shoulders also need to be repaired to aid recovery in case of any loss of control by motorists.
2	Bend, pot holes and shoulder	Ch 2+300 (2.3km)	Sharp bend to the left with warning signs on sides, faded pavement markings, pot holes and eroded hard shoulders. Refilling of the pot holes, remarking of the surface and the repairs of the shoulders to aid quick recovery in cases of loss of control are recommended.
3	Double bends	Ch 4+800 (4.8km) Babaji Safaya Farms	Double bends first to the right then to the left with pot holes. The pot holes need to be refilled and the appropriate road signs installed.
4	Pot holes	Ch 7+000 (7.0km)	Pot holes on the road surface which need to be refilled.
5	Double bends	Ch 9+600 (9.6km)	Double bends with the first turn to the right then to the left without any warning signs. There is need for the appropriate warning signs to be installed.
6	Bend	Ch 10+300 (10.3km)	A sharp bend to the right requiring warning sign.
7	Double bends	Ch 10+800 (10.8km)	Double bend with the first turn to right then to the left without any warning signs. The appropriate warning signs should be erected.
8	Bend and pot holes	Km 134 to Gombe Kang Yare	A sharp bend to the left, though with the appropriate road signs, but riddled with pot holes that need to be filled.
9	Failed surface	Ch 13+800 (13.8km) Kang Yare by the Adult & Non Formal Education Institute	Large section of the road here shows sign of total failure occasioned by deep pot holes and undulating surfaces. There is need for complete resurfacing of this section.
10	Double bends and pot holes	Ch 15+000 (15.0km)	A combination of double bends, first to the right then to the left without warning signs, also made worst with pot holes. The pot holes need to be immediately refilled while the appropriate road signs are provided.
11	Bend	Ch 17+00 (17.0km)	A bend to the right with the appropriate sign but made bad by pot holes. The pot holes need to be refilled.
12	Bend	Ch 17+300 (17.3km)	A sharp bend to the left with the appropriate warning signs.
13	Bend and pot holes	Ch 18+000 (18.0km)	A sharp bend to the left with pot holes that require filling as appropriate traffic signs has been provided for the bend.
14	Pot holes	Ch 18+300 (18.3km) km 128 to Gombe	Deep pot holes on the road pavement requiring refilling.
15	Pot holes	Ch 19+400 (19.4km)	Deep pot hole on the road pavement requiring refilling.
16	Bend	Ch 19+500 (19.5km)	A sharp bend to the right without the appropriate sign

17	Pot holes	Ch 20+900 (20.9km)	Deep pot holes on a stretch that require refilling.
18	Bend	Ch 21+800 (21.8km)	A bend to the left requiring traffic warning signs.
19	Pot holes	Ch 22+400 (22.4km)	Scattered pot holes that need to be refilled.
20	Bend and pot holes	Ch 22+800 (22.8km)	A bend to the left with pot holes and without warning signs. The appropriate warning signs are required and the pot holes filled.
21	Pot holes	Ch 23+100 (23.1km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
22	Pot holes	Ch 23 + 900 (23.9km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
23	Pot holes	Ch 24 + 000 (24.0km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
24	Pot holes	Ch 23 + 300 (24.3km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
25	Pot holes	Ch 24 + 600 (24.6km) Bishi Village	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
26	Pot holes and failed surface	Ch 24 + 800 (24.8km) Bishi Village	The area requires scarification and resurfacing.
27	Double bends and failed portion	Ch 25 + 000 (25km) Bishi Village	There is a right and left double bend that require the appropriate traffic warning signs.
28	Bend	Ch 26 + 700 (26.7km) Km 120 to Gombe	A sharp bend to the right requiring road traffic warning signs.
29	Double bends and pot holes	Ch 27 + 700 (27.7km)	Two sharp bends first to the left then to the right with pot holes. The pot holes need to be refilled and the correct road traffic signs erected.
30	Pot holes	Ch 28 + 400 (28.4km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
31	Bend	Ch 28 + 800 (28.8km) Km 118 to Gombe	A very sharp bend to the right without any road traffic warning sign. The erection of the correct warning signs is recommended.
32	Bend and pot holes	Ch 29 + 700 (29.7km) Dindima	A bend to the right scattered with pot holes. There is need for the filling of the pot holes.
33	Bend	Ch 30 + 400 (30.4km) Km 116 to Gombe	A bend to the left requiring the correct warning signs.
34	Bridge and pot holes	Ch 30 + 800 (30.8km)	A 200 long bridge without advance traffic warning signs with pot holes at entrance and exit, but with road studs (cat eyes) on a stretch of about 200m to the bridge from both entrance. Notwithstanding the presence of the studs, advance traffic warning signs are required and the pot holes at the entrance treated.
35	'T' Junction	Ch 31 + 200 (30.2km) Yankari junction	A major intersection with the road leading to Yankari, the location of the foremost Bauchi game reserve. Advance traffic warning signs are required.
36	Bend and pot holes	Ch 31 + 300 (31.2km)	A sharp bend to the right with pot holes that need to be refilled and the appropriate traffic warning signs erected.
37	Bend and pot holes	Ch 31 + 600 (31.6km)	A sharp left turn with pot holes that need to be filled and the appropriate traffic warning signs erected.
38	Bend and pot holes	Ch 32 + 100 (32.1km)	A sharp left turn with pot holes that need to be filled and the appropriate traffic warning signs erected.
39	Pot holes	Ch 32 + 500 (32.5km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
40	Bend	Ch 33 + 100 (33.1km)	Sharp bend to the right requiring advance warning signs.

Assessment on Bauchi-Gombe Road by FRSC cont.

41	Pot holes	Ch 33 + 900 (33.9km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled
42	Pot holes	Ch 34 + 700 (34.7km) Galambi	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled
43	Bend and pot holes	Ch 35 + 500 (35.5km)	Though the bend has the appropriate traffic warning signs, but riddled with pot holes that need to be refilled.
44	Bend and pot holes	Ch 36 + 100 (36.1km)	A very sharp left turn with appropriate traffic warning signs, but riddled with pot holes that need to be refilled.
45	Pot holes	Ch 37 + 700 (37.7km) Shaffan Fulani	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
46	Failed portion	Ch 37 + 900 (37.8km)	A failed portion of the road that requires scarification and resurfacing.
47	Bridge	Ch 38 + 200 (38.2km)	A bridge without adequate traffic warning signs. Traffic warning signs should be erected.
48	Pot holes	Ch 38 + 300 (38.5km) Km 108 to Gombe	Deep pot holes requiring refilling.
49	Bend and pot holes	Ch 39 + 000 (39km)	A combination of a sharp bend to the right and pot holes. The pot holes need to be refilled as the appropriate warning signs have been erected.
50	Bend and pot holes	Ch 39 + 900 (39.9km) Tashan Maidawa	Though the bend has the appropriate traffic warning signs. It is however riddled with pot holes that need to be refilled.
51	Bend and pot holes	Ch 40 + 400 (40.4km) km 106 to Gombe	A sharp bend to the right with pot holes that need to be refilled.
52	Double bends	Ch 42 + 100 (42.1km)	A sharp bend to the right then left without advance traffic warning signs. There is need for the appropriate signs to be erected.
53	Pot holes	Ch 42 + 600 (42.6km)	Deep pot holes that need to be refilled.
54	Double bends and pot holes	Ch 43 + 500 (43.5km) Kan Iyaka Alkalari da Bauchi (boundary)	A right ad left turns with scattered pot holes that need to be refilled.
55	Pot holes	Ch 44 + 2000 (44.2km)	Deep pot holes requiring refilling.
56	Bend	Ch 44 + 500 (44.5km) Tinker Point	A sharp left turn requiring the appropriate traffic warning signs.
57	Double bends and pot holes	Ch 44 + 900 (44.9km) Sabon Gwararam	Double bends without warning signs, with pot holes, slightly high gradient with slippery tendencies due to oil deposits on the road surface. The correct warning signs are required and surface treatment to take care of the slipperiness.
58	Double bends and bridge	Ch 48 + 200 (48.2km) Bagurja village	Double bends first to the right then to the left, immediately followed by a bridge.
59	Gulley	Ch 49 + 300 (49.3km) Masuri village	Gulley eating into the road from both right and left shoulders. This need to be control by building up concrete embankments on both sides.
60	Bend	Ch 51 + 400 (51.4km) Alkalari	A left bend that need advance traffic warning signs.
61	T junction	Ch 52 + 400 (52.4km)	A 'T' junction to the right requiring advance traffic warning sign.
62	T junction	Ch 52 + 800 (52.8km)	A 'T' junction to the right requiring advance traffic warning signs.
63	Sand encroachment	Ch 53 + 200 (53.2km) LGA Secretariat	Heaps of sand encroaching into the road from the right hand side. Proper drainage system needs to be created and sand removed.
64	T junction	Ch 56 + 800 (56.8km)	A 'T' junction to the left requiring advance traffic warning signs.
65	Bend	Ch 59 + 400 (59.4km) km 88 to Gombe at Arawa	A sharp right turn requiring advance traffic warning signs.
66	Bend	Ch 64 + 300 (64.3km) Kaloma	A sharp bend to the left with one of the road traffic signs covered by vegetation.
67	Bend and bridge	Ch 65 + 800 (65.8km) Kaloma	A well signed bend and a bridge. There is need for proper realignment to improve the sight distance of the bridge.
68	Bad shoulders and pot holes on pavement	Ch 79 + 500 (79.5km) Kalajanga village	The road shoulders here are eroded and the pavement scattered with pot holes.
69	Double bends, long gradient and bad shoulders	Ch 86 + 300 (86.3km) Kalajanga	Though the bends and gradient has the appropriate warning signs, the bad shoulders makes it difficult in terms of the need for quick recovery in the case of loss of control, and not a good parking place for vehicles that need to clear off the road.

70	Double bends	Ch 94 + 000 (94km)	Sharp bend first to the left then to the right that need the erection of advance traffic warning signs.
71	Double bends	Ch 96 + 800 (96.8km) Bara Village	Right and left bends that need the appropriate traffic warning signs.
72	Shoulder	Ch 98 + 100 (98.1km) Bara	Eroded road shoulders that need to be repaired.
73	Bend, Hill and bad shoulders	Ch 103 + 700 (103.7km) Tashan Turmi	The bend and the hill are properly signed, but the road shoulders need to be repaired. FERMA intervention is however visible on the road.
74	Bend and pot holes	Ch 110 + 100 (110.1km)	A sharp bend to the right requiring traffic warning signs and with pot holes that urgently needs to be refilled though FERMA recent intervention is visible in the area.
75	Bend, pot holes and shoulders	Ch 112 + 100 (112.1km)	A combination of sharp right turn without warning signs, scattered pot holes and bad shoulders. There is need for the erection of the correct warning signs, filling of the pot holes and repairs of the shoulders.
76	Bend	Ch 116 + 600 (116.6km)	A sharp bend to the right that requires the appropriate advance traffic warning signs.
77	Bend and pot holes	Ch 117 + 600 (117.6km)	A combination of a sharp bend and pot holes that need to be refilled since the correct signs are in place.
78	Bend	Ch 119 + 100 (119.1km) Km 28 to Gombe about 500m to the Airport gate	A sharp bend to the left that need the installation of proper signs.
79	Bend and school	Ch 121 + 300 (121.3km) Lawanti Town	A bend to the left requiring the appropriate warning signs, and School Pedestrian Crossing that requires speed calming signs.
80	Double bends and high gradient	Ch 126 + 100 (126.1km) Bula Kyani	Sharp bends first to the left then to the right.
81	Bend	Ch 135 + 900 (135.9km)	A sharp left turn requiring the appropriate traffic warning signs.
82	Culvert	Ch 137 + 500 (137.5km) Before Rahamaniya filling station near NTA	A two cell box culvert with broken down wing walls and eroded embankment
83	Junction	Ch 142 + 900 (142.9km) Kaltungo Junction (Mile 3)	A 'Y' junction joining the major road at the beginning of the dual carriageway from the right. The junction need to be provided with the appropriate warning signs and an island separating traffic going in and those going out of the junction.

