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Council workers' January salaries stolen in Kano



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Justice Ministry officials issue one-day strike notice



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Why we lost Anambra, by PDP



PHOTO: AFP

By Abbas Jimoh, John Kennedy Uzoma, Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka & Muideen Olaniyi, Abuja

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday attributed the resounding defeat of its candidate Professor Chukwuma Soludo in Saturday's gubernatorial election in Anambra State to lack of unity among party members in the state. According to the election results won by incumbent Governor Peter Obi of the PDP, in which Soludo came third, PDP's National Publicity Secretary, Prof. Rufai Ahmed Alkali, said the outcome of the poll was an eye-opener for the party members to work together as a team. Alkali, who hailed the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), said the party would further study the situation particularly the cases of disenfranchisement before coming out with a more

elaborate position. He said, "It is very, very unfortunate that our party lost in Anambra State, a PDP state. Our people in Anambra State refused to put their house in order to support the party's candidate, Professor Chukwuma Soludo. As a party, we did everything possible to ensure that we had a peaceful and fair election. All the efforts, time and energy have been wasted. Though many people were disenfranchised, we will study the entire process and come up with our position. "What happened in Anambra is an eye opener to all PDP members that it is time to unite. Soludo and our members in the state should be calm and strategize for the challenges ahead." Even though last Saturday's Anambra governorship election was largely peaceful, our correspondents report that there

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GOVERNOR of Anambra State Mr. Peter Obi at a polling station in Agulu district of Anambra State on Saturday. He was declared winner yesterday.

Soludo: 'There was administrative rigging'

From Jot Beatrice PDP in Sat. Kennedy Uzoma, Chukwu, Awka gubernorship elections Prof. Chukwuma Soludo conceded victory to Mr Peter Obi in Awka yesterday, saying however that the election was not a fight between himself and Obi, but about the future of the state. Soludo also faulted the conduct of the election, saying there were grave flaws exhibited by INEC. He said, "What happened in Anambra is what a friend has described as administrative rigging." "The conduct of the election portended ominous note for the nation's democracy, especially where the voters register was fraudulently manipulated to exclude thousands of voters," Soludo said.

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133,000 placed in NEMA

Business

The European Investment Bank may buy into Nigerian banks as its delegates meet Nigerian officials today **29**

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Capacity, costing it around a million a month in lost oil rev. Reuters

PIC: SANI MAIKATANGA

Crisis: NEMA spends more than N100m on relief materials

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on Sunday said that it spent more than N100 million on food and relief materials to support victims of Jos and Bauchi crises.

Dr Olusegun Ojo, the Director in charge of Relief Materials in the agency, disclosed this at a meeting with newsmen in Abuja.

Ojo told newsmen that the Jos crisis recorded more than 116,000 displaced persons while 456 others sustained various degrees of injuries. The director said that no fewer than 15,000 people were displaced in the Bauchi crisis and were in various rehabilitation camps in the state.

"We have spent an estimate of about N100 million on relief materials to the affected areas to date. We have had four approvals to date. Some of the items purchased include food, clothing, toiletries, provisions, blankets and building materials," he said.

He said the 23 camps were set up after the crisis in Jos and its environs to cater for the displaced persons, adding that eight of them had been closed down as the people reunited with loved ones. Ojo said officials of the agency visited the Jos camps five days ago to see how the people were faring and what their immediate needs were.

He commended security agencies made up of the Police, the Army and the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corp (NSCDC) for collaborating with the agency.

He said the displaced persons had expressed their willingness to return to their homes, noting that NEMA would assist them with building materials to enable them rebuild their houses.

Ojo said that the Plateau government had set up a committee to take care of the displaced persons, but expressed regrets that the agency was not being carried along.

"Collaboration is very key in this issue to avoid duplication of responsibility and waste of public resources," Ojo said.

In Bauchi State, he said that the displaced persons had started moving out of the camps but added that most of them were faced with accommodation problems. He said that this was because most of the people who ran from Plateau to Bauchi preferred to settle in Bauchi.

This he said made the state government to set up a Rehabilitation Committee, which included NEMA.

"In Bauchi we found out that 600 children will need school materials and we are also working with the state's committee to take care of the vulnerable group," Ojo said. (NAN)



EMIR of Daura Alhaji Faruk Umar at the qur'an recitation for President Yar'adua's health at the Isyaku Rabi'u Mosque in Kano, yesterday.

Fear of Bukuru market demolition raises fresh concern

From Andrew Agbese & Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

FRESH fears have arisen, following the refusal of Jos South Local Government to allow traders return to their shops and stalls at the burnt down Bukuru main market. The Jos South Local Government authorities had barred traders from going back to the market, saying it should be given time to clear the debris before deciding on what to do. But the Traders and Marketers Association of the local government say the move by Jos South Local Government was only aimed at demolishing the market to frustrate their members from the area and have threatened to sue the local govern-

ment if it goes ahead to demolish the market.

The Vice Chairman of Jos South Local Government Area Joseph Nyam Danboyi when contacted said the claim was only aimed at provoking the local government to say things that are not necessary, adding that the local government was clearing the debris from the burnt market while meeting with the leaders of the traders' association on the best way forward.

Chairman of the Association Alhaji Umaru Mango told newsmen yesterday in Jos that the Secretary of the council Mr Ishaya M Gadu invited them for a meeting on February 1, 2010, two weeks after the market was burnt

down through a letter no JSLG/s/off/25/v. Alhaji Umaru said the meeting was presided over by the Vice Chairman of the local government Mr. Danboyi and he told them about their intention to demolish the market and build another, one without relocating the market to any other place. The chairman said he told them that he thought they would commiserate with them over the incident and assist them. He alleged that the council intended to send them from the market and to heighten the tension and increase the sufferings of their members. But the vice chairman said those saying the local government wanted to demolish the market were raising unnecessary alarm.

Daura Emir leads prayers for Yar'adua in Kano

From Auwalu Umar, Kano

EMIR of Daura Alhaji Umar Farouk yesterday in Kano led businessmen and traders to pray for President Umaru Musa Yar'adua. The prayer session which took place at the Sheikh Ahmadu Tijjani Mosque with many Quranic scholars in attendance was organized by the National Harmonized Traders Union.

National president of the union Alhaji Bature Abdul Aziz said President Yar'adua as a leader needs the prayers of all Nigerians irrespective of religious or tribe.

He said the prayer session was held even before his departure to Saudi Arabia for medical

attention and that yesterday's session was the 21st week since the prayers began for the president.