ANALYSIS OF ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES ON BAUCHI-GOMBE ROAD

From observations, it is clear that the engineering elements and the deplorable condition of the road does not allow for safe motoring. However a combination of these factors and human errors accounts for the crashes on this road. Available record covering only Gombe-Bera section of the road, shows that Thirty one (31) crashes occurred on this section between January to December 2009. Out of this Thirty one (31) cases, Thirty four (34) people were killed and One Hundred and forty four (144) others were injured. See the table below for crash record on the road

A SUMMARY OF ROAD CRASHES ON BAUCHI-GOMBE ROAD FROM JANUARY 2009 TO DECEMBER 2009

S/N	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ACCIDENT TYPE	NO. KILLED	NO. INJURED
1	04/01/2009	8:18HRS	TUNFURE	SERIOUS	-	3
2	09/01/2009	12:00HRS	AKKO	SERIOUS	-	2
3	12/01/2009	11:00HRS	AKKO	SERIOUS	-	1
4	12/01/2009	10:00HRS	AKKO	SERIOUS	-	1
5	18/01/2009	1:30PM	ATM FILLING STATION	SERIOUS	-	16
6	24/01/2009	7:00AM	BARA VILLAGE	FATAL	10	9
7	12/02/2009	9:08AM	BY MOTOR PARK	FATAL	2	-
8	20/02/2009	7:30PM	BARA	FATAL	6	6
9	21/02/2009	11:00AM	AIRPORT	SERIOUS	-	2
10	20/03/2009	21:00HRS	BY MOTOR PARK	SERIOUS	-	3
11	28/03/2009	14:00HRS	BY MOTOR PARK	SERIOUS	-	2
12	18/04/2009	4:38PM	NTA	SERIOUS	-	5
13	18/04/2009	12:20PM	TOTAL FILLING STATION	FATAL	1	1
14	02/05/2009	12:20PM	OLD GMTV	FATAL	1	6
15	09/05/2009	19:00PM	OLD GMTV	FATAL	1	6

**Assessment on Bauchi-Gombe Road by FRSC cont**

16	03/06/2009	12:20PM	CBN JUNCTION	SERIOUS	-	1
17	04/06/2009	9:42AM	BAUCHI PARK	SERIOUS	-	1
18	06/06/2009		CBN JUNCTION	SERIOUS	-	2
19	08/07/2009	20:00HRS	MILE 3	SERIOUS	-	10
20	09/07/2009	8:10AM	TUNFURE	SERIOUS	-	2
21	17/07/2009	10:40AM	TOTAL FILLING STATION	SERIOUS	-	6
22	07/08/2009	1:28PM	LAFIYAH	FATAL	1	29
23	14/08/2009	11:23AM	OPPOSITE BIR	SERIOUS	-	8
24	14/08/2009	13:24PM	AMADA	SERIOUS	-	5
25	01/09/2009	2:39PM	WURODOLE	FATAL	1	9
26	24/9/2009	18:00HRS	RAIL CROSSING	SERIOUS	-	5
27	25/9/2009	17:00HRS	NITEL GOM RD	FATAL	1	1
28	8/10/2009	16:50HRS	BAGALA VILLAGE	FATAL	8	9
29	8/11/2009	09:04AM	RAIL CROSSING	MINOR	-	1
30	3/12/2009	06:20	RAIL CROSSING	FATAL	2	1
31	27/12/2009	16:00HRS	INKIL VILLAGE	MINOR	-	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>34</b>	<b>144</b>

Though the available record from January to December 2009 shows 31 incidences, lots of other incidences are never captured on records. This is particularly evident from the number of some crashes that occurred far from the Commands and were never recorded anywhere.

**SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS:**

- Most part of this 150km section of the Bauchi-Gombe is riddled with pot holes.
- The whole length of the road has 4 bridges and 2 culverts. The bridges have broken guard rails, some with pot holes at the entrance and exits, with studs towards the entrance, and without the appropriate warning signs.
- There are about 85 bends on this road with most of them having the appropriate traffic warning signs in place.
- On most parts of the road, the hard shoulders are either eroded or have been overgrown by grasses and shrubs.
- There are evidences of the Federal Ministry of Works and Urban Development and FERMA past efforts on the road.
- A culvert and some of the bridges have shown signs of technical fault that would require engineering attention.
- Some road crashes on this road are never captured on records, perhaps due to distance between Commands and the crash scenes.
- Recklessness coupled with the engineering and the deplorable road conditions are the major causes of crashes on this road.

**CONCLUSION**

Most parts of the Bauchi-Gombe road are in serious deplorable state. This situation and other factors account for the continuous crashes and loss of lives and property on the road. It is only duty bound for the appropriate authorities to take both immediate and long term measures towards tackling these problems.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Below are recommended measures aimed at reducing the occurrences and consequences of these crashes:

- Adequate and appropriate road signs should be installed in areas where they are lacking
- While recommending the refilling of the pot holes on this section of the road, the failed portions should be scarified and fresh overlay made
- In particular, the public is warned of the hidden dangers and the need to drive with a lot of care in areas like: Bara village, Akko, mile3, CBN junction, Sabon Gwaram, Saffan Fulani, Dindima, and Tinker point

Signed

**Engr. BG Ibrahim fwc**

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Lead Chairman

Committee on Establishment of State Agencies

For Motor Vehicle Administration.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES****COMMITTEE ON PRIVATISATION AND COMMERCIALISATIONS**

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
THREE ARMS ZONE  
P.M.B. 141, ABUJA

**NOTICE OF INVESTIGATIVE HEARING ON THE PRIVATISATION OF JOS STEEL ROLLING MILLS, IMO RIVER DREDGING (ALSCON) AND SKYPOWER AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY BY BUREAU OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES**

The House Committee on Privatisation and Commercialisation wishes to inform the General Public that a two day Public/Investigative hearing on the Privatisation of above Public Enterprises will hold as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday 3rd February, 2010

Jos Steel Rolling Mills  
ALSCON (Imo River Dredging Funds)

**Date:** Thursday 4th February, 2010  
SAHCOL (Skypower Aviation Handling Co. Ltd)

**Time:** 10:00am prompt each day

**Venue:** Committee Hearing  
Room 1, White House  
Three Arms Zone, Abuja.

Memoranda will also be entertained from all interested persons or organizations. All Memoranda should be submitted in thirty (30) copies to the Secretariat of the Privatisation Committee in House Committee Room 9, House of Representatives.

For further enquiries please contact the Secretariat of the House Committee on Privatisation & Commercialisation.

**Hon. (Engr.) Abbas Braimah  
Chairman**

DAILY TRUST

## EDUCATION

E-MAIL: education@dailytrust.com

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# CIIN advocates inclusion of insurance in tertiary curriculum

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE Chartered Insurance Institute of Nigeria (CIIN) has advocated for the inclusion of insurance in the curriculum of all tertiary institutions in the country.

President of CIIN Mr Sunny Adeda, who made the call when members of the organization visited Delta State University, said "our institute's drive towards

greater insurance awareness across Nigeria is yielding dividends as insurance is now offered as a course of study in many universities and polytechnics in the country"

"We believe that insurance profession should be part of Delta State University and we have come to appeal to you to consider insurance degree or course and we are hopeful that you will assist during

your tenure to begin the process for the inclusion of insurance in Delta State University," he said.

He said one of the greatest challenges in the teaching of insurance is the dearth of lecturers and career counselors in the various institutions including the apathy towards insurance which had discouraged students from going into insurance as a profession.

"We have many of our colleagues within this environment that are willing to serve as facilitators in the university even from Lagos end, many of our colleagues and friends are ready to assist the university if the need arises but the first step is our appeal to the university to consider insurance as a degree or course like many universities are doing. It will go a long way in expanding the hori-

zon of students of this university and also help to produce future generation insurance professionals that will sustain the growth of the insurance industry," he said.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor of the university Professor Arubayi said the proposal of CIIN is a laudable, and urged the organization to channel its proposal through the National Universities Commission (NUC).

## Kwara poly expels 60 over examination malpractice

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE Kwara State Polytechnic has ratified the expulsion of sixty (60) students that were involved in examination infractions.

The expulsion letter issued to the students reads in part: "Consequent upon your involvement in the case of alleged examination infraction and your acceptance of guilty to the offence leveled against you, contrary to the Matriculation Oath you swore to, the Governing Council of the Kwara State Polytechnic, after the consideration of the report of the Academic Board, has approved your expulsion from the Polytechnic

"The expulsion takes immediate effect. You therefore ceased to be a student of the polytechnic. You are to stay away from taking part in all the polytechnic activities, academic and non-academic. You should hand over all polytechnic properties in your possession to your Head of Department or the appropriate Polytechnic Authority and leave the campus forthwith."

## Council introduces scholarship scheme for indigent students

THE Lavun Local Government Area of Niger State said it has introduced a scholarship scheme for indigent students studying in various institutions in the country.

Chairman of the local government, Mr Jacob Majin-Gana, told the News Agency of Nigeria in Bida that the scheme would cover exceptional students.



SOME pupils displaying the recently launched books for secondary schools by the Federal Government.

## UNILAG produces 87 First-class graduates

From Seun Joseph, Lagos

A total of 6134 students of the University of Lagos have graduated from various disciplines of study after years of academic work at the university. Specifically happy are the 87 most outstanding students of the varsity who came out in flying colours with first-class divisions.

Out of the total number of students the school graduated after they had satisfied all academic and moral obligations for the award of degrees in the outgoing session, 3,562 students received first degrees while 1,214 went home with postgraduate degrees.

The Faculty of Engineering topped the list with the highest number of first-class students with a total of 34 while the remaining first-class students came from other departments.

In his convocation speech, Vice Chancellor of the university Professor Tolu Odugbemi expressed satisfaction with the performance of the that were churned out by the university, saying "I make bold to say that our university graduates are sharp and smart and can compete favourably with their counterparts anywhere in the world."

"After a meticulous evaluation, the university deemed it fit to confer a honorary doctorate degree on the former Secretary of the United States, Mr. Kofi Annan, followed by the former Secretary General of the Commonwealth of Nations, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Professor Umaru Sehu and Professor C.O. Taiwo who retired from the university some years back. He walks without a walking stick and is energetic as eve," he said.

## NOTAP worries over non-utilisation of varsities' researches

By Yunus Abdulhamid &amp; Maureen Onochie

DIRECTOR General of the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Engineer Umar Buba Bindir has expressed concern over the non-utilisation of several researches produced by Nigerian universities and research centres.

He said the trend had dragged the country backward in technological advancement but that with the establishment of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Offices (IPTTO) in 21 selected universities, polytechnics and research institutes nationwide, the trend could be reversed for good.

Engineer Bindir was speaking at a one-day interactive session organised by NOTAP in collaboration with the Federal University of Technology (FUTO) in Owerri

recently.

He expressed displeasure that no African university could make it to the first 300 position in world ranking of universities as published recently, saying that Nigerian universities possess the needed skills to improve on their innovation capabilities.

He said a huge percentage of funds used in running the first class universities in the UK, Canada and the USA come from royalties from applications of research and development results in institutions.

In his remarks, Vice Chancellor of FUTO, who was represented by Professor Martin Nwafor said although the university has not started enjoying the dividend of IPTTO as the case with developed countries, the massive innovations turned in by students and academic staff for patents are capable of generating money for the university.

## DAILY TRUST EDUCATION

# No investment in education is wasted, says Dukku

By Abdullahi M. Gulloma

MINISTER of State for Education Hajija Aishatu Jubril Dukku has said that whatever the Federal Government has spent on basic education is not a waste. The minister disclosed this when she paid a courtesy call on Governor Murtala Nyako of Adamawa State in Yola, the state capital.

She said that Federal Government has provided N3.032 billion

to Adamawa State as matching grant from the FGN-UBEC intervention between 2005 and 2009, adding that N77,471,471.00 has also been provided to the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) and non-governmental organizations for special education needs in the state.

The minister also said that 543 communities in the state have received N246,445,000.00 to implement self-help projects in

their respective communities.

"I am sure that the foundations which have been laid through the people's oriented projects already executed in the education and other social service frontiers shall further accelerate development in the state," she said.

The minister who was in Yola to commission some Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) projects in the state said "we feel honoured to identify with the suc-

cess and improvement recorded by the current administration in the implementation of basic education in Adamawa state."

In his remarks, Executive Secretary of the UBEC Dr Ahmed Modibbo Mohammed said execution of priority projects in the education sector of state is an indication that the government is willing to transform the socio-economic landscape of the state.

"We are delighted at the pace of

development of the education sub-sector and the exemplary commitment shown to the basic education sub-sector by the government and people of Adamawa state," he said.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Governor Murtala Nyako said his administration will continue to give education the highest priority it deserves, and commended the Federal Government for improving basic education in the country through UBEC.



MINISTER of Education Dr Sam Egwu (right), Minister of State for Education Hajija Aishatu Jibril Dukku and the permanent secretary in the ministry Professor Oladapo Afolabi at a function recently

## NOTAP takes IPTTO to Covenant University

By Yunus Abdulhamid & Maureen Onochie

THE National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) has extended its drive on promoting patent and innovation culture in Nigerian universities through establishment of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Offices (IPTTO) to the Covenant University, Otta, Ogun state.

A statement issued by the spokesperson of the agency, Mr Raymond Ogbu said the introduction of IPTTO in the Covenant University brings to 28 the number of Nigerian universities, polytechnics and research institutions where it has been introduced.

The statement quoted the Director General of NOTAP Umar Buba Bindir as saying that NOTAP had fully adopted the principle of Public Private Partnership (PPP) to change the conservative

attitude of Nigerian institutions.

According to the statement, though NOTAP is a government institution but it was prepared to partner with any private institution that has similar leadership spirit as in Covenant University.

The statement said the Director General also expressed dismay that no Nigerian University is globally reorganized despite the level of infrastructural development and the enthusiasm shown by the students and management of some universities.

The statement also quoted the Chancellor of the university Bishop David Oyedepo as saying that NOTAP's collaboration with the institution is coming at no better time than now that the country is conspicuously missing among the committee of nations with regards to issue of science and technology development.

## Katsina to integrate 400 Quranic schools into formal education system

THE Katsina State Government has selected 400 Quranic schools for integration into the formal education system, the state Executive Director of Agency for Mass Education Alhaji Sani Adamu, has said.

Adamu, who stated this at a stakeholders' meeting in Katsina, said government had already released N50 million for the implementation of the programme.

He said arrangements had been completed for the

take-off of the pilot programme in February.

Adamu said 30 Quranic schools were selected from Katsina Local Government Area, 20 each from Funtua and Daura Local Government Areas, 15 each from Malumfashi, Kankia,

Dutsin-ma and Mani Local Government Areas, and 10 each from other councils.

He commended the government for initiating the programme and urged all stakeholders to work toward ensuring its success.

## UBEC boss gets 'Fighter of Education' award

GIREI Community in Adamawa state has bestowed on the Executive secretary of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) Dr Ahmed Modibbo Mohammed an award for struggling to bring basic education to the state.

Presenting the award, the representative of the community Mr Benson Atonga said the community deemed it fit to give the award to Dr Modibbo because he has contributed to the development of basic education in the community and the state in general.

Responding, Dr Modibbo thanked the community for the award and said he will fight to ensure that the community benefits from basic education, adding that education is a life time investment.

Dr Modibbo was in the community on the entou-

rage of the Minister of State for Education, Hajija Aishatu Jubril Dukku to commission some UBE projects in Bajabure Federal Housing Estate Primary school Girei, Modibbo Lawal Model Primary School Girei, among others.

## NBTE gets new DPM

THE Governing Board of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) has approved the appointment of Alhaji Sheriff Sanda as the acting Director of Personnel Management Department.

The appointment followed the retirement of Alhaji A. B. Kurawa from the services of NBTE upon the attainment of the mandatory retirement age of 60 years.

Sanda, who joined the services of NBTE in 1991 as a Principal Personnel Officer, has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in 1981 and a Post-graduate Diploma in Public Administration from the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON) in 1994.

The Executive Secretary of NBTE Dr Nuru A. Yakubu in a letter conveying the appointment noted that the "appointment was earned as a result of your hard work, good performance, diligence and devotion to duty."

# CAMPUS ROUNDUP

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## New FUTA students tour campus

From Leye Adewumi, FUTA

THE newly admitted first year students of Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA) have toured the university's campus as part of the one-week orientation programme organized by the university for fresh students.

Campus Roundup reports that the new students moved from one part of the campus to another with excitement.

Vice Chancellor of the university Professor Adebisi Balogun, who welcomed the students, urged them to work hard in order to be found worthy in both learning and character.

He said their main reason for being in the university was to be trained to become relevant global competitors and to contribute meaningfully to the development process of the country.

While urging them to place emphasis on their academics, Professor Balogun explained that any other thing derived

from campus aside academic success was an addition which could make or mar students' success.

In his lecture, Dr Boniface Kayoye Alese of the Department of Computer Science said assumptions made by hundred level students were often the causes of their problems.

## NTA College warns students against cultism

From Musliudeen Adebayo, Jos

THE Rector the Jos-based NTA College Dr Ayo Fasan has called on the newly admitted students to shun examination malpractices, cultism and other social vices if they want to remain in the college.

Speaking at the matriculation of 184 new students for the 2010 academic year in Jos, Dr Fasan said students must not engage in

social vices because they will jeopardize their academic pursuit.

He congratulated the new students for securing admission into the institution, and urged them to be of good behaviour and face their studies in order to excel.

He said the students must take their studies seriously because the NTA College is recognised nationally and internationally.



SOME students of University of Ilorin queing for bus.

## Unilorin SUG procures 50 buses

From David Ogirima, UNILORIN

THE Students Union Government (SUG) of the University of Ilorin has through a Public-Private Partnership arrangement, procured 50 mini-buses to ease the transportation problem hitherto being experienced by its members.

The buses, popularly known as Korope, have started to ply the university roads. Majority of the students, who spoke to Campus Roundup

expressed happiness over the development.

Also, the Dean of Students Affairs said the university authorities were proud of what the SUG has done to address the students' transportation problem.

He therefore called on other private agencies willing to partner with the university in its developmental efforts to do so without hesitation as the responsibility cannot be borne by the university alone.

### INTERNATIONAL

## Saudi girl attacks principal, gets lashes, jail

A Saudi court sentenced a teenage girl to 90 lashes and two months in jail after she thumped her school principal on the head with a cup, a newspaper said.

The incident happened in the eastern city of Jubail after the headmistress confiscated the girl's mobile phone because it had a camera which is banned in Saudi schools, Al-Watan newspaper said.

The principal asked the court to order the flogging to be carried out inside the school "to educate" the pupil, the newspaper said.

The newspaper did not give the age of the girl.

The Saudi justice system has been criticised by international human rights groups for applying corporal punishments for petty crimes, as well as amputations for thieves and decapitations for murderers under its strict Islamic laws.

Saudi officials reject the criticism and say the practice is widely approved by the society and repels a surge in crime. (Reuters/NAN)

## Adamawa and Thai varsities sign MoU

ADAMAWA State University (ADSU), Mubi, and Chiang Mai University (CMU) of Thailand have signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on academic collaboration.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that the Vice Chancellor of the university Dr Alkasum Abba and the president of CMU Dr Ponsak Angkathit signed the agreement on behalf of

their institutions.

Under the agreement the parties would exchange faculty staff and students as well as publications and relevant academic and scholarly information.

The institutions would also engage in joint research, lectures and symposia as well as other activities deemed appropriate by mutual consent.

Meanwhile, ADSU has been

admitted into full membership of Association of African Universities (AAU). This is contained in statement by the Information and Protocol officer of the university, Malam Ahmad Sajoh.

It statement said the approval for ADSU's full membership of AAU was given at the 67th meeting of the association's governing board held in Accra, on November 11, 2009

## Governor Lamido donates bus to NAJISS

By Saifullahi Umar, BUK

GOVERNOR Sule Lamido of Jigawa State has donated a brand new 18-seater bus to the National Association of Jigawa State Students (NAJISS) in order to address the lingering transportation problems being faced by students.

The bus was presented to the

president of the association Comrade Adamu Sa'ad Madaki by the state Commissioner of Education, Science and Technology Professor Ruquayyatu Ahmad Rufa'I.

Speaking at the ceremony, Professor Ruquayyah said the bus was "donated out of the governor's gesture to assist the association in order to carry out its day-to-

day activities by attending conferences, workshops, seminars, debate, lectures, conventions, sports competition and other students' gathering."

Responding on behalf of the students, Comrade Madaki commended the governor for the kind gesture, saying "this is an honour which we must cherish for life."

## News Extra

# The little girl who had eight limbs and was worshipped as a deity starts school

She was born with a unique body - eight limbs and two torsos fused at the hips. Now Lakshmi Tatma, the Indian toddler whose plight touched the world, has grown up and started school.

Two years after a ground-breaking operation to separate her from a parasitic twin, Lakshmi is a lively and bubbly four-year-old.

She loves playing cricket with her older brother, has a tendency to boss around her newfound friends and remains firmly a daddy's girl.

'When I think of the way she was, never in a million years would Lakshmi have been able to go to school or have the life she does today,' said her mother Poonam, 26.

'All the things she's capable of now were impossible two years ago.'

'I often try to think what she might be like today if she hadn't had the operation - she couldn't even sit up before and now she runs around like other children.'

Born in a dusty farming village in India's poorest state, Lakshmi was revered as a deity and worshipped from birth.

Villagers, who believed she was the reincarnation of the Hindu goddess of wealth and fertility, would seek her blessing daily and leave gifts at her bedside. But Lakshmi's resemblance to her mythological namesake came at a terrible price. She could not walk, stand, or even sit.

The little girl was joined to a headless parasitic twin that had stopped developing in her mother's womb. Doctors were not convinced she could not have survived into adulthood.

Now fully recovered from the 27-hour operation to save her, Lakshmi is almost unrecognisable from her former self.

Beneath the surface, however, lurk a series of medical problems that threaten her future and will require years of surgery.

Six months after the complex operation to remove Lakshmi's parasitic twin, doctors discovered she had developed scoliosis, or a curvature of the spine.

Without a complex operation to correct her spine doctors have warned her back will be forced into increasingly severe deformities as she grows, possibly leaving her disabled.

Separately, Lakshmi requires an operation to 'detether' her spine after it was discovered she was born with abnormal tissue connecting the spinal cord to her nervous system.



LAKSHMI as a baby, with her conjoined twin still attached



In a further operation orthopaedic surgeons must perform a procedure to 'close her hips', which are set too far apart and result in an unusual 'gaited' walk.

Finally, plastic surgeons will need to find a way to create buttocks for Lakshmi, which did not form in the womb because of the unique way she was connected to her parasitic twin. In the same operation surgeons will have to fix related problems with her bladder and intestines.

'Lakshmi has come such a long, long way but we're very scared for the future,' said her mother Poonam.

'At one time we never imagined she would look so healthy, so we are very grateful for all the help we've had.'

'But we can't bear the thought that all this help could be undone if we can't find a way to get the extra operations she needs.'

The charity that looks after her cares for 500 other children as well. It does not have the funds to pay for these operations and we have no money either.

'The hospital that operated on her before has promised to help but they cannot correct her spine because it is such a specialised operation.'

'All we want is for her to be

a normal child. She has had her operation but even now she can't walk or move normally. Her feet don't come together properly and when she walks it hurts.'

Despite the threat to her future, Lakshmi's life today is a world away from the circumstances of her birth.

Born to impoverished parents in the frequently lawless state of Bihar, in India's volatile northeast, Lakshmi faced an uncertain future until a wealthy doctor heard of her plight and offered to operate on her for free.

Orthopaedic surgeon Dr Sharan Patil, owner of the Sparsh Hospital in Bangalore 2,000 miles south, travelled to Lakshmi's remote village in 2007 to meet the child and offer her parents the chance of a lifetime.

After more than a month planning the separation, Dr Patil's team attempted the first operation of its kind in the world.

Hundreds of journalists camped outside the hospital throughout the 27-hour surgery.

Lakshmi's fame, having spread from her tiny village around the world, prompted Sucheta Kriplani Shiksha Niketan (SKSN), a charitable school looking after disabled children in the desert state of Rajasthan, to offer her parents a place to live and the chance of an education for Lakshmi and her brother Mithilesh.

Lakshmi faced an uncertain future until a wealthy doctor heard of her plight and offered to operate on her for free

LAKSHMI Tatma, dressed in her school uniform and standing proudly on her own two feet, smiles at her home in Jodhpur earlier this month



## News Extra

## Haiti: The shooting of Fabienne Cherisma

...He had not picked her up since she was a toddler. Last week he carried her home

**F**abienne Cherisma spent her life assessing margins. She was just 15 but had a knack for knowing what would sell on the family's knick-knack stall, and for how much. In Port-au-Prince's raucous, hardscrabble market it was a gift that helped keep her parents and five siblings on the right side of the survival line.

"My daughter was a sales lady. A good one," said her father, Osam. "Whatever she bought she was always able to sell it on for a bit more." A few cents extra profit meant an extra spoon of rice for dinner in the family's one-room shack.

His daughter spent mornings in stores and other markets hunting bargains – pots, soap, combs, zips, bras – and then hawked them with a mark-up from the family's patch of concrete near Grand Rue, an open-air market where traders shout over the throb of generators and flies hover over steaming

She was scrambling back over collapsed rooftops, just a few streets from her stall, when police in fluorescent yellow vests began shooting in the air. A bullet to the head felled Fabienne. She collapsed on to one of the paintings, blood trickling from the wound

garbage.

Fabienne spent her afternoons at school, excelling at maths, French and science. "She was very intelligent," Osam said. "Her head was full of knowledge." Despite her nose for commerce her ambition was to become a nurse.



15-YEAR-OLD Fabienne Cherisma lies dead after being shot in the head in Port-au-Prince.



FABIENNE Cherisma's body is carried home by her father, who believes she was shot three times by police

Haiti's 12 January earthquake changed Fabienne's usual calculations. The family home escaped unscathed, and within days the market resumed, but mobs were looting nearby stores. Human ant-trails carrying food, electrical goods and furniture passed her stall.

Amid the devastation, Fabienne spotted an opportunity, and last Tuesday she joined the throng. Most looters were male

but the girl in the pink mini-skirt emerged from the melee with two plastic chairs and three framed pictures.

She was scrambling back over collapsed rooftops, just a few streets from her stall, when police in fluorescent yellow vests began shooting in the air. A bullet to the head felled Fabienne. She collapsed on to one of the paintings, blood

trickling from the wound.

"People ran past saying a little girl was shot. My girl," said her father. He ran to the scene. His daughter was dead. Someone had gone through her pockets. The chairs she had carried had disappeared.

He had not picked up Fabienne up since she was a toddler, but Osam, lean and muscular like most Haitian men, swung her body over his shoulder

and took her home. His wife, Amante, collapsed. Just days earlier the family had celebrated surviving the quake but now death had visited after all. "She was my baby," she said.

It was unclear whether police, who have executed looters, intentionally shot the girl. Her family said the shooting was deliberate and that three head wounds proved she was shot twice more at point blank range.

That claim was impossible to verify. When asked, police in the area shrugged and said they knew nothing. "It's not like it's easy keeping track of bodies," said one sergeant. Osam insisted his daughter was no looter, that she set out with \$70 (£43) – the family's entire cash reserve – to buy chairs, having estimated she could sell them for \$75. The framed pictures must have been a spontaneous purchase. If so she would have been a lone shopper amid a tumult of scavengers.

With morgues overflowing, and earthquake fatalities being bulldozed into mass graves, the Cherismas took their daughter's body out of the city. With a borrowed \$70 they rented a private bus, and drove for four hours to relatives in Zorance. They buried her in a Catholic ceremony and placed a white cross over the grave.

In Port-au-Prince there are few mementoes of the teenager's existence: a pair of grubby white training shoes; a brown school uniform in a red bucket which serves as a chair, table and container.

The one photo of her, in which she smiles, is lost. So is her birth certificate. The family thinks the hospital which recorded her birth was destroyed. There is no police investigation and the death is not registered. Officially, it is as if the teenager never was.

The question is not whether Fabienne will be remembered as a victim of the earthquake but whether, outside her family, she will be remembered at all.

Her sister Amanda, 13, more shy and withdrawn, said she would miss Fabienne's jokes, banter with customers, and advice on what to charge: "She said you have to know what is not too little, not too much. You have to get it just right."

Culled from guardian.co.uk

# In Memoriam



In sweet and evergreen memory  
of my former colleague in the  
Senate, friend and brother

The gap left by your  
departure has been very  
difficult to fill.

May your noble soul continue  
to find rest in our Creator.