He said the traders' resolve to continue to offer prayers for Yar'adua is part of their responsibilities as patriotic Nigerians to pray for leaders, saying Yar'adua's survival was for the good of all Nigerians.

He said Kano traders in particular would never forget what Yar'adua administration did for them when he ordered that all customs check-points should now be limited to border areas. He said this singular gesture had greatly helped in checking the incessant harassment of traders from Kano to other parts of the country by

men of the customs service.

According to him, President Yar'adua's approval for the release of N100 billion textile funds for ailing textile industries pleased most traders all over the country and that it would go a long way in resuscitating the moribund textile firms.

Speaking to newsmen shortly after the prayer session, a member of President Umar Musa Ya'adua's family, Alhaji Zubairu Aliyu Gafai, said the president had fully recuperated and that he was expected back in the country this week. Gafai, who is Yar'adua's cousin said all was set for his return as he had fully recovered.

The former lawmaker who

represented the Yar'adua family at the prayer session when Kano thanked all Nigerians for their concerns over Yar'adua's health, saying the president would continue the good work he started for the country when he returns.

Other dignitaries who represented the prayer session included rulers, Isyaku Rabi'u, the comptroller-general, Sheikh Averal other traders and beyond.

Nasir Adam represented the general representatives of the businessmen from

Nigeria at standstill, AC says

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday said Nigeria has been at a standstill for nearly three months because President Umaru Musa Yar'adua refused to hand over power to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan before he left for Saudi Arabia 79 days ago.

AC National Publicity Secretary Alhaji Lai Mohammed said yesterday that "tension is high across the land, as no one is sure who is in charge and rumours persist that the President is comatose. We don't know the truth, as

unscrupulous spin doctors have been pulling the wool over our eyes".

He said the current situation in the country calls for rare courage, and requires men and women who can rise to the occasion and lift their country out of the doldrums, noting that the president's failure to legally hand over to the vice president has had many negative impacts on the nation.

Mohammed noted that the move by governors of the 36 states of the federation to meet with the leadership of the National Assembly on the need to pass a

resolution making Vice President Goodluck Jonathan Acting President was meaningless and subject to litigation.

He however asked the National Assembly to help Nigeria's democracy by immediately starting the process of amending Sections 144 and 145 of the Constitution to remove any ambiguities and to strip Ministers - who constitute the Federal Executive Council (FEC) - of the critical role of making a key decision on the man who appointed them into office.

On the resolution of the gover-

nors under the auspices of Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF), he said: "it is necessary to also appraise the role so far played by Governors of the 36 states who, as a bloc, are very influential. First, some governors - in what capacity we do not know - who on getting to Saudi Arabia were prevented from seeing the ailing President in his hospital, came back to lie to Nigerians that all is well with the President.

While appreciating the recent stand of Information Minister Dora Akunyili and others on the issue, he warned that several calls by eminent Nigerians and promi-

nent politicians and groups on the President to formally hand over to the President may not further the course of democracy.

According to him, such calls risk setting a bad precedent: Presidents may need to be prodded and their egos massaged in future before they respect the Constitution! This is not democracy! In the United States, which also practices a Constitutional democracy, President Ronald Reagan did not need any appeal from eminent Americans before handing over to his deputy when he had to undergo surgery.

Militants disable Shell oil pipeline

A Nigerian militant group said yesterday it had attacked a Royal Dutch Shell oil pipeline in the Niger Delta but the Anglo-Dutch company said it had no reports of any such sabotage.

The Joint Revolutionary Council (JRC), a coalition of ex-militants and community leaders, said it had disabled a trunk line in the Obunoma area of Rivers state connecting several flow stations to the Bonny export terminal.

"At about midnight today, the patriotic force of the Niger Delta successfully disabled the trunk line belonging to Shell in the swamp of Obunoma," the JRC statement said.

There was no independent confirmation of an attack.

Thousands of militants in the Niger Delta last year handed over weapons under an amnesty program led by the administration of President Umaru Yar'adua, bringing a lull in attacks against Africa's biggest oil and gas industry.

But progress in implementing the post-amnesty program, including the payment of stipends and re-training of former militants, has slowed during Yar'adua's more than two month absence for medical treatment in Saudi Arabia.

The JRC warned last month that training centers and funding were inadequate for the program.

The main militant group in the region, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), called off a three-month old ceasefire a week ago and threatened to unleash an "all-out assault" on the OPEC member's energy industry.

Oil traders expect Nigerian crude oil exports to fall in March because of insecurity.

Years of violence in the Niger Delta have prevented Nigeria from pumping much above 2 million barrels per day of oil, just two thirds of its installed production capacity, costing it around \$1 billion a month in lost oil revenues. Reuters



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

Reps to investigate crash of navy aircraft

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE House of Representatives committee on Navy said it would investigate the circumstances surrounding the crash of the Nigerian Navy helicopter in the Niger Delta, which killed four naval officers.

Chairman of the committee, Rep Bashir Adamu Kazaure (PDP, Jigawa State) told newsmen in Abuja at the weekend that they have already requested the naval authorities to intimate the committee with its preliminary findings on the accident to determine their next line of action.

He said: "The committee is aware that the aircraft is among

those that were purchased not very long time ago and that it should be in a very sound condition and I believe money were provided for their maintenance.

"The aircraft is relatively young, so I believe there must be something wrong. Some of the aviation agencies are saying that they received no distress call from the pilot before the accident. I believe it should be investigated thoroughly so that Nigerians should know what exactly happened and the future occurrence to be avoided," he said.

Rep Kazaure said the committee will also investigate refurbished was aware of intimation in some quarters that the ill fated aircraft was refurb-

ished one purchased as new, saying "we will not dismiss these allegations, we will investigate them after getting the report from the navy".

He said: "So, we are very much interested in finding out what really went wrong. It is very important. We will not speculate as for now. We will wait for the report from the navy so that it will form the basis of the action the committee will likely take in a couple of weeks.

According to him, they will write to the relevant authorities in order to get their version of the accident, pointing out that that would help in finding a way out of such situations.

He said: "We also intend to write to Nigerian Civil Aviation Author-

ity (NCAA) and the Nigerian Maritime Authority (NMA) to get their version of the accident. In our letter, we asked the navy to intimate us whether the aircraft is insured, so also what compensation they intend to pay to the families of the victims in line with the extant rules of the service of the Nigerian navy".

According to him, the committee would take a stand on the accident only after it concludes its investigation saying "there are so many angle to investigation, particularly investigation of this nature. The speculations have come to our notice but we will not take that as true position things until we can get factual evidence to that effect".

FG to enforce ban on unbranded lubricants

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE Federal Government will soon commence enforcement of the total ban on unbranded lubricants in the country, Daily Trust has gathered.

A source close to the Petroleum Ministry told Daily Trust yesterday that a consultant has been commissioned to work out strategies

for the enforcement of the ban which was instituted on January 1, this year.

"Government is aware that people are not complying with the ban, but very soon the enforcement team will begin work. Department of Petroleum Resources has already been mandated by the minister to enforce the order, as soon as the consultant concludes his work pos-

sibly in March", the source said.

Also a statement from the ministry said the Federal Government has assured stakeholders in the lubricant sector and the end users of the product that it would consistently initiate proactive measures to ensure a standardized production of lubricants in the country.

Minister of Petroleum Resources, Dr. Rilwanu Lukman

stated during a stakeholders meeting on Lubricant Market in Abuja that the machinery to achieve this laudable objective had been put in place, saying "the Department of Petroleum Resources (a Department in the Ministry) and Standards Organisation of Nigeria were effectively collaborating to achieve a template for standard production of lubricants.

FG woos mining investors with 3 years tax relief

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

FEDERAL Government has announced plans to grant a three-year tax-free for investors into the Nigerian Mining sector.

Minister of Mines and Steel Development Mrs. Dieziani

Alison-Madueke said this at the just concluded four-day Mining Indaba Conference held in Cape Town, South Africa. Represented by the Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Mr. Suleiman Kassim, the minister also said that the Capital Gains Tax has been reduced from

20% to 10% for prospective investors, adding that there would also be an increase of the initial Annual Capital allowances from 20% and 10% to 30% and 20% respectively for the investors.

Nigeria's mineral deposits, she said, have been discovered in com-

mercial quantities and "we believe that they are critical in commercial quantities and we believe that they are critical to the industrialization and development of the country."

She also said Nigerian government has put together a packaged of attractive incentives for inves-

tors who are willing to capitalize on the plethora opportunities in Nigeria's mining sector.

The minister estimated Nigeria has limestone resources of 2.23trillion tones, barites of estimated resource of 14million tones and others.

Anambra: PSC accuses politicians of ballot box snatching

By Misbahu Bashir

POLITICIANS carted away ballot boxes in some polling units during the just concluded governorship election in Anambra State, the Police Service Commission (PSC) said in an interim report.

The report signed by leader of PSC monitoring team during the election Alhaji Habu Daura said "We received several phone calls on the day of the election, but the complaints were not on police conduct but of voters who could not find their names on the register and snatching of ballot boxes by politicians."

Thirteen officials of the Commission and four Commissioners monitored the conduct of policemen during the election.

The report said policemen conducted themselves in an orderly manner throughout the election and were present at all the polling stations.

"Police officers on election duty in the Anambra gubernatorial election conducted themselves very well. There were at least two police officers in each polling unit we visited with support from other security agencies."

It said police officers were generally courteous, approachable and co-operative and had their name tags and numbers displayed on their uniforms.

The police officers on election duty were not carrying arms except the Police Mobile Force units who were roving throughout the State.



GOV. Peter Obi



MATERIALS for Anambra gubernatorial election being moved out of New North Local Government Area to polling units on Saturday.

'Abuja light rail to be ready 2012 not 2013'

By Nasir Imam

THE multi-billion naira Abuja light rail project would be completed and ready for use by the year 2012 not 2013, FCT Minister Senator Adamu Aliero has said.

Senator Aliero said the 2013 completion date was shifted back to 2012 due to the progress made by the Chinese company, CCEC, handling the project. Speaking while inspecting the level of work done on the project at the weekend, the Minister said, "I think it would be wrong for anybody to call this project a white elephant project. A white elephant project is a project that has no direct

bearing to the people it is meant to serve." He said the project is meant to solve the transportation problem of the ordinary people in the Federal Capital Territory. "This is a project that can transport 500 to 1000 people at once to the city centre, the airport, the industrial park and other satellite towns. It is a project that will solve the problem of ordinary people as far as transportation is concerned."

Aliero said the FCT administration had paid 15 per cent of the total cost of the project of about \$840 million, adding that another amount would soon be paid to the contractor to speed up the project.

INEC, PDP urged to learn from Anambra election

By Muideen Olaniyi & Abbas Jimoh

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) have been urged to learn from the just concluded governorship election in Anambra State. Coordinator of the Patriotic Alliance of Nigeria (PAN) and Chairman of Citizens Popular Party (CPP) Maxi Okwu said yesterday that the electoral body should learn from its shortcomings in the Saturday election with a view to radically improve on its logistic arrangements in the future.

Though he expressed happiness over the declaration of Governor Peter Obi of All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) as winner after poll, Okwu said "The election management left a lot to be desired considering a largely distorted voters register, late arrival of election materials, and a few skirmishes here and there. Meanwhile, the Conference of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP) has advised the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to learn from the victory of Governor Peter Obi that power comes and belongs to God.

Jos: Army denies involvement in video clip murder

By Benjamin Auta

THE Nigerian Army has denied being involved in a widely circulated video clip showing the prejudicial execution of civilians during the last civil unrest in Jos, the Plateau State capital.

Director of Army Public Relations Brigadier General Chris Olu-kolade said in a statement that "The Nigerian Army finds the scenes projected in this video clip as very disturbing."

He said the army has investigated the allegations and has confirmed that the video clip in question was nothing but "a wicked manipulation

aided by application of current advancement in computer technology which is obviously aimed at embarrassing the Nigerian Army while at the same time stirring up the polity."

"The persons referred to as soldiers were manipulated images and certainly not Nigerian soldiers. The vehicle depicted in the film was not one of those used by the Nigerian Army in the Internal Security Operation in Jos. Furthermore, the three-lane road in the clip does not exist in Jos. This is a challenge to those circulating this video clips to be honest enough to identify with it and tell the public the details of the background of those shots," the statement said.



PHOTO: NAN

FROM left: Commander, Nigerian Army Education Corps, Maj-Gen. Benjamin Aindigh, Commander, Nigerian Army Ordinance Corps, Maj-Gen. Yemi Abidoye and Commandant, Nigerian Army Ordinance School, Brig-Gen. Garba Kachallah, during the command's West African Social Activities (WASA) in Lagos at the weekend.

'There was administrative rigging'

Continued from page 1

According to him, in most places the voters register used at the polling booths were different from the ones displayed or given to the political parties.

The PDP candidate said even people who had verified and confirmed their names during the display of voters register could not find them on the voting day. "Hundreds of thousands of people who turned out to vote and with their valid voter's cards were disenfranchised. Can this be described as a free and fair election? May we all keep our eyes on the ball despite the seeming temporary setback, because I still have abiding faith in the Anambra project."