**Senator Mamman Ali**  
Former Governor, Yobe State

**Signed**

**Senator I.G. Abana**

# CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513  
 email: citynews@dailytrust.com  
 News about your capital city

## 90-yr-old man wants belongings from lover

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A 90-year-old man, Usman Garkuwa, yesterday told a Karu Upper Area Court that he will settle for nothing less than the retrieval of all the items he bought for his 24-year-old girlfriend since the relationship is sour.

The 24-year-old lady acting on the court's order, returned some of the items that were valued at N80,600 but the man insisted on

items valued at N120,600.

The man said he envisaged his girlfriend, Aisha Ibrahim might jilt him and bought all the items in his own name because of a similar experience he had with another girl in the past, who duped him of property worth thousands of naira.

Responding, Aisha and her mother Oyobo Giza told the court that items collected from Usman while the relationship was sweet amounted to N120,600 and not

N345,600 as claimed by him.

Judge Issa Yahaya then asked Usman if he has any witness to prove the exact amount of items collected and he said yes but later informed the court of his willingness to forfeit the ones she denied.

The 90-year-old man also asked for the return of N40,000, 11 pieces of wrappers and a Nokia handset and said he forgave his former lover of the remaining N115,300.

Aisha and her mother after listening to Usman, pleaded with the court for time to pay back the remaining items and the judge ordered that they write an undertaking as well as gave them 30 days to pay for the remaining items.

The judge warned that if they fault, both Aisha and her mother risk arrest, adding that they have 30 days to appeal the ruling if they are not satisfied.

## Alsatian dogs terrorize Efab Estate residents

By Lami Sadiq & Maureen Onochie

TWO fierce looking Alsatian dogs Monday morning broke loose from their apartment at Efab Estate and terrorized residents of the area.

Our reporters learnt that the dogs belong to a resident of the area, whose relation forgot to lock his gate.

Mr Joseph Katu, who is a neighbour of the dogs' owner, said he noticed them early Monday morning when he drove out of his compound to take his kids to school.

He said the dogs ran after his vehicle barking, adding that his kids as well as other residents of the area were terrified.

"The dogs' owner is not around and when I called him this morning to inform him of what had happened, he sounded bitter, saying his security man may have forgotten to lock the main gate of the house and promised to send someone to assist the guard assemble the dogs back to the compound," he added.

An eye witness, Ijeoma Duru, who was also terrorized by the dogs, said she acted cool and prayed silently when she came across the dogs suddenly but later ran on seeing other people take to their heels.



PIC: ABUBAKAR YAKUBU

FCT cultural group displaying at the Arts and Craft Village in Abuja yesterday.

## Customary judges transfer divorce case to Area Court

By Abdullahi Abubakar

JUDGES Umaymah Y. Abdullahi, Samson Chogudo and Rekia Habu of FCT Customary Court Grade A, Kuje, recently transferred a divorce case to an Area court based on the plea of the petitioner's husband.

The petitioner, Hafsat Yusuf had sought the court's assistance to dissolve her marriage to Zikiru Abdulkareem.

When the judges asked Zikiru if he knew why he was in court, he pleaded with the court to transfer the case to any area court as Hafsat and him got married according to Islamic law.

Hafsat also accepted to allow the transfer and the court relying upon Part 1 of the schedule of the FCT Customary Court Act 2007 transferred the case to an Upper Area Court at Kuje for adjudication.

The above act states that customary courts lack the jurisdiction to try matrimonial cases or matters arising from any marriage under Islamic Law.

## FCT Fire Service saves N366.4m property

By Usman A. Bello & Lami Sadiq

PROPERTY worth N336.4 million have so far been saved in fire incidents across the Federal Capital Territory by officials of the FCT Fire Service.

This was disclosed yesterday by the FCT Fire Service Comptroller, Liman A. Baro, during a press briefing on the service activities from October to December 2009.

He explained that the service received a total of 98 fire incident calls out of which N336.4 million property were saved, while N176.4 million were destroyed, adding that 64 lives were also saved with 13 persons confirmed died in the fire incident.

"Among the fire inci-

dents, 28 of them were residential fire, 17 office fire and four bush fire, while others consists of one vehicle fire, one market fire, four false fire and 11 rescue fire," he said.

Liman disclosed that calls were received from Asokoro, Abaji, Bwari, Game Village, Garki Modern Market, Gwarinpa, Gwagwalada, Kuje, Kubwa as well as Kwali.

He said the fire command has purchased two new trucks, recruited and trained 34 motor mechanic drivers and sent 17 junior officers on course, while eight officers attended a fire competence course in Kano.

The senior fire officer also listed as newly purchased, 16 fire fighting vehicles, three water tankers of

10,000 litre capacity as well as five ambulances stationed at Gwagalanda, Abaji and the city centre.

Liman said the FCT command has 10 functional fire service vans, adding that five are situated within the city centre, while the remaining five are in area councils.

He said the command is trying to create a forum where they can meet with developers in order to ensure that buildings are fire safety compliant to achieve low rates of fire incidents in the city.

He advised the residents to call the service hotlines on time during fire incidents, adding that they will continue to sensitize residents on the danger of bush burning.

## Cell breaker jailed for 1 year

By Foluke Ojumu

AN Abuja Area Court last Thursday sentenced a 22-year-old man to one year imprisonment for escaping from lawful custody and raping a 19-year-old girl last year.

The court heard that the accused Chinedu Samson with four others (now at large) raped a 19-year-old girl on May 29, 2009 at Karimo Village.

Police prosecutor, Mayaki Makadas, told the court that on the night of May 29, 2009, the victim's sister (names withheld) reported to the police that her sister was raped by four men while returning from work.

He said the rape victim is a cook at a restaurant, adding that she was abducted by the suspects, dragged to an isolated place and raped.

The prosecutor stated further that in the early hours of June 11 2009, the accused while in police detention escaped to an unknown destination and was re-arrested on January 19, 2010.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and begged for leniency.

Judge Babaginda Hassan sentenced the accused to one year imprisonment or to pay N20,000 as fine.



# CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

## INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT OF IT WORK TOOLS IN CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Central Bank of Nigeria is desirous to undertake the following projects:

1. Maintenance of Desktop Computers
2. Maintenance of Laptops
3. Maintenance of Tablet PCs
4. Maintenance of Printers
5. Maintenance of Xerox Workstation Printers
6. Maintenance of UPSes
7. Maintenance of Scanners, and 8. Maintenance of Stabilizers.

Consequently, the Bank wishes to invite reputable and competent companies for pre-qualification and tender for the projects as stated below.

### 2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

Maintenance Support of the above stated IT Work tools in CBN (REF : CBN2010SPMO-01)

- a) The scope of the bid requested is for the comprehensive and basic maintenance support of the following IT Work tools in all CBN locations across the country:
  1. Desktops (3718 units) : Models; Zinox, HP and IBM
  2. Laptops and Tablets PCs (1315 units) : Models; Zinox, HP and IBM
  3. Printers (1341 units) : Model; HP
  4. Xerox Workstation Printers (20 units)
  5. UPSs (2229 units) : Models; APC, Zinox, and Libert
  6. Scanners (97 units) : Model; HP
  7. Stabilizers (1891 units) : Models ; Mercury, Samlex
- b) The services will be offered by Resident Engineers on site between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays except on public holidays.
- c) Ensure at least 95% performance availability

### 3.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENT

Interested and competent companies wishing to carry out the above job must submit the following documents for verification:-

- a.) Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission
- b.) Evidence of payment of tax for the last three (3) years as and when due.
- c.) Comprehensive company profile including registered address, functional contact email address, GSM phone number(s), facsimile number(s).
- d.) Verifiable evidence of similar jobs successfully executed in the past.
- e.) Reference letter from a bank stating financial ability to carry out such project(s).
- f.) Current company's audited statement of accounts.
- g.) Evidence of employees Retirement Savings Accounts (RSA) with a pension Fund Administrator.
- h.) Evidence of remitting employer and employee pension contributions to the appropriate pension fund custodian.
- i.) Evidence of transferring all Pension Funds and Assets prior to the commencement of the pension Reform Act to licensed pension operators.

### 4.0 Collection of Bid Document

Interested and competent contractors wishing to carry out the above job should collect the information for Bid (IFB) from Secretary Major Contract Tenders Committee, PSSD (2nd Floor, wing C) on the payment of a non-refundable fee of N50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Naira Only) for each bid. The payment will be in Bank Draft payable to CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

### 5.0 SUBMISSION

The submission will be in two separate envelopes.

- A. the General Requirements should be submitted in one wax sealed envelope boldly marked at the top left Corner:

"Maintenance Support of IT WT .... ( indicate the project and its Reference number)"

- B. Financial bid should be submitted in wax sealed envelope boldly marked at the top left corner:

"Financial Bid for the Maintenance Support of IT WT ( indicate the project and its Reference number)" ".... ( indicate the project and its Reference number)"

### And addressed to:-

The Secretary,  
Major Contracts Tenders Committee  
2nd Floor, Wing C  
CBN Head Office Complex,  
Central Business District,  
Abuja, FCT Nigeria.  
Fax NO: 09-462-38239  
E-mail: tenders@cenbank.org

### CLOSING DATE

All submission must be received at the above Address on or before 16.00 hours two weeks from the date of this publication.

### OPENING DATE

The tenders shall be opened on Monday 8rd February, 2010.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

- 1) Only successful pre-qualified company(s) will have their financial Bids evaluated. Full tendering procedure will be applied to contractors pre-qualified and found capable of executing the project.
- 2) Nothing on this notice shall be construed to be commitment on the part of CBN.
- 3) The successful contractors will be contacted.

**Signed:  
MANAGEMENT**

# FCT school principals to get land

By Nasir Imam

ALL public secondary school principals in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) will be allocated plots of land in Abuja.

FCT Minister, Senator Muhammad Adamu Aliero, disclosed this while declaring open the 2010 professional training course of All Nigeria

Confederation of Principals of Secondary Schools (ANCOPSS) of the North Central Zone at NUT House, Lugbe-Abuja.

The minister disclosed that 200 principals in FCT public schools would have their plots allocated in two phases due to their large number.

He also donated a 15-seater bus to the FCT Chapter of

ANCOPSS to be used for its official functions, like conveying members to conferences/workshops across the country.

The minister while lamenting on the issue of mass failure of students in WASC/NECO examinations, called on ANCOPSS to look closely into the immediate and remote causes of incessant mass failure

in exams by students.

Senator Aliero emphasised that if we get our educational system right, every other thing would fall in line.

Earlier, Chairman of the FCT chapter of ANCOPSS, Hajiya Fati Abdul-Rahman, expressed gratitude to the FCT Administration for their support and cooperation.

# Servant jailed for stealing N4m

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

AN Abuja magistrate court Tuesday sentenced a 20-year-old house help to six months imprisonment for stealing N4 million belonging to his employer.

Bashir Adamu of No 63, Katampe Street, Abuja, stole the money from the bedroom of the complainant.

Police prosecutor, Ahmed Mohammed, had earlier stated in court that on January 16, 2010, one Aminu Baffa reported to the police that the accused dishonestly entered his bedroom and stole his money.

"During police investigations, it was discovered that the accused used out of the stolen money to purchase six bags of maize and 12 bags of soya beans, all valued at N372,000, the prosecutor added.

He also stated that the bags of maize and soya beans were recovered from the possession of the accused, adding that the offence committed is punishable under Section 189 of the Penal Code Law.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and begged for leniency.

Based on his guilty plea, the prosecutor asked the court to try the accused summarily under Section 157 of the Penal Code Law.

In her ruling, Magistrate Rosemary Kanyip convicted the accused and sentenced him to six months imprisonment or to pay N 5,000 as fine.

## Polls: Aspirant urges dedication from security agencies

By Yunus Abdulhamid

AN Abuja Municipal Area Council chairmanship aspirant in the forthcoming council elections, Muhammed Baba Karshi, Monday advised security agencies to be fair to all political parties during the polls.

The Democratic Peoples Party (DPP) member said unless security agencies act in fairness, the electoral reforms being talked about may not work, because some of them aid election rigging.

Baba Karshi expressed

confidence that he will clinch AMAC's chairmanship ticket, insisting that he defeated the outgoing chairman, Mr Zaphaniah Jisalo but was rigged out by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

"If people's votes are properly counted in Nigeria's elections, honestly, I don't think PDP will win any election as most members have left the PDP.

"I know the PDP members are planning their rigging tactics but by the grace of God, they will not succeed," Karshi said.

## Two charged with house breaking

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police Monday arraigned two young men before an Abuja magistrate court for alleged housing breaking, criminal trespass, joint act and theft.

The accused persons, Jude Mkar of no fixed address and Aaron Malo of Garki 2, Abuja, were reported to have collaborated with each other to steal N105,000 belonging to one Adorena of No 6, Ajasa Street, Wuse 2, Abuja.

Prosecutor Mohammed Ahmed informed the court that on January 9, 2010, the accused persons broke into the house of the complainant and stole the

said money, adding that they committed offences punishable under Section 248, 79, 353 and 288 of the Penal Code Law," the prosecutor added.

When the charges were read to the accused persons, they denied the allegations and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

Magistrate Emmanuel Iyanna granted the accused bail in the sum of N100,000 with a reasonable surety in like sum that must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to February 9 for hearing.



KANO STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

BIDA ROAD, OFF POST OFFICE ROAD, P.M.B. 3078, KANO STATE



## INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

The Kano State Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in its continued commitment to boost agricultural production intends to procure fertilizer under contract for distribution to its teeming farmers for which the invitation for prequalification is issued.