"I believe that politics is the only veritable avenue at ensuring enduring democracy and development; I have stepped out and will devote the rest of my life to public service," he said. Soludo also said the struggle for a better Anambra and Nigeria had only just begun, saying the experience revealed how desperately the nation needed fundamental electoral reforms.

"A situation where INEC determined whether and where voters can exercise their right to vote as in the case of Anambra cannot augur well for our nascent democracy," Soludo said.

His Action Congress candidate Dr. Chris Ngige out rightly rejected the declaration of Governor Peter as the winner, saying the election was characterized by mass irregularities. Speaking to reporters in Awka, he said there was mass disenfranchisement of at least 90% of the state's 1.8 million voters, leaving on less than 10% to vote.

Ngige said his own name, that of his 98 year-old father as well as Dr. Alex Ekueme's and a host of other prominent people's could not be found in the register. He blamed INEC for the violence experienced in some parts of the state.

He said policemen attached to Governor Obi carried out mass arrest of political opponents. According to him, many AC stalwarts were arrested and detained at different police stations in the state.

Ngige said in Onitsha North, it took the intervention of the Inspector General of Police to stop some of the marauding policemen who had stormed the Holy Trinity Basilica Onitsha voting centre to cart away ballot boxes.

Labour Party candidate Dr. Andy Uba, on his part, called for the cancellation of the results on the grounds that majority of the voters in Anambra State were disenfranchised by INEC's voters register.

He also said there was no adequate security, which resulted in the harassment and intimidation of Labour Party agents at the polling units.

Yar'adua did not violate Constitution – Rep

REP. Emmanuel Jime (PDP-Benue) has said that President Umaru Yar'adua did not violate the constitution, by not transmitting a letter to the National Assembly.

Jime told newsmen on Sunday in Abuja, that section 145 of the constitution that people were referring to, does not make it mandatory on the President to transmit a letter to the National Assembly.

It states: "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 provision in section 145 is discretionary. It means, in my view that there is no violation of the constitution.

He also stressed that the pronouncement by the courts should have rested the case.

Jime maintained that the only solution to the current problem was an amendment of sections 145, 190 and 191 which the house has commenced debate on.

"Looking at the amendment of section 145 is the better solution to this matter rather than sentiments, emotions and even mischief making.

"This bill can address that, and this is one of the lessons we

can learn from the crisis that have emerged from the present situation," he said.

Sections 190 and 191 deal with the Governor of a state transmitting to the Speaker of the House of Assembly a written declaration that he was proceeding on vacation.

Jime spoke against the background of the continuing absence of President Umaru Yar'adua from the country since November 23, 2009 for medical treatment in Saudi Arabia (NAN)

Why we lost Anambra

Continued from page 1

ets of violence and collation irregularities prior to the announcement of Obi as the winner. There was a mild drama early yesterday morning at the Anambra State Headquarters of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Akwa, where the governorship election result was being announced, when it was discovered that the electoral officer had inflated the votes ascribed to the Action Congress by 10,000 votes.

The Electoral Officer, Dr. Ego Antonia Egbunam, mistakenly recorded 19,043 instead of 9,043. When the party agent of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) raised objection to the votes, the officer admitted the error and accepted responsibility for it.

But the state Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), Barrister Josiah Uwazuruonye, said even though the electoral officer

admitted the mistake, he (REC) was handicapped to effect any change due to the stipulation of Section 69c of the Electoral Act. He asked the APGA agent to bring a petition to INEC and present it at the Tribunal.

Section 69 C of the Electoral Act says: "The decision of the Returning Officer on any question arising from or relating to (a) unmarked ballot paper (b) rejected ballot paper and (c) declaration of scores of candidates and the return of a candidate, shall be final subject to review by a Tribunal or court in an election petition proceedings under this Act."

Other irregularities that were pointed out by various electoral officers and party agents alike include late arrival of election materials and interpolations of voters' lists across many wards.

At the end of the collation, the REC declared Governor Obi of APGA winner with 97,843 votes (winning 13 of the 21 local gov-

ernments). Dr Chris Ngige of AC won five local governments with 60,240 votes, while Prof Chukwuma Soludo of PDP won two LGs with 59,355 votes. Nicholas Ukachukwu of HDP won one LG and 20,777 votes. Dr. Andy Uba of Labour Party and Uche Ekwunif of the PPA did not win any LGs.

Shortly after the results were announced, Vice President Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan sent warm congratulations to Governor Peter Obi over his victory in the election.

In a statement signed by Ima Niboro, Senior Special Assistant on Media and Publicity to the Vice President, Jonathan lauded the Anambra people for the generally peaceful conduct of the election, saying this is an indication that Nigerians are determined to make democracy succeed. Jonathan acknowledged the roles played by INEC as well as the Nigeria Police and other security agencies towards the successful

conduct of the polls. According to him, this was an indication that the electoral reforms of the present administration were beginning to have an effect on the nation's political culture.

Governors of the 36 states of the federation under the auspices of Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) also congratulated Governor Peter Obi yesterday for his reelection victory. NGF's Director General Asishana Okauru, who spoke on their behalf, said Obi's victory was a re-affirmation of people's faith in his government.

Okauru reminded Governor Obi that the new mandate given to him was an opportunity to build on and possibly complete all the excellent projects started in the past years.

He however urged all those who ran with Governor Obi in the just concluded elections to join hands with him in building a strong Anambra State bearing in mind that the art of governance is a collective effort.

133,000 displaced in Jos crisis- NEMA

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) says about 133,000 persons were displaced by the recent crisis in parts of Plateau State.

North-central zonal Coordinator of the agency Alhaji Alhassan

Danjuma Aliyu said it had been able to reach the over 133,000 displaced persons at the over 33 camps with relief materials to help cushion the effect of their displacement.

He said apart from the 33 camps that were officially recognized due to their capacity to camp large numbers of people, there were about 16

other unregistered camps catering for people.

He said NEMA expects most of the camps to be depleted in the coming month as many of the internally displaced persons were leaving the camps for various reasons.

He said the displaced persons were from about eight local govern-

ment areas in Plateau. They include, Jos-east, Jos-north, Bassa, Pankshin, Mangu, Barkin Ladi, Jos-south and Jos-north.

Alhaji Aliyu said NEMA took responsibility for their accommodation and feeding, adding that they had able to manage the situation. He said the agency also took

part in evacuating corpses, saying it however concentrated on helping internally displaced persons with relief materials.

He commended the Plateau State government and other agencies for their contributions towards alleviating the suffering of the people.

'Human trafficking inimical to national development'

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

MINISTER of State for Foreign Affairs Ambassador Bagudu Hirse says human trafficking is inimical to national development and sub-regional integration efforts. He therefore stressed the need to curb the trend. The minister who spoke in Sokoto at a sensitization campaign against trafficking in persons identified factors which have continued to exacerbate the crime in Nigeria to include porosity of the borders, illiteracy, poverty, greed and the zeal to get-rich quick among youths. He added that some "unscrupulous security officers" were providing cover, issuing fake documents and ensuring easy passage of victims along the international borders. The minister called on state governments, particularly in the north to ensure an increment in the enrolment of children in schools rather than being used as cheap labour. Hirse pointed out that every Nigerian child had a right to basic education. He said the campaign would encourage youths to uphold good virtues and high moral standards, thereby reducing their vulnerability.

Commissioner explains delay in ICT Park's take-off

From Auwalu Umar, Kano

KANO'S yet to be commissioned Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Park is being re-assessed to ensure that only world class facilities are installed, the Commissioner for Science and Technology Dr Bashir Shehu Galadanchi said at the weekend.

He said last year's economic meltdown also affected the take-off of the ambitious project believed to be the first of its kind in Nigeria.

Speaking on some of the constraints militating against the early take-off of the park, Bashir said the Kano government insisted that the project must meet international standard and that his ministry had to go back to the drawing board for this purpose.



GRADUATING students of Obafemi Awolowo University at a celebration rally after their final papers.

PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE

Jang wants security gadgets to monitor flash points

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

GOVERNOR Jonah Jang of Plateau State has requested from the French government, security gadgets to monitor flash points in the state.

The governor made the request while receiving the French Ambassador to Nigeria Mr. Jean Michel Dummond at the Govern-

ment House, Jos at the weekend. The ambassador said he was in Jos to commiserate with the government and people of the state over the recent crisis.

The governor said though the state government had ordered for similar devices, they did not arrive before the recent crisis.

He assured the envoy that the state government would co-

operate with the committee set up by Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to find a lasting solution to crisis in the state.

Governor Jang who said his administration was determined to implement the recommendations of panels on previous crises assured the French delegation of the security of foreign nationals residing in the state.

The French Ambassador said the delegation was in Jos to explore areas where they could assist the state government and those affected by the recent crisis in the state.

He said that the embassy in collaboration with some stakeholders were working on a document that would address recurrent crises in the country.

Council workers' salaries stolen in Kano

From Auwalu Umar & Hisham Habib, Kano

AN unspecified number of thieves last week stormed the Rogo Local Government Council secretariat in Rogo town of Kano State and took away the workers' January salaries.

Consequently, nine officials of the council, including a cashier and four security personnel, have been apprehended. The thieves, according to sources close to the secretariat, were said to have invaded the secretariat at mid night Tuesday with guns and rounded up all the security personnel guarding the place. It was learnt that the thieves

tied the security men and locked them up inside an office and began the operations. They forced their way into the cashier's office, broke the vault, took away the money and ran away, Daily Trust also gathered.

The source told our correspondents who visited the place at the weekend that the council withdrew money for payment of January salary on Tuesday and a number of workers were even paid that day through table payment. Daily Trust learnt that the payment could not finish that day and the remaining money was therefore kept in the council's vault till the following day. There were conflicting reports as to

the exact amount stolen from the vault. In one report the money stolen was N4.3 million and in another it was more than N5 million. Nine officials of the council, including the cashier and security personnel were immediately arrested when the case was reported to the police. A police source told Daily Trust in Rogo that the officials were transferred to Kano police area command from Rogo police station.

Chairman of the council Alhaji Sani Abdullahi could not be found in the office when our correspondents went to the secretariat to get the clearer picture of the situation as he was said to have travelled to Kano

in respect of the theft. He neither answered our reporters' many calls nor replied the text message sent to him to get his own side of the story.

But Police Public Relations Officer for Kano Police Command SP Baba Mohammed Azare confirmed the incident, saying however that it was not true that the council's January salaries was stolen but that only N30,000 was found and removed from the vault.

SP Azare also said there was no loss of life during the hoodlums' operation and that more police personnel were drafted to the secretariat which is located far away from the town.

Compensate Jos victims from statutory allocation, FG urged

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

MUSLIM organizations in Bauchi State under the aegis of the Bauchi Muslim Parliament have urged the Federal Government to pay compensation to victims of the recent Jos crisis from the statutory allocation of

the state.

Addressing journalists at the weekend in Jos, the Chairman of the parliament Imam Rabiuh Mohammed said that would discourage any administrator in the country from allowing or supporting the destruction of lives and property in his domain.

While urging Muslims to pray for peace and good governance, he said, leaders should be upright, fair and just in the discharge of their duties irrespective of creed or political affiliations. Meanwhile a Fulani group known as Tabital Pulaaku International has urged the Federal Government

to look for those displaced by the recent crisis and attend to them. Addressing journalists in Bauchi Thursday, the National President of the organization Alhaji Murtala Aminu called on the Federal Government to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the committee set up to look into

crises in Plateau.

"We heard gory accounts of the attacks. From all accounts, it is evident that the attacks were well organized, coordinated and executed. Cases in point were Fulani settlements razed to the ground and other structures demolished," he said.

Nasarawa schools threaten strike over new tax

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

A coalition of unions of tertiary institutions in Nasarawa State has given the state government a one week ultimatum to rescind its decision on the implementation of the 10 percent tax deduction, threatening to embark on a strike action. Already, the organized labour is on an indefinite strike, paralyzing all government activities in the state. The labour unions said the administration of Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma had done nothing with the proceeds from the Federation Account and should not be talking of generating more funds for development. But the government through the Secretary to the Government (SSG) Timothy Anjide said the tax regime is a matter of law and could not be negotiated.

The coalition of tertiary institutions unions has sent a letter to Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma issuing a one week ultimatum which they said became necessary, following government's failure to respond to a 48-hour ultimatum earlier issued on the matter. Signed by the Chairman of the coalition, Shammah S. Kpanja, Secretary, Yusuf G. Gbi and 28 representatives of various unions of the tertiary institutions, the letter reminded the governor of an earlier letter addressed to the state commissioner of finance and economic planning asking for the immediate suspension of the new tax regime. For not honouring the demand, the letter accused government of insensitivity, adding that government went ahead with the implementation without due process.