The Kano State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources hereinafter 'the employer' intends to pre-qualify contractors for the supply of assorted fertilizer for the 101 agricultural season. The commodity is expected to meet the following standard:-

### 1. CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

NPK 15:15:15 – Not less than 13%N, 13%P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, and 13%K<sub>2</sub>O

NPK 20:10:10 – Not less than 17%N, 8%P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, and 8%K<sub>2</sub>O

UREA – Not less than 44%N

### 2. PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Each fertilizer should be non-caking with minimum dust and free flowing
- It should be packaged in double layer 50kg waterproof bag (50kg gross weight).

### CONDITIONS OF DELIVERY AND PAYMENT

- Payment for consignment will be on delivery and certification by the Ministry

- Delivery for consignment sourced in Kano must be completed within one week
- Delivery for consignment sourced from Lagos and Port Harcourt must be completed within eight (8) weeks.

### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration, the contractor in his proposal must include the following:

- Evidence of incorporation or registration of business name;
- Registration with the Kano State's Works Registration Board in relevant category;
- Company's Audited Accounts for (3) years;
- Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for (3) years;
- Evidence of financial capability and/or banking support;
- Experiences and technical qualification of key personnel;
- Record of previous project executed/performed;
- Ability to transport the commodities;
- Evidence of settlement of P.A.Y.E and other withholding taxes due to the State;
- V.A.T. registration and evidence of past V.A.T. remittances;
- Local resource utilization;
- Community and social responsibility support;
- Source of the commodities.

All prospective suppliers should submit 40 copies of their proposals in sealed envelope, addressed to: The Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Bida Road, Off Post Office Road, P.M.B. 3078, Kano State

To reach the Ministry within 14 days of the date of this advertisement.

The Special Ministerial Tenders Board would consider the proposals one week after the closure of the submission.

The Ministry reserves the right to reject any proposal. It may also discontinue the tendering process and the potential Tender may not be entitled. In any claim in this regard. The Ministry shall not go into correspondences with non-pre-qualified contractors in any form. The names of successful Tenderers would be fixed on the Notice Board of the Ministry located on Bidda Road, Off Post Office Road, Kano.

Signed:

Baffa Bello,

Permanent Secretary

For: Honourable Commission



## NATIONAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Sequel to our Vacancy Advertisement Published first on 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and also on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009 in selected National Newspapers on existing Vacancies:

- ❖ Director Community Health Services – GL 17,
- ❖ Director Disease Control & Immunisation – GL 17,
- ❖ Director PHC Systems Development – GL 17,
- ❖ Director Planning Research and Statistics (PRS) – GL 17,
- ❖ Director of Administration and Human Resources – GL 17,
- ❖ Director of Finance & Accounts – GL 17,
- ❖ Consultant Special Grade I/Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) – Grade 17,
- ❖ Head, Procurement Unit,

The general public is hereby informed that submission of application for all advertised posts is ongoing.

In line with the extant rules in the Civil Service and indeed beyond the 6 Weeks mandatory requirement for Public Advertisement of vacancies, interested applicants have until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010, which is now the final Closing date for submitting their applications.

Interested qualified Candidates can submit hard copies of their Application directly to our corporate Head Quarters Office, Gimbiya Street, Off Port-Harcourt Crescent Area 11, Abuja, Ancorapoint Ltd, 21a Fatai Arobieke Street, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos or send by mail to: [execrecruit@ancorapoint.com](mailto:execrecruit@ancorapoint.com)

**MANAGEMENT**



## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The **FCT AREA COUNCIL STAFF PENSION BOARD, Area 3, Garki Abuja** shall embark on Verification exercise of its pensioners with effect from 27<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

All pensioners in the Six Area Councils and Local Education Authorities and elsewhere are to report at their respective **Area Councils' Headquarters** within these days for the exercise at **9:0am** daily with the following items:

- **First Appointment Letter**
- **Identity Card**
- **Retirement Letter**
- **Confirmation of Appointment Letter**
- **Two Passport Size Photograph**
- **Last Promotion Letter**
- **Bank Details**
- **Telephone/Mobile Number**

Any pensioner that fails to turn up for the exercise will no longer be paid his/her monthly pension until he/she is verified

Signed:

Management

**FCT AREA COUNCIL STAFF PENSION BOARD**



The **BIG ONE** is  
here again!

It is the

**31<sup>st</sup>**

## KADUNA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

...Africa's most famous fair!

*Theme*

Propelling The Agro - Industrial And  
Manufacturing Concerns for the Growth and  
Development of the Nigerian Economy

*Date*

Friday 19th February, - Sunday 28th February, 2010

*Venue*

Km 4, Kaduna - Zaria Road, Rigachikun, P.O. Box 728, Kaduna-Nigeria.  
Tel: +234 (0) 803 3001361, 0702 3228908, 0803 2506669 Fax: +234-(0)62-318795,  
E-mail: [kadunachamberofcommerce@yahoo.com](mailto:kadunachamberofcommerce@yahoo.com)  
Website: <http://www.kadccima.org>



Organised By:  
**KADUNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY,  
MINES & AGRICULTURE**

## VACANT POSITION – MARKETING OFFICERS

We are a leading player in the solid minerals industry sector. We are involved in both dimension stone quarrying and processing.

Due to growth and expansion, we are currently looking for young highly motivated individuals who are at the early stage of their career to form part of our service team. Successful candidate will be involved in the marketing of our granite products etc. in Kaduna, Abuja and environs.

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATION/SKILLS:

- Must be educated to a minimum of B.Sc/M.Sc (Architecture or Quantity Surveying or building Engineering).
- Not less than 3 years relevant experience in managerial capacity in the building industry.
- Willingness to travel within Nigeria
- Excellent verbal and written communication
- Strong analytical/interpretation skills
- Should be computer literate.

**REMUNERATION:** The remuneration attached to this position is very attractive and competitive.

**METHOD OF APPLICATION:** Candidates who meet the above requirements should forward their handwritten application with detailed curriculum vitae and copies of their credentials to:

**The Advertiser  
P.O. Box 2949  
KADUNA**

# ENVIRONMENT

property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

## Climate change: 'Nigeria can't meet 2010 target'

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

Stakeholders in the Nigerian environment sector yesterday said Nigeria will not meet the January 2010 Copenhagen Accord deadline, saying they intend to ensure that the interest of Nigeria is put on top priority and conditions met before any agreement is signed.

At the Global Summit on Climate Change held at Copenhagen, Denmark last December, countries which were part of the meeting, including Nigeria, had agreed

that the deadline for the signing of an agreement, otherwise known as Copenhagen Accord will elapse on the 31st of January 2010.

However, in a stakeholders meeting at the National Assembly organised by the House of Representatives committee on Climate Change, there were strong indications that in order to protect the interest of the nation and make meaningful decisions that would enhance its climate change policies locally and internationally,

the January 31st date will not be honoured by Nigeria.

Briefing the Committee on the Accord, head of the ministerial technical committee of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Dr Samuel Adejuwon said, "the timeframe required to sign on the Accord is not sufficient enough to allow the determination of our scale of emission reduction under developing countries Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, NAMAS".

The Minister of Environment, Mr John Odey, said that in meeting the reduction of emissions challenge, there is need for the country not to lose sight of renewable energy targets.

The minister called for synergy between stakeholders, pointing out that there is need for the committee on Climate Change to collaborate with stakeholders towards achieving a blueprint that will be used by all parties to work together.

Gas flaring, sustainable agricultural practices and other factors, he continued must be given priority attention as well as the cost implication of the exercise.

In his speech, chairman of the committee on Climate Change Rep Eziuche Ubani (PDP, Abia State) said the meeting was meant to brainstorm on the outcome of the Copenhagen convention with the view to have a national framework for its consideration.

## Belgium apartment building collapses

A five-story apartment building collapsed following an explosion early Wednesday, injuring at least 20 people, two of them critically, and trapping some in debris, officials said.

Rescue workers searched the rubble of the downtown apartment block in the eastern city of Liege for survivors, but had to briefly flee when the facade of the building collapsed hours after the 2 a.m. (0100 GMT), blast.

A gas leak was the likely source of the explosion, officials said. Immediately after the blast, a fire raged through the building

and thick smoke billowed up into the air from the top windows of the century-old building.

Mayor Willy Demeyer said several people were trapped in the rubble and that firemen have located at least two who were still alive. It was unclear how the collapse of the facade affected those still buried.

"Firemen are working to try to bring them out," he said.

In all, 50 people were evacuated. The blast shattered windows in the city hall, 100 meters (yards) away and spread debris and dust throughout the adjacent streets in downtown Liege.



FIREMEN try to extinguish a fire in a collapsed building in Liege, Belgium, Wednesday



A man walks on frozen sea near Liaodong Bay, Panjin, China

## Lokoja residents charged on sanitation

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

RESIDENTS of Lokoja in Kogi State have been charged to cooperate with the authority in its efforts to keep the capital city clean.

The acting General Manager of the State Environmental Sanitation and Waste Management Board, Mrs Florence Joseph, yesterday made the appeal in Lokoja, the state capital, in a chat with our correspondent.

She attributed the dirtiness of the city to the attitude of residents whom she said were not using the refuse dumps strategically stationed across the state capital.

"Most people don't believe that it is the responsibility of everybody to keep Lokoja clean. We have refuse dumps all over the place provided by the government. These dumps are there for people to use so that the officials of the Board would pack

them to the final disposal sites. People don't use these refuse dumps", she alleged.

She, therefore, admonished residents to change their attitude towards the environment. "They should desist from dropping pure water remnants on the roadsides.

Our staff go out every day to pack refuse. We have two compacted trucks and two refuse vans which are used daily for this purpose", she said.

## Partnership draws work plan for water mangt

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

THE Global Water Partnership-Nigeria, a non-governmental organisation, has come up with a two-year work plan that seeks to ensure Nigeria's compliance with Integrated Water Resource Management that would guarantee better, equitable and more profitable utilisation of water resources

by citizens and corporate bodies for agricultural and other general purposes.

The NGO which has affiliates across other countries Europe, West Africa amongst other parts of the world developed the plan at its inaugural steering committee meeting which took place at the Maiduguri International Hotel on Monday evening.

Chairman of the committee, Dr. Hassan H. Bdliya, who is also the administrative Secretary of Hadejia Jama'are Komadugu Yobe Basin Trust Fund, noted that the plan which will be operational between 2010 and 2012 aims at helping in the promotion of local, national and international policies in the water sector with a view to improving accessibility

to water resources and maximizing water potentials in Nigeria to achieve national water security to fight poverty, improve well being, protect and preserve natural resources.

Bdliya said the plan aims at partnering with relevant stakeholders to review and improve existing water resources master plan to become an integrated doc-

ument and also assist the National Integrated Water Resources Commission to mould, train and raise awareness on water management issues (such as improving water flow and trapping for irrigation, controlling environmental flood and promoting best practices in water preservation as well as the revitalization of river basins amongst others.

## ENVIRONMENT

## Tobacco control bill will safeguard health-C'ttee

By Nasir Imam

THE new anti-tobacco bill, presently before the National Assembly, is meant to safeguard the health of Nigerians, the FCT Committee on the Ban on Smoking in Public Places has said.

FCT Secretary, Social Development Secretariat, Barrister Habiba Sani Kalgo, who stated

this yesterday when she led a delegation on a courtesy call to the Media Trust office, said people should stay away from smoking in order to imbibe a healthy living.

Represented by the Director, Gender Development in the Secretariat, Mrs. Hannatu D. Atar, the Secretary advised youths and adults alike on the dangers

of smoking, which, according to her, leads to diseases such as cancer, tuberculosis and heart attack.

Mrs. Atar said membership of the committee cuts across agencies, departments and secretariats in the FCT Administration, called on media houses to partner with the committee in educating and enlightening our

youths on the danger of the use of tobacco.

Another member of the committee, who is also the Asst. Director, Tourism, Mr. Samuel Tunde Bello, said the Tobacco Act of 1990 is being used by the committee to enforce the ban in public places such as offices, cinema, public buses, hospitals, schools, etc.

Mr. Olawale Makanjuola, of the Nigeria Tobacco Situation Analysis, at the occasion, said after the public hearing at the National Assembly in July last year, the Health Committee in the House of Representatives is doing a review of the new Anti-Tobacco bill and will soon provide recommendations.

## Lagos replaces pit toilets in public schools

FROM Femi Akinola, Lagos

FOLLOWING the abolition of pit latrine in Lagos schools, the Ministry of Environment has intensified efforts in building more modern toilet facilities as 55 of such toilets have been handed over to the management of beneficiary schools.

The features of the toilets include 10 Water Closets- 5 each for male and female sections; eight wash- hand basins, three water tap points, one bore-hole and a power generating set to ensure adequate supply of water to the toilets.

The spokesman for the ministry, Mr. Segun Ogundeji informed Daily Trust that the idea behind the new toilets was aimed at aimed catching the pupils young and inculcating in

them best sanitary habits.

He said over 2000 bins and 500 pieces School Advocacy Sorting Bins had been distributed to schools for waste management. "The bins have been so made to have receptacles for glass, paper and metal. It is expected that this culture would also impact on the waste disposal modes in all homes through the students who the most valued agents of change," he said.

Ogundeji said the establishment of Climate Change Club in all public schools has also been a source of knowledge for best practices and appreciation of the causes and effects of climate and the development of approaches for sustainable environment particularly in solid waste management and disposal, waste-to-wealth and recycling.



## Climate change finance in Nigeria

By Precious Osamede Onuvae

THE United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen, December 2009 ended in the Copenhagen Accord. This Accord is a far cry from the expectations of most developing countries, including Nigeria.

The Copenhagen Accord recognises the need to keep global temperature increases below two degrees Celsius. However, it does not commit nations to specific timelines for achieving this. Even more disappointing is the amount of financial resources pledged to assist developing countries to adapt and mitigate climate change.