"We noticed that the computations and figures arrived at are outrageous-compared with the ones computed by our experts using the same PAYE Pamphlet Act 2004 and that some allowances that are tax free are now being taxed. That the Tax A forms were not filled by employees before the computations were done as contained in the guidelines ACT 2004", the coalition said.



SECURITY personnel being briefed before the commencement of Anambra gubernatorial election in Akwa on Saturday

'Sheriff's father does not want to be Emir'

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

ALHAJI Modu Sheriff, the Galadima of Dikwa and father of Governor Ali Modu Sheriff of Borno State, has no interest in becoming an emir and is not at the center of the controversy over new emirates in the state, Secretary of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) Alhaji Yusuf

Adam has said.

Speaking at the weekend in Maiduguri, he said the Borno State House of Assembly last week approved a bill presented by Governor Ali Modu Sheriff seeking the amendment of the Borno State Local Government Law, 2000 to confer on him powers to create new emirates in the state. It would be recalled that

the Assembly struck out a similar bill last week Tuesday, but Sheriff summoned them for a meeting the next day and they reversed their position. Some people in the state had alleged that the governor was plotting to make his father the emir of one of the new emirates when created.

The ANPP secretary said the governor's father had no plans of

becoming an emir.

"I have met and discussed with him and he told me categorically that he was not aware of such plans", he said. He added that the governor's father said if the entire country was fused into one emirate and offered to him to head, he would not accept because he was a business man and was not interested in ruling anyone.

NACOMYO denies link with Al-Qaeda

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

THE National Council of Muslim Youth Organizations (NACOMYO) has denied any link with Al-Qaeda. The body which was reacting to some newspaper reports with such insinuations said such publications were capable of heating up the polity. In a statement signed by the National Secretary-General of NACOMYO Alhaji Kamaldeen

Akintunde in Abeokuta, Ogun State, yesterday maintained that no Islamic group in the country had links with the Al-Qaeda, neither was it training NACOMYO members.

"The organization calls on the media to exercise caution and avoid sensational stories in the overall interest of the country," the group said.

On the recent Jos crisis, NACOMYO said religious colouration was used to cover up

salient facts, including ethnicity, politics, land matter and governance.

While commending the leadership of the two major religious groups in Plateau State for their roles in the crisis, NACOMYO urged them to exercise caution and restraint in dealing with such situations as both Islam and Christianity preached peace, love, tolerance and respect for constituted authority.

Sokoto approves N199m for students' allowances, registration fees

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THE Sokoto State government has approved N199 million for the payment of students' allowances and refund of their registration fees for the 2008/2009 academic session. The money is for continuing and new students of the state in all tertiary institutions in the country.

A statement signed by the Information Officer of the Department Isa Shuni said the Special Adviser to Governor Aliyu Wamakko on Scholarship and Students Matters Dr. Ali Inname disclosed this when he received leaders of the Sokoto State Students Association at the weekend.

Out of the amount, N91 million is for the payment of allowances and payment is expected to commence today. The statement added that the refund of the 2008/2009 academic session registration fees

amounting to over N108 million would be made to the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto and the Shehu Shagari College of Education Sokoto. The Special Adviser called on students to be calm and orderly during the payment and stressed the determination of the state government to continue to accord top priority to the welfare of the students. He urged them to justify the expenditure by rededicating themselves to their studies.

The Sokoto State government has approved N199 million for the payment of students' allowances and refund of their registration fees for the 2008/2009 academic session



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'90% of Northern women exposed to birth complications'

From Ismail Mudahsir, Kaduna

ABOUT 90 per cent of pregnant women in Northern Nigeria deliver their children at home, thus exposing them to all forms of complications at child birth, Dr. Clara Ejembi of the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria has said.

Speaking in Zaria at the launch of drugs procured by the Population and Reproduction Health Partnership (PRHP) of the ABU Teaching Hospital in partnership with Ueberkeley, California and Venture Strategies, USA at the weekend, she said one out of 10 women who die as

a result of child birth in the world is a Nigerian.

She urged the 19 Northern governors to be more committed to the issue and take appropriate measures to reduce it.

"Maternal mortality is a major problem and Nigeria has the second highest maternal mortality rate in the world. Bleeding after child birth is a major cause of maternal mortality. What I want to say is that maternal mortality in the northern part of this country is major cause for concern. So we need action from the leaders, particularly the Northern governors on this issue because we

are losing women and children. A lot can be done to stop that if we have the political will," she said.

Dr. Clara said most of the maternal deaths were due to Post-partum Haemorrhage (PPH) which occurs where there is no skilled personnel or resources to manage the bleeding and shock.

Earlier in her remarks, the Assistant Adjunct Professor, School of Public Health, University of California Dr Ndola Prata said the drugs would help in the prevention of excessive bleeding after child birth at the community level.

INEC incompetent to conduct election-Court

From Adelanwa Bamgboye

JUSTICE Mohammed Liman of the Federal High Court in Lagos Thursday declared that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as presently constituted is incompetent to conduct any election in Nigeria.

He gave the verdict while delivering judgment in a suit brought before him by the Action Congress (AC) challenging the composition of INEC and power of the body to conduct or take any decision as presently

constituted. According to him, the electoral body is not competent to conduct or organise any election in the country because the quorum of members recommended by the constitution is not met.

The court pointed out that the quorum of INEC is five members by virtue of section 159 of the 1999 constitution and not four as it is presently the case, so according to him, the four members currently on the board of the commission are not competent to take any decision in the name of INEC.

It would be recalled

that AC had in December last year taken before

the court the INEC chairman, Maurice Iwu and the three other members of the board of the commission alleging that the respondents lacked the quorum to conduct the re-run election in Osun State. Apart from Iwu, the party also joined Philip Umeadi, Victor Chukwuani, Mr. A Shoyebi, the Resident Electoral Commissioner of Osun State and INEC itself as respondents to the suit.

The party through its counsel, Mr. Femi Falana, sought an order of perpet-

ual injunction restraining the respondents from taking any decision on the election until the formation of sufficient quorum in accordance with Section 159 of the 1999 Constitution.

However, INEC in his reply to the suit through its counsel, former Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Mr. Kanu Agabi (SAN) had insisted that the objective of the application was to review the judgment and orders of the Court of Appeal and to frustrate indefinitely the conduct of the election.

Ex-gov urges relocation of federal orgs in Plateau

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

FORMER governor of old North-western State, Usman Faruk, has called for the immediate relocation of all federal organisations in Plateau State to neighbouring states as punishment for the recurrent crises in the state.

Alhaji Faruk in a statement in Kaduna said the

relocation should be done immediately as the state government could no longer guarantee the safety of lives and property of people in the state.