The Accord promises \$30 billion new and addition resources from 2010-2012 and \$100 billion a year by 2020 to address developing countries' needs. It also establishes a Copenhagen Green Climate Fund as the main channel for delivering finance.

These well meaning but half-hearted pledges are simply not sufficient to address the disastrous consequences of climate change in countries like Nigeria. It is even more disappointing that the promised funding may never become a reality since the Accord is not legally binding.

More so, the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund may not be under a transparent and demo-



PRECIOUS Osamede Onuvae

cratic management of all parties to the Accord. Developed countries insist on using the World Bank, an institution that these countries dominate.

The transition to a low carbon economy in Nigeria will require significant financial resources. We had hoped for a more ambitious agreement on climate change

financing. For instance, ending gas flaring in Nigeria will require tens of billions of dollars worth of investments in gas infrastructure and market development. Likewise, combating desertification in the North demands huge financial resources. The pledged resources in Copenhagen are insignificant matched with the enormity of

these national challenges.

We had also hoped for reform of the Clean Development Mechanism to allow Nigeria participate in this important market for our emissions. Nigeria also negotiated for a compensation mechanism for lost income. Nigeria would lose significant petroleum export revenue as other countries implement policy measures to tackle climate change.

Nigeria must continue to demand a just compensation from the international community. However, this will only be supplementary to domestic financing. We must begin to tap into sources of local funding that includes the financial market as well as public funding.

This is particularly important in meeting the financial challenges of the transition to lower carbon energy sources such as gas and renewable energy. To unleash this potential of private sector funding, we must return to the reforms of the power sector.

Above all, Nigeria requires stronger policy frameworks and institutions to address the challenges of climate change.

It is important that policy makers begin to see opportunities for jump-starting the economy by focusing on low carbon sectors. New policy frameworks such as vision 2020 and the Seven-Point Agenda must give priority to this

new reality.

Nigeria requires a clear climate change policy that stimulates economic growth and manages the risk of the impacts of climate change. To achieve this, there is need for an institutional champion.

The Climate Change Commission Bill has been passed by the National Assembly. This must be promptly harmonised and accented to by the President.

Other policy instruments that will assist Nigeria to access the pledged funds include, a REDD Readiness Plan which provides strategies for managing forest resources and land degradation. We must expedite action to pass the Clean Energy Bill currently under discussion.

It is also important that Nigeria develops a comprehensive carbon market transformation initiative that allows us to benefit from the over \$200 billion global carbon market.

The Copenhagen Accord presents great opportunities for Nigeria to leverage funding for key national projects, especially in the energy sector as well as address major environmental problems. This can only be achieved through the development of clear policies and stronger national institutions.

*Precious Osamede Onuvae, International Centre for Energy, Environment & Development.*

# Inside Politics

## Weighing the options on Yar'adua

By Suleiman M. Bisalla

**I**N the last one week, former President Olusegun Obasanjo has been under severe criticism, and in some cases insults, for daring to suggest that President Umaru Yar'adua should "take the path of honour and morality" in view of his ill-health. The former President, who made the suggestion while reacting to a provocative question from a member of the audience during the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja, is widely believed to have dragged Yar'adua to the Presidency in 2007.

In spite of Obasanjo's explanation to dispel the questioner's claim that he brought in Yar'adua to the presidency out of 'share wickedness', many critics said the former president had no moral authority to ask his successor to pack his baggage out of the Presidential villa. His party, the PDP, described him as a 'subject of ridicule'.

But the controversial former president who is also the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the PDP is not the only Nigerian that has suggested an option in the political crisis brought about by Yar'adua's prolonged absence. Perhaps his own comments attracted more attention because of the manner in which he rail-road the Yar'adua presidential project and the alleged motive behind it, which of course he denied.

Former member of the House of Representatives Alhaji Farouk Adamu Aliyu and the chairman of the Jigawa State chapter of the Nigerian Barr Association (NBA) Sani Usani Garun Dangabas had gone to the Abuja Federal High Court, asking it to declare that the absence of President Umaru Yar'adua from the country since November 23rd on the ground of ill-health constitutes permanent incapacitation, which makes him liable to the provisions of Section 149 of the 1999 constitution. Ruling of the matter last week, the court ordered the FEC to prove within two weeks that President Yar'adua is not incapacitated.

Similarly, President of the West African Bar Association (WABA), Mr Femi Falana has a case in the Federal High Court asking it to compel President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to immediately empower Vice-President Goodluck Jonathan to discharge the functions of the President as the Acting President of Nigeria.

Adopting a different approach to the matter, Nobel laureate Professor Wole Soyinka early this month led a 'Save Nigeria' rally to the National Assembly in Abuja protesting the near constitutional logjam created by Yar'adua's absence.

In the same vein, eminent politicians and civil society activists under the aegis of Save Nigeria Group including Pastor Tunde



PRESIDENT Umaru Yar'adua

Bakare, Rear Admiral Ndubuisi Kanu (rtd), Major-General Alani Akinriade (rtd), Charles Oputa, Osita Okechukwu, Dr. Joe Okei-Odumakin, Yinka Odumakin, Adamu Aliyu, Abdullahi Yerima and Femi Falana, among others held a protest in Lagos against what they called the 'power vacuum in Nigeria'.

**S**ince the President left the country two months ago, there has been tension regarding his failure to transmute a letter to the National Assembly to enable his vice, Goodluck Jonathan become Acting President. Towards the end of last year especially, the ship of state moved in a wobbling motion because it was not certain what the fate of the 2009 Supplementary budget as well as the swearing of Justice Aloisius Katsina-Alu as the new CJN would be. Though they came to pass, many cynics still question the authenticity of the claim that President Yar'adua actually signed the budget on his hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

But as more tension mounted last week, a group of 'Concerned Nigerians' stepped in with yet another option on the matter. Led by former Senate President Aym Pius Anyim, the group wrote a letter to the leadership of the National Assembly indicating its departure from the protest option and stating clearly that the peaceful option is the way forward.

**T**he 41 member group also include former Deputy President Ibrahim Mantu, Amb Hassan Adamu, (Wakilin Adamawa), Chief Shuaib Oyedokun, General Mohammed Magoro (Galadima Zuru), former Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Chibudom Nwuche, former governor of Taraba State Rev. Jolly Nyame, Hajija Zainab Maina and former governor of Kano State Rabiu Kwakwanso, among others.

**T**he group expressed concern that that some Nigerians have cashed in on



ANYIM Pius Anyim

the existing situation "to engage in dangerous reactions and speculations which no doubt have become a serious threat not only to the stability of our nation but also to our nascent democracy" and suggested that the National Assembly should 'take practical and pro-active measure' to defuse the tension in the polity in the interest of democracy and national stability."

The letter also criticised the street protests and some other reactions to the crisis, saying they were selfishly motivated.

"Some of these reactions can be celebrated as inherent rights enjoyed in a democratic society. However sweet as the enjoyment of these democratic rights may appear, we are concerned that the style and approach adopted in some of these reactions reveal a pursuit of narrow and personal interests. Our worry is that some of these reactions are neither based on wider national interest nor on serious regard for the advancement of our democracy," the letter said.

"We are as much concerned as those who have one way or the other reacted to the multifaceted national challenges thrown up by these developments. For the records, may we assure you that if we think that concrete solution could be found in protests, we would have joined those who protested...If raising alarm through paid advertorials would have resolved the matter, we would have put up many. If civil disobedience would suffice, we would have been in the forefront," it added.

The 'Concerned Nigerians' said they believe that the challenges confronting the nation at the moment require "more reasoned and practical actions", adding that any approach to be adopted in the existing situation must first and foremost have due regard for the unity of the nation and the preservation of the nascent democracy.

Section 145 of the 1999 constitution says: "Whenever the President transmits to the President



IBRAHIM Mantu

of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that he is proceeding on vacation or that he is otherwise unable to discharge the functions of his office, until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary such functions shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President."

**W**hile observing that the section has granted a lot of discretion to the President to transmit this notice to the National Assembly, the group noted that the "section does not contemplate a circumstance where the President is not capable of transmitting such written declaration for reasons of health, haste or any other circumstances beyond his control."

Therefore "we want to emphasize that the present state of affairs in Nigeria has exposed the weakness of our Constitution in this regard and the most cogent step to take is to prepare its amendment with a view to preventing future occurrences. In the interim, what is required is a letter under the signature of Mr. President. You can agree sir that neither the letter nor the signature can be obtained through protest, threat or even bringing down our democracy," the letter said.

The letter therefore urged the national assembly to "quickly analyze and critically assess the issues and their various dimensions with a view to effecting necessary legislations or constitutional amendments to forestall future occurrences."

**H**aving reviewed the situation, the group further recommended as follows:

"That the leadership of the National Assembly should take concrete steps to uphold the Constitution with due regard to national stability and democracy;

"That, in addition to the resolutions already adopted by both chambers of the National Assembly and the court judgment in this matter, the National Assembly



CHIEF Olusegun Obasanjo

should come out boldly to assure the nation that the machinery they have set in motion is capable of yielding the desired results;

"That the National Assembly should appeal to all those who are agitated to please down tools while the National Assembly expedite efforts to resolve the impasse. This, we believe, will calm down the tension and forestall the possibility of people taking laws into their hands; and

"That every effort should be made to effect the amendment of necessary sections of the Constitution in this regard to forestall a reoccurrence in the future.

**A**s of now, the Federal Executive Council has one week left out of the two weeks ultimatum given it by the Federal High Court in Abuja to explain whether President Yar'adua is not incapacitated. The court's ultimatum will lapse the same time with that of the Senate which also directed the FEC to furnish it with a comprehensive medical report on the President. But the President's Chief Economic Adviser Yakubu Tanimu has said that his boss will return to the country this week. While Nigerians await his return, many observers are of the opinion that the position of the 'Concerned Nigerians' requires special attention of the national legislators.

**“The ‘Concerned Nigerians’ said they believe that the challenges confronting the nation at the moment require “more reasoned and practical actions.”**

# labour report

## NDE urged to develop agricultural camps for youngsters

From Francis Okeke, Turkey

NATIONAL Directorate of Employment (NDE) has been urged to develop periodic agricultural camps for youngsters so as to inculcate in Nigerians from a very young age the love of farming and the benefits that will accrue from farming.

The call was made by the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) Coordinator for Africa Mr Cuneyt Esmer when briefing officials of NDE from the 36 states of the federation and Abuja at the ongo-

ing two-week study tour on harnessing government major projects to create small scale businesses for the unemployed and to reduce poverty in Turkey.

"In Turkey, deliberate efforts are made to encourage and pass down agricultural activities from one generation to another in a seamless manner as well as teach them the latest methods in both crop and animal production. To achieve our long time agricultural strategy, youngsters of 11 to 15 are selected from the children of leaders or pioneer farmers in the communities. We keep them in the camps for 12 days where they learn farming techniques from incep-

tion to the point of marketing," he said.

Mr Esmer said as a means of alleviating poverty in the rural areas, villagers in Turkey "are given up to 10 pregnant sheep and a male sheep to rear. They are expected to return the same number of sheep at the end of five years and we hope to increase the number to 50 in subsequent programmes."

Leader of the delegation Alhaji Isma'ila Umar who is NDE's Director of Small Scale Enterprises urged his colleagues to concentrate seriously on the activities arranged for them so as to utilise their experiences for the Nigerian



Women labourers working at a quarry in Abuja yesterday.

## Civil servants begin mandatory specialised training

By Benjamin Auta

THE second phase of the mandatory specialized training programme for civil servants on Grade Levels 08-16 has commenced in Abuja and four states of the federation.

Training which is holding in Abuja has three centres for 1550 Federal Civil Servants as well 100 civil servants each from Edo, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Kwara states.

A statement signed by the Assistant Director of Press in the Office of Head of Civil Service of the Federation (OHCSF) Tope Ajakaiye said "training for civil servants from Kaduna, Abia, Ekiti, Borno, Adamawa and Gombe states originally slated for the current phase had been rescheduled for another period."

"The various modules for the training programme are specifically designed to enable participants to be more aware of the machinery of government in Nigeria; describe basic administrative procedures operating in Nigeria; inter-

pret the general policies, rules and regulations operating in the public service," the statement said.

The programme which is being driven by the (OHCSF) in collaboration with the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) "is necessitated by the desire of the present administration to build and transform the Service into a well performing institution with right capacity, ethos and know-how required to propel the country in its visioning process."

Agencies executing the programme are the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON), the Centre for Management Development (CDM) and the Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN).

First phase of the programme was held from November 30 to December 11 for 1500 Federal Civil Servants while the training of 900 State officials took place in Nasarawa, Lagos, Anambra, Imo, Akwa-Ibom, Cross Rivers, Osun, Niger and Kogi States from December 14 to December 18, 2009.

## Labour minister charges BATN on job creation

By Benjamin Auta

MINISTER of Labour and Productivity Prince Adetokunbo Kayode has challenged the British American Tobacco Nigeria (BATN) Foundation to collaborate with the Agricultural Skills Training Centres (ASTs) of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) to create more employment opportunities for unemployed Nigerians.

Kayode stated this in Abuja while receiving a delegation of the BATN Foundation in his office. He explained that the core mandate of the Labour ministry is "job creation, social security and productivity efficiency which can only be achieved by collaboration with other agencies."

According to him, lack of skills is the major challenge of youth employment in the country. The minister urged the foundation to work hard on implementing the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the government, especially using their resources in agricultural development and assist in the principles of corporate social responsibility which will cover the entire gamut of employment challenges in Nigeria.

He also encouraged the company to support government efforts through the ministry in the area of entrepreneurial promotion which will cut the gap between training and mainstreaming the trainees into opportunities that exist.

Earlier, head of BATN Foundation who is the company's Area Head of Human Resources, Mr. Rafael Martinez assured the minister that BATN will always be committed to the development of future Nigerian talents.

He explained that BATN set up the foundation as a fulfillment of the memorandum of understanding signed with the Federal Government.

## Imo NLC decries non-implementation of 15% pay hike

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

THE Imo State Council of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has expressed dismay over the non-implementation of the 15 percent consolidated salary increase to workers by the state government.

The state Chairman of NLC Comrade Romanus Nduka told newsmen in Owerri that organized labour and the state government reached an agreement for the implementation of the 15 percent consolidated salary increase but up till now nothing has been done by government.

Comrade Nduka regretted that what they rather saw was the hoodwinking of the union by government on the premise that there is nothing like organized labour.

The NLC chairman also decried the incessant lopsided payment of salaries in the state particularly to the parasitics, which he said brings a lot of mistrust to the leadership of organised labour from their members.

# SPORT

Traditional rivalries revived  
Page 62



## Westerhof recommends Saintfiet for Eagles' job

By Orkula Shaagee

FORMER Super Eagles Technical Adviser, Clemens Westerhof has recommended current Namibia coach, Tom Saintfiet to be engaged by Nigeria in place of Shaibu Amodu as the Super Eagles next Head Coach.

Westerhof who is unarguably the most successful coach the Super Eagles have ever had, insisted that Tom Saintfiet is a man he feels can adequately work in the Nigerian soci-

I have been an avid follower of the Nigerian national team. In recent days there has been talk in the media about the possibility of the NFF looking for a new coach to take the Super Eagles to the World Cup and it is with this background that I would recommend Mr. Tom Saintfiet as the new Super Eagles coach".

The Dutchman stressed that Saintfiet is the only man that is capable to do the job of training the Super Eagles to doing very well at the World Cup within the shortest period they have to prepare for the global soccer show.

"He has shown and proved that he can work in Africa, with the minimal resources he has in Namibia he got miraculous results which will insure that he can prove even more with Nigeria", Westerhof added.

Saintfiet declared in his application to the Glass House that having recorded some modest achievements with a Namibian side with minimal talent which saw him take the team from where they had recorded only 2 wins from 13 games to a record of only 2 loses from 11 games, he is sure he can lead the Nigeria Super Eagles to at least the semi final of the World Cup in South Africa.

Tom Saintfiet has in addition to submitting his application submitted his road map on how he hopes to achieve his goal, stressing that he would like to continue working with Coach Amodu and the rest of



NAMIBIA coach, Tom Saintfiet is recommended by former Super Eagles tactician Clemens Westerhof for the national team's job.

“Saintfiet is a man he feels can adequately work in the Nigerian society”

ety and capable of leading the team to a very successful outing at the South Africa 2010 World Cup.

In a recommendation letter addressed to the NFF President, Westerhof stated that "Since I left the Super Eagles,

## Amodu: Our target is the trophy

By Orkula Shaagee

COACH Shaibu Amodu said yesterday that his squad has the ambition to go all the way at the African Nations Cup finals in Angola.

The former Orlando Pirates of South Africa handler explained that the players and the technical crew all have their sights on the trophy, and

they are determined to achieve the feat by going past the young Ghanaians.

"We are an ambitious team and we make no pretence about that. My boys want to go in there and win the trophy and technical officials including myself also want to get our hands on the trophy. So, we are fully focused on the assignment.

"Ghana is a very strong team

and of course, when it comes to a match against Nigeria they always prove difficult, very difficult. But the Super Eagles know what is at stake and are ready to give whatever it will take to earn a ticket to the final", said Amodu.

Nigeria square up to Ghana in a potentially epic affair at the 11 November Stadium in Luanda today for a place in the Cup of Nations final.

Both countries have met six times at the Cup of Nations, with Nigeria winning three times, Ghana twice and one draw. The only draw was in 1978 when Ghana hosted. Nigeria won 2-1 in Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire in 1984 and 1-0 in Bamako (Mali 2002) and Port Said (Egypt 2006). But Ghana edged their meetings in Ziguichor (Senegal 1992) and Accra (Ghana 2008).



AMODU

# Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'un



## Alhaji Tijjani Ahmed Abdulkadir

18<sup>th</sup> May, 1955 - 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2009

**I**t is with gratitude to Almighty Allah that we announce the 40th day Fidda'u prayer of Alhaji Tijjani Ahmed Abdulkadir, Director/ Permanent Secretary Designate, Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs who died on December 19, 2009 as a result of injuries he sustained in a ghastly motor accident along Abuja- Minna Road.

Alhaji Tijjani Abdulkadir is survived by his wife, Hajiya Binta and five children- Fahd, Mubarak, Safina, Muhsin and Muhammad.

May Allah Subhanahu Wata'Ala grant him Aljanna-Firdaus, Amin!

**SIGNED  
THE FAMILY**

## Mobility is the key - Adepoju

By David Ngobua

AS Super Eagles get set to confront the Black Stars of Ghana today in one of the semi-final matches at the Africa Cup of Nations in Angola, Super Eagles players have been advised to step up their game by improving on their speed especially in the attack.

Speaking to Trustsports yesterday, former Super Eagles striker Mr. Mutiu Adepoju said the match against the Black Stars of Ghana is going to be a cracker as both countries have a long history of soccer rivalry.

He said the Ghanaian players are younger and would give the Eagles a lot of trouble with their agility and speed and so what the Nigerians need is to also adjust their strategies by showing more mobility.

Adepoju who was nicknamed 'headmaster' due to his aerial prowess expressed hope that if the strikers are given the necessary support from the midfielders in terms of quality passes, they will be able to penetrate the defence of the Black Stars.

"It is my fervent hope that Super Eagles having come this far, will

**The Ghanaian players are younger and would give the Eagles a lot of trouble**

beat the Black Stars to qualify for the finals and in the end, return with the trophy. It's been long we last won the trophy so this is the right time for this country to celebrate victory at this level."

"For sure it is going to be a tough match for both countries. The Black Stars are youthful players who play with a lot of exuberance and will surely give the Eagles a lot of problems but in the end, if our players put to good use their wealth of experience, they will be able to beat their perennial rivals.

He expressed hope that if the Eagles can recover fully from the strain of the quarter final clash with Zambia which ended on penalty shoot out, they would be able to cope with the speed of their opponents in today's match.

Adepoju reiterated that even as the Super Eagles have done so well by qualifying for the semi-finals, the players have not really shown enough mobility.

"They have not been reacting really fast. Most times when you slow down the tempo of a match unnecessarily, you end up giving your opponents the opportunity to create new problems for you. It gives them time to re-group and attack you. But if you keep the pressure, there is always the possibility of your opponents committing blunders to your advantage," he added.



## 2010 AFRICAN CUP OF NATIONS

# Oliha to Eagles: Don't depend on luck against Ghana

By Ibraheem A. Fatai

APPARENTLY unsatisfied with the lukewarm performance of the Super Eagles in the ongoing African Nations Cup, former Eagles midfielder, Thompson Oliha, has advised the team not to rely on luck in the Semi finals encounter against Ghana.

Oliha, who spoke to Trustsports in a telephone interview yesterday, expressed dissatisfaction at the unimpressive performance put up by the Eagles against the Chipolopolo of Zambia in the quarter finals match.

He said it was worrisome to see Eagles struggling against teams like Benin Republic and Zambia, maintaining that if not for sheer luck and inexperience on the part of the Zambians, Eagles would have lost the quarter finals bout.

"The Super Eagles played badly against the Zambians. If not for luck and the fact that most of the Chipolopolo players are inexperienced, Nigeria would have been beaten hands down by the South African team. It was a narrow escape.

"We depended on luck to defeat Benin Republic, because the match was very tough for us also. We equally depended on luck to beat Zambia in the quarter finals. Should we continue to depend on luck to win all our matches? It is high time we changed such attitude and play like the Eagles of the past.

"Nigerians want to see Eagles who are very determined, focused, aggressive and voracious in front of goal. They want their team to earn their respect and support by playing good football, not the type that turn them off," Oliha said.

He further said the time of depending on luck is over for the Eagles saying they should work very



**SUPER Eagles' Osaze Odemwingie, right, joins Vincent Enyeama in celebration after defeating Zambia. The Eagles were lucky to edge out the Zambians in Monday's quarter final match.**

hard if they want to avoid the result they recorded two years ago against the same team in Ghana.

"It is time for the Super Eagles to

really prove to Nigerians that their qualification for the semi-finals is not a fluke. Eagles are in for a very tough match against Ghana whose

players are hungrier than some of our Eagles. We must do something extra to scale through the hurdle and qualify for the final," he advised.

## Rajevac cautiously optimistic

GHANA coach Milovan Rajevac says he is cautiously optimistic about the chances of his Black Stars as they get set to clash with west African rivals Nigeria in Thursday's AFCON semi-final.

The Serbian told a press briefing in Luanda he believes the much talked about game is unpredictable and the performance of the Nigerians cannot be judged based on their game against Zambia.

He conceded the Super Eagles side is an experienced one compared to the Ghanaians.

"Though they did not play so well in the game against Zambia, it will be a big mistake to conclude that they will repeat the same performance in the next game against Ghana," said Rajevac.

"We have to be cautious in the game and execute our strategy with the needed perfection."

He added: "Cote d'Ivoire did

not play well against Burkina Faso in their first game, but you all saw what they did when we met them in the second game."

The 55-year-old said his blend of both young and experienced players would yield positive results for his team.

"The mixture is an excellent one and they are poised to deliver on Thursday. We have just a day to round up our plans for the match and I'm confident victory will be

ours.

"It is not possible to play a competition with one game plan, because every opponent comes with different challenges and you will need to vary your game all the time," he said.

He revealed that midfielder Anthony Annan is likely to take up a role in the game because he has seen massive improvement after his recovery from a thigh injury.

## Angola 2010 Briefs...

## Algeria, Egypt shut out media

ALGERIA and Egypt retreated behind closed doors on the eve of their African Nations Cup semi-final in Benguela, seeking to avoid a revival of the hostility that marked their recent World Cup qualifying battle. Both teams cancelled pre-match media activities and banned reporters from their final training sessions as they prepared for Thursday's match. "We want the players to concentrate solely on the work ahead of them," explained Algeria football federation president Mohamed Raouraoua. "We are physically and mentally ready and I hope we can go all the way to the final," added striker Hameur Bouazza in an interview with the Algerian news agency APS.

## We are better than Algeria - Zidane

EGYPT striker Mohamed Zidane says his side is ready for "war" in their Africa Cup of Nations semi-final against Algeria today. The two north Africans met last year in an explosive play-off match to decide their group's World Cup winners. The match was preceded by a bitter war of words, and after the clash physical battles continued in the streets for days on end, even affecting the relationship between the two countries. "It will be a matter of life and death in that game. For both sides it will be like a war," the Borussia Dortmund striker was quoted as saying in MTN-football.com.



ZIDAN

## Gyan focussed on winning

ASAMOAH Gyan has promised the Black Stars will do everything possible to win their semifinal meeting against Nigeria even though he admits it's difficult to predict which way it will go. "They don't want us to beat them for the third time in three years," Gyan said. "We are ready and we're going to do everything possible to win this match and qualify for the final [but in] a derby game, you cannot predict - Ghana against Nigeria is unpredictable."

## Kaita fit to play Ghana



KAITA

SUPER Eagles midfielder, Sani Kaita has returned to the national team camp and is looking forward to today's semi-final clash versus Ghana after leaving hospital on Tuesday morning. The on-loan Lokomotiv Moscow star who is now back to Monaco of France was taken to hospital moments after he collapsed after the Super Eagles 5-4 penalties victory over the Chipolopolo of Zambia in Monday night's crunchy Africa Cup of Nations quarter final clash.



## 2010 AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS

## Traditional rivalries revived

TWO traditional rivalries have been revived in today's semifinals of the African Nations Cup, promising the potential of tempestuous battles for a place in the tournament final.

Algeria and Egypt meet in Benguela just 70 days after their dramatic World Cup play-off match, which the Algerians won 1-0 to deny the African champions a place at the finals.

It was the second game in a matter of days between the two coun-

tries, who have a long history of footballing enmity stretching back decades.

Ghana and Nigeria do not have the same history of violence around their derbies but remain arch rivals going back more than 40 years when they were among African football's early pioneers. They will play in Thursday's other semifinal in Luanda.

The two countries first played against each other while still British colonies and while the smaller

Ghana dominated their early encounters, Nigeria have overshadowed them in more recent times.

Ghana, however, beat Nigeria two years ago in the Nations Cup quarter-finals in Accra in their last meeting.

Post-match fighting between Algerian players and Egyptian officials more than 20 years ago, after Egypt had edged out their north African rivals for a place at the 1990 World Cup finals, is at the root of the continuing animosity between the two countries.

Egyptian authorities unsuccessfully sought to prosecute Algeria's star midfielder Lakhdar Belloumi, who allegedly damaged the eye of an Egyptian official with a broken bottle, in a case that simmered for years afterwards.

When the two countries were drawn in the same 2010 World Cup qualifying group, attempts were made to reconcile, including withdrawing an Interpol arrest warrant for Belloumi.

But it all boiled up again in November when the last game of the group came down to a straight contest for a place at the finals in South Africa. Algeria travelled to Cairo leading in the standings.

Even a one-goal loss would have seen them top the group, while a 2-0 loss would have forced a play-off and defeat by three goals or more would have seen Egypt through.

Algeria's team bus was stoned shortly after arrival, injuring several players but they still played in a foul-ridden game that Egypt eventually won 2-0 with a dramatic goal right at the end.