The former governor who is the Jarman Gombe said the Police Staff College should be relocated to Bauchi State while National Institute of Strategic Studies (NIPS)

should be relocated to Nasarawa State. He also said the Central Bank branch in Plateau State should be relocated to Kaduna State and that all federal educational institutions be moved to Niger State.

Alhaji Faruk who is a retired Assistant Commissioner of Police also called for the demotion of the University of Jos to a col-

lege and said it should be placed under the Federal University of Technology Bauchi until further notice.

"This is because the institutions concerned are both national and international in character and scope. The lives of the staff, students, NYSC members and other workers must be protected," he said.

Foundation donates hospital equipment to health center

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

THE Shifaah Foundation has donated hospital equipment and drugs worth over N100,000 to a community health centre in Warike, in Ovia East Local Government Area of Edo State.

The equipment include Sutures, intravenous infusions, surgical gloves, surgical masks, surgical caps,

iodine solution, scalp veins and cotton wool among others.

The Coordinator of the Foundation Dr Tijani Oseni said the donation was part of the group's community-based activities.

The coordinator said the target of the group was the rural communities where people could hardly afford medication.

The group said it had also

donated the same equipment and money to hospitals in Fugar in Etsako West Local Government Area.

Receiving the items on behalf of the management of Warale Health Centre, the Matron of the hospital Mrs Dibia Agu thanked the group for the gesture, promising that the hospital would make judicious use of them.

FG spends \$2bn to halt cancer spread

By Ruby Rabi

THE federal government has so far spent over \$2 billion to halt the spread of cancer which is said to be responsible for the death of about 7.6 million persons, adding that 30 per cent of these deaths occur in middle and

low income countries including Nigeria which records 10,000 cases of cancer yearly.

Speaking at an event to commemorate the week long activity for the World Cancer Day, Health Minister Prof Babatunde Osotimehin said the U.S. based Institute of Human Virology

Institute (IHV), with branches in Africa including Nigeria, headed by Professor Williams Bladner, predicted that a cure for cancer would be available in the next five years considering ongoing research on the phenomenon.

He told journalists that Nigeria was partnering with

the MD Anderson Cancer Centre in the United States and has invested \$2 billion in a partnership tagged "IAEA-PACT Programme" with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to build capacity and upgrade cancer management facilities.

Meanwhile the Regional Director of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Dr L.G Sambo has called on nations to halt the consumption of tobacco, which he said accounts for almost 30 per cent of cancer-related deaths worldwide.

World Bank to assist Nigeria on air safety

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) of the World Bank has pledged to assist Nigeria to ensure safer skies and achieve Category One status whereby registered aircraft can fly direct from Nigeria to United States of America.

The bank, in collaboration with the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), at the weekend, agreed on the terms of reference of the proposed project under the Bank's second phase of the West and Central Africa Air Transport Safety and Security Programme.

Among the initiative to realize this objective, the World Bank inaugurated the NIMET Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at the agency's headquarters Abuja to draw up and see to the successful implementation of projects.

A statement by NIMET said the project, which will be funded through the World Bank, has the responsibility of drafting technical specifications for bidding documents to be published by the PCU, among others.

Mr. I. D. Nnodu, Acting Director (Weather Forecasting Services) who represented NIMET Director General Dr. Anthony Anuforum, assured that the Agency would work hard to realize the objectives of the project.

The Project which is to last for three years will be limited to the Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt and Kano airports. The project was initiated at the instance of Director General of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) to ensure compliance to the security standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).



FROM left: Head of Service of the Federation, Mr. Steve Oronsanye, Accountant General of the Federation, Mr. Ibrahim Dankwambo and Minister of Finance, Dr. Mansur Mukhtar, at the inauguration of four publications of the treasury in Abuja recently.

Labour minister decries unemployment

By Benjamin Auta

THE problem of unemployment, which has culminated into all kinds of anti-people activities and claimed lives in recent times, is the greatest challenge facing Nigeria today, Minister of Labour and Productivity Prince Adetokunbo Kayode has said.

Kayode said this at the reception organized in honour of 47 staff of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) who returned from a capac-

ity building training in Turkey, at the weekend.

He said that the year 2010 will be an employment year because there is a stimulus package the government is putting in for creating jobs, adding that it is the responsibility of every government to put every Nigerian to work as their welfare is the mandate of government.

He further said that the FG is responsible for their welfare because the welfare of the people is the key mandate of government, it is consti-

tutional and I challenge government and the National Assembly to ensure that the 2010 budget should create opportunity for employment.

Speaking earlier, the Director General of NDE Malam Abubakar Mohammed said the team went to Turkey to learn and understudy the establishment relevance to our mandates and observes attitude, commitment, passion the people elsewhere put in their work and the kind of initiatives the people put in this kind of job.

NANS vows to fight school fees increment

By Maureen Onochie

THE newly elected President of the National Association of Nigerian Students Comrade Jude Gabriel Imagwe said his administration will no longer tolerate unnecessary increment in school fees paid by students.

Speaking at the inauguration of the 2009/2010 NANS National Executive Committee, Imagwe called on the University of Nigeria Nsukka and other universities planning to increase school fees to

have a rethink in the interest of peace and national interest.

Comrade Ezenwa Nwagwu, former Vice President National Affairs NANS, urged the newly elected president to carry the Nigerian students along in his affairs adding that one of the ways he can do that is by fighting for the welfare of the students.

Benue State Commissioner for Justice Barrister Chive Kaare who chaired the event condemned the act of cultism in universities.

Lafia NBA tells Nasarawa State to obey court order

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

THE Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) in Lafia has asked the Nasarawa State government to re-visit the issue of the sacked staff of the state revenue board with a view to paying them their two years arrears of salaries and allowances as ordered by the court. The sacked staff of the board protested their sack in court which at the end ordered that they should be re-absorbed, they should also be paid the two years arrears of salaries and allowances owed them and that the promotion due to them for the number of years they stayed at home be effected.

The Lafia Chairman of the NBA, Mr. Tanje Benjamin told Daily Trust in Abuja that the state government had carried out the order of the court but had refused to obey the order of the court that the state government should pay them the arrears of salaries owed them.

Justice Ministry officials issue strike notice

By Misbahu Bashir

LAWYERS in the Federal Ministry of Justice said they would embark on a one day warning strike tomorrow over the non implementation of a harmonized salary scheme.

A statement signed by the Chief Press Secretary in the Ministry of Justice Ambrose Momoh said the lawyers have given the Attorney General of the Federation and Justice Minister Michael Aondoakaa the strike notice on February 8 2010.