It forced a play-off in neutral Sudan three days later, which Algeria won amid allegations Egyptian supporters were attacked.

There were also incidents of looting by crowds in Algiers at the premises of companies with Egyptian links, sparking off a minor diplomatic incident between the two countries.

Today's winners progress to the Nations Cup final in Luanda on Sunday.



SUPER Eagles midfielder John Mikel Obi, left, challenges Black Stars Kingston Laryea during an international friendly in London in November 2007. Nigeria and Ghana will clash again tonight.

## Algerians brace for grudge match against Egypt

ALGERIAN colors flew all over the country's capital as the nation braced for another dramatic and emotional football match against Egypt—this time in the African Cup of Nations semifinals.

Though "brotherly countries" within the Arab League, Algeria and Egypt have a history of sour relations linked to football. After beating Egypt in a playoff match for a spot at the World Cup in South Africa, the two teams will meet again on Thursday in Angola for a place in the continental tourna-

ment's final.

Violence broke out last year when the two countries played each other in the group stage of World Cup qualifying, and Algeria's leading daily newspaper described the upcoming match as "the duel that we can't lose if we are to definitively save face."

Algerians often voice annoyance at Egypt's dominant position in the Arab world, which they claim should be theirs. Many also bitterly recall how little support they felt they received from Cairo

during the decade-long civil war between Algerian authorities and armed Islamist groups in the 1990s.

The current bout of tension most Algerians feel was initiated by Egyptians, who stoned and injured Algerian players at the Cairo airport in early November ahead of their second qualifying match.

However, most Algerian newspapers reported Wednesday that authorities in both countries had decided to try to tone down the tension ahead of today's game.



## KANO 2010 WAUG GAMES

# Late coming Ghanaian varsity miss accreditation

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

OWING to their arrival two days after the kick off of the 3rd West African University Games (WAUG) at Bayero University, Kano (BUK), visiting University of Development Studies, Tamale Ghana failed to secure accreditation into the championship.

The Ghanaian university had met several hitches such as a breakdown of their travelling bus and some border formalities on their way to this country.

Explaining why the university

was not accredited in the sporting fiesta, the chairman of the Accreditation Sub-Committee, Dr Abdullahi Baffa, said the contingent came a day after the accreditation was closed and fixtures have been made.

He said the visiting university was unable to communicate with the committee when they met with impediments on their road to Nigeria.

"They spent five days on the road, and unfortunately they were unable to communicate with us," said Baffa.

Dr Baffa however said they were only given accreditation for feeding and accommodation and friendlies but not for participation in the games. "Because of the distance they came from, we allow them to stay like any other visitor until the end of the games," he said.

Noting further, he said the host university understood that it will be unfair to ask them to return home because of the fatigue they suffered on their journey to the country.

"In realising that it will cost them a lot to lodge in the hotel, we

give them accommodation and feeding," he said.

In his reaction, the leader of the university's delegation, Mr Paul Afolendek said they arrived a few hours after the accreditation was closed, and that they made frantic telephone calls to Nigeria when their vehicle broke down.

"We made several calls but the numbers were not getting through," he said.

As a consolation for their predicaments, BUK will stage friendly matches for them during their stay at the university.

PIC: AMINU SAID



A midfield action between UNILAG and KUST at the ongoing West African University Games (WAUG) at the Bayero University, Kano

## Female hockey player loses tooth

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

A female hockey player of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (ABU) female hockey team, simply identified as Comfort has lost a tooth during their encounter with University of Education, Winneba, Ghana on Sunday. ABU later secured a 1-0 victory to douse their agony.

Comfort's tooth was forced out when her Ghanaian opponent smashed her J-shaped hockey stick into her mouth in attempt to hit the ball. Immediately after the injury, Comfort collapsed and the medical team rushed to attend to her.

Realising that the injury was grave, she was taken to the medical post from where she was rushed to the university's clinic.

When our correspondent visited the hospital yesterday, Comfort had already been discharged. A clinic official who craved anonymity said the player only suffered oral laceration and had been discharged.

Although a member of the medical sub committee, Pharmacist Maruf Zakari neither confirmed nor denied that she lost her tooth, he said their team had given her enough medical attention and she had since been discharged.

## UNILAG in surprise win against DELSU

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

UNIVERSITY of Lagos (UNILAG) yesterday rose from two goals down to defeat robust Delta State University 3-2 after the championship's highest goal scorer Ena Keno Iyarume landed two goals into their net.

Iyarume scored the opener midway into the first half and added another through a penalty kick when UNILAG's goalkeeper Ikedi Lucky kicked down DELSU's Daniel Maduka at the 18.

But within a spate of 15 minutes, once dispirited UNILAG began charging into the DELSU's side until they equalised and later added the tally.

UNILAG's three goals came through a hat trick by Steven Okonye, a final year student in the Department of Physics (Education).

In a brief chat with our correspondent soon after the match, the goal scorer, Okonye, said he wanted to become the highest goal scorer in the tournament. On his future ambition, he said he wanted to become a professor of his chosen discipline, Physics.

The head coach of UNILAG said it was a very tough match for his side, and they would continue to win the next matches. He said his team will beat their next opponents, Kano University of Science and Technology, Wudil, whom he said were good but inexperienced.

"Since everyone is beating Wudil, for sure my boys will also beat them," said the boasting coach.

## LOC impressed with spectators turnout

THE Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the on-going West African Universities Games (WAUG) in Kano says it is impressed with the turnout of spectators at matches of the tournament.

The competition, featuring only male football and male and female hockey, is being hosted by Bayero University.

The LOC Chairman, Dr.

Adamu Tanko, told NAN yesterday in Kano that the committee was pleased that sports enthusiasts from within and outside the university watch the matches.

"Our committee is happy that sports fans from within and outside Bayero University troop en masse to the designated competition venues to watch the games," Adamu said.

He observed that the fans

were more when the hosts played their matches.

The committee chairman attributed the development to the publicity given the event before its commencement.

Twenty four of the expected 40 universities are participating in the tournament which began on Jan. 23.

Some of them are the universities of Calavi, Cotonou, and De

Parakou in Republic of Benin; Cape Coast, Kwame Nkurumah, Science and Technology in Ghana and University De Senegal, Dakar.

Others are universities of Lagos, Benin, Ahmadu Bello, Zaria, Ebonyi State, Abakaliki and Federal University of Technology, Minna.

The competition will end on Saturday. (NAN)

## THE THURSDAY COLUMN

Is'haq Modibbo Kawu

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## Obasanjo and the perversion of honour and morality

*"If you take up an appointment, a job, elected, appointed, whatever it is and then your health starts saying 'I will not be able to deliver', to satisfy yourself and the people that you are supposed to serve, then there is the path of honour and the path of morality. And if you don't know that, then you don't know anything"*

— Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigeria's former president.

Some of the most startling aspects of the Obasanjo persona that I have studied very closely in the past decade include the near-total absence of refinement along with a very philistine attitude to the small and big matters of the life process. Those who think they are being fair to the man often say that he is down-to-earth; but in truth, lurking within the split personality which Obasanjo has inflicted upon the Nigerian public space, is that total disrespect for the honourable as well as the absence of an expression of morality! It is therefore the height of incredulity, that Obasanjo chose an appearance at the 7th Trust Annual Dialogue, last Thursday to launch a preachment about honour or lack of it and morality and its absence!

Obasanjo is obviously sad at the turn of events since his disgraceful exit from power. The elaborate script to take Nigeria hostage through Yar'adua were actually because of two related issues, namely the defeat of the Third Term Agenda and Yar'adua's health challenge, contrary to the public posturing by Obasanjo, last Thursday. It is curious that the man did not even mention the Third Term bid, but he had put all his eggs in that dubious basket, without a Plan B; so sure was he that he had a sufficiently compromised National Assembly to achieve the objective. But a combination of circumstances led to the failure of Third Term and Obasanjo was so devastated that he chose to visit a vicious revenge on Nigeria, in the shape of a very sick Yar'adua! There were two sides to the coin. Yar'adua was not expected to last the rigour of a punishing campaign, and he almost did not, when he fell sick; Obasanjo remembered the histrionic of "Umoru are you dead"? But he omitted the fact that the script was really for the poor man to actually be dead, so that Third Term would have been achieved willy-nilly! That did not happen so the old dictator had to vacate power, but Nigeria's political health had been damaged with the rigging into power of a president who would be a liability on an incremental basis into the future. That future is what we are dealing with today.

When Obasanjo listed his three check items for president of Nigeria, namely intellectual capacity, sufficient personal integrity and broadmindedness in knowledge, religiously, socially and politically, after saying he was convinced a Southerner should not be president after himself, he also did not tell the whole truth. Obasanjo had encouraged the formation of a forum of Southerners to grandstand against the North, as part of the Third Term strategy, which met in Enugu where they issued a bellicose anti-North communiqué! He re-discovered the toga of ultra-patriotism, only after the defeat of his tenure elongation project, because the truth was that he would have gladly handed over to only one Southerner: a man called Olusegun Obasanjo! The re-statement of love for Nigeria, in peace and war, was also hogwash, because Obasanjo forgot that there is NO OTHER Nigerian that this country has been as good to as Obasanjo! He ruled our country for ELEVEN years, starting from 1976, when General Danjuma got soldiers to pluck him out from under a bed in the late Chief S.B. Bakare's house, in Ikoyi, Lagos, where he

was hiding, during the coup that killed General Murtala Muhammed!

Last Thursday's revelation underlined a few points. Obasanjo's relationship with Yar'adua was at the lowest, largely because the puppet did not obey the puppeteer, and the man was very angry! But Obasanjo was deluded, that he would earn a puppet in Yar'adua, when he refused to be the puppet of those who sprung him out of jail, pardoned the ex-convict, organized his entry into the PDP and then rigged him into power! So why should it be different with President Umaru Yar'adua? There was also the defeat he suffered in the BOT meeting of the PDP the previous week that he had not overcome. Taken together, Obasanjo went to town against his poor successor who is fighting for his life in a hospital far away in Saudi Arabia. There is honour even among thieves, but Obasanjo betrayed that code last week, despite the rubbish he mouthed about honour and morality! With Obasanjo, Nigerians do not look for honour

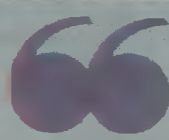
and morality, because a long time ago, we all realized that he is not a man of honour and his moral strength is, well, not existent at best! Wasn't Obasanjo the man accused by a certain Gbenga Obasanjo of having slept with his (Gbenga's) wife? Case closed!

Obasanjo deliberately imposed a sick Yar'adua on Nigeria, in revenge for rejection of tenure elongation. Yar'adua was greedy for power, not minding ill-health. In that respect, he was a willing accomplice of Obasanjo's scheme;

but he had his own agenda contrary to Obasanjo's hope to play puppeteer of the wily man from Katsina. As the old saying goes, the strong man strongly; the weak man by caprice; each has the same intention: seize power and hold on to it! Yar'adua was a loyal supporter of Third Term Agenda, and so open was that support, that he was the only governor who killed people opposed to Third Term! He fitted the frame of the type who might allow himself to be used by proxy by a power-drunk Obasanjo. But Yar'adua wrong-footed Obasanjo and on inheriting power ditched the old dictator. Obasanjo has been smarting from being left out of the loop of a carefully constructed power-through-the-backdoor scheme, and this is the cause of the vituperations against Yar'adua. Obasanjo did not reckon with Turai, the presidential spouse! The only success that Obasanjo achieved is that Nigeria has remained on life support with a sick, ineffectual and grossly incompetent Yar'adua as president. That is because the political elite are an irresponsible group collectively, to have allowed Obasanjo to subvert the political process in the first place while they only wanted to cream the spoils of power. Like Humpty Dumpty, the entire edifice has fallen off the wall with nobody knowing how to put things together with a modicum of political acumen. Honour and morality have never been ingredients of Nigerian ruling class politics!

## Ibrahim Yakubu Lame and Israeli policing methods

Who is this Ibrahim Yakubu Lame character? He went to Israel, acknowledged "the high competence of the Israeli police" and wants that adopted by Nigeria. Wonderful! We have seen on television how the Zionist police break the limbs of Palestinians and kill women and children if they are not taking over olive groves or grabbing land! Israeli policing methods are racist and constructed to make life very difficult for Palestinians! Such methods are not welcome in our country!



Obasanjo deliberately imposed a sick Yar'adua on Nigeria, in revenge for rejection of tenure elongation. Yar'adua was greedy for power, not minding ill-health. In that respect, he was a willing accomplice of Obasanjo's scheme

## SPORTS REPORT



JOSEPH Yobo

## Yobo: I'm medically fit

Yobo has said that he is 'medically fit' and would be ready to play if selected by Nigeria coach Shuaibu Amodu for Thursday's semifinal clash against Ghana.

"I spoke to the doctors and the initial diagnosis was that I would be out for between 10 days and two weeks. Fortunately, the injury was just a strain and not as

bad as we thought.

"Today is my 11th day and I have been running for the past few days. Medically, I am fit and ready to play," Yobo told KickOffNigeria.com yesterday afternoon.

He added that he may not play as a precautionary measure.

"Maybe the coaches might want me to rest just to be on the safe side, but we will see," he said.



CRISTIANO Ronaldo

## Ronaldo's punishment was fair—Xavi

Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez has weighed in on Cristiano Ronaldo's two-match ban for a wayward elbow to the face of Malaga defender Patrick Mtiliga.

"The play is clear. Perhaps it was intended to be aggressive because he [Cristiano Ronaldo] was fouled, but for me two matches out seems very just."

Ronaldo was shown a straight red during Sunday's 2-0 win over Malaga after catching defender Patrick Mtiliga with a flailing arm and breaking his nose.