"The lawyers com-

plained that while officers in most states of the federation are benefiting from the Harmonization Scheme which was mooted in 1994 by the Body of Attorney Generals at its 38th meeting, officers in the Ministry are yet to do so," the statement reads.

The AGF said it was "unacceptable and embarrassing" for the officials to be excluded from the scheme, adding that the attention of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation has been drawn with a view to resolving the situation.

Jos mayhem: 33 NGOs to deploy investigative team

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THIRTY-THREE Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) yesterday said they would soon send an independent team to investigate the allegations of genocide during the recent ethno-religious crisis in Jos, the Plateau State capital and its environs.

The group in a statement signed by representatives of Right to Know Initiative and Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre, Ene Enonche and Awwal Musa Rafsanjani respectively said they will request the assistance of independent multilateral investigators from the international Human Rights groups to find out and ensure the

successful prosecution of the crime perpetrators.

They said appropriate communication would be transmitted to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Prosecutor of International Criminal Court, Chairperson of the African Commission on Human Rights and Chairperson of the committee of Experts on the Human Rights and Welfare of the Child to ensure that serious efforts to address the underlying causes between different communities are solved.

The group said the scale of the crime committed should be probed by the International Court of Justice.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



Battle lines drawn over Akunyili's memo



MINISTER of Information and Communications Prof. Dora Akunyili

WHERE was she all this while? She is only seeking relevance in case of any eventuality. In fact, she is trying to ridicule her colleagues. This Dora Akunyili can only fool herself and is just a matter of time before we realise that she is a politician, like the rest of them "business as usual". After all, it is a survival strategy.

Ishara Galadima
kaptain_2005@yahoo.com

Prof, in line with the spirit of your cherished rebranding process, you should stand bold and speak your mind. No need to avoid the press. Please tell the world your position on Yar'adua and you will be a source of pride to Nigerians. The worst that can

happen is to remove you as minister and what have you got to lose?

Amin
abd.amin34@yahoo.com

This is a great woman and history will judge her right. She is the best in the cabinet as every other person refused to speak the truth. The whole world is watching and the "bridge builders" should bury their faces in shame.

Prof, carry on. The whole world and indeed GOD is with you.

Mohammad Shuaibu
smohammadlawal@yahoo.co.uk

Jonathan, I hope you are watching the three camps carefully. You should have no problem with the "Anti-" and the "Pro-" camps.

However you should beware of the so-called bridge builders and fence-sitters. They are dangerous and should be the first to go, should you assume full responsibilities. Unless, of course you prefer to have a cabinet full of indolent hypocrites, only after personal benefits.

Aminu Baba
ambabazaria@yahoo.co.uk

Prof Dora Akunyili was brave to have told FEC the right thing to do. The other ministers should be fair and accept what Akunyili presented in her memo. Doing anything contrary to what she said is tantamount to a sheer hypocrisy and selfishness. Why cant we call a Spade, a Spade.

Mukhtar Musa
elmukhtar_musa@yahoo.co.uk

Even though most people recognise the truth most of the time, it is difficult to accept it. I think Akunyili has taken a bold step.

Usman Maska
maskaleen@yahoo.com

Akunyili was right. I personally commend her for coming out boldly to express the feelings of many Nigerians on the situation in the country. I believe that those against the move are desperate to retain their positions in government and not because they care about the nation. Yar'adua should hand over power to his vice so that the country can move forward. There is no justification to what is happening presently, when our constitution is very clear on what should be done. I call on FEC members to respect the constitution in order to avert crisis.

Abdulrahman Abubakar
aburaahaman@yahoo.co.uk

Mrs. Akunyili's memo is tan-

tantamount to insubordination. By openly questioning the integrity of the president, Akunyili has no moral basis to remain in the Yar'adua cabinet. It is an anomaly to have an appointee playing to the gallery while in government. Akunyili must resign or be booted out of office. It is a rehash of Obasanjo's recent outburst. Akunyili is indicating where her partisan politics is located. She is no heroin. She must go. Her recent disgraceful role in the Ekiti gubernatorial election re-run debacle as well as her re-branding fiasco show that this woman has lost every ounce of credibility.

Segun Kandido
segunkandido@yahoo.com

Grandstanding. Akunyili has calculated that Nigerians will soon turn on them, so she has to turn away. Next step, resignation.

Oradii
oradii@gmail.com

I am confused by the action of our honourable ministers on the issue raised by one of their own. To me, it will do a lot of good to them and to the nation if they can do what she advised because it is important and necessary. Please Akunyili tell them.

Ibrahim Adam Usman
ibchenido@yahoo.com

Akunyili is a brave woman. We need more of her in the Federal Executive Council. Shame on all the men.

Joe
jonahjoe2k5@yahoo.com

Let us wait till next week to know how FEC will react to the memo before drawing conclusions.

Bawaedino
bawaedintalk@yahoo.co.uk



PETROLEUM Minister Lukman Rilwan

Minister orders NNPC to end fuel scarcity

WELL done, minister. It is a good development, but to me, the harsh warning should have been given before now.

Kodei
kodei2003@yahoo.com

Lukman, let us be realistic, you should have convinced the FEC to make our refineries to work then, you can threaten to sack NNPC staff. If we continue to depend on importation, we should expect scarcity.

Babayo El-Nafaty
babayoelnafaty@yahoo.com

What has the NNPC been waiting for? Why did it take them this long to come up with a strategy, or is it a case of sabotage? Why did the minister take so long to attend to the fuel crisis? I never thought that the mere mention of sack would lead to fuel crisis. Shame on those at the helm of affairs at the NNPC.

Zainab Umar
zilyganga@yahoo.co.uk

Abuja gets executive business school

PLEASE let me know where you function. What are your programmes like?

Arinkoluwa Olugbenga
gbngaarinkoluwa@yahoo.com

Buhari to ANPP: I quit – Moves to CPC

BABA Buhari, you deserve total support from well meaning Nigerians, regardless of tribe or other narrow primordial sentiments for your genuine and transparent intention to transform Nigerian. God will certainly expose the enemies of progress who shamelessly take the path of dishonour to scuttle your vision for their selfish interests.

Aminu
draminusudawa207@yahoo.com

But really, Buhari's decamping from the party is a great set back to the ANPP and would affect its stand as the 2nd party in Nigeria. Buhari will never return because of the hatred from the top clique, especially the Kano Mafia.

Yusuf Ubale
yusufaubale@yahoo.com

Fellow Nigerians, it is time we realized our past mistakes

of electing bad leaders into vital positions. Well done Buhari, may God be with you. I support you. It is for the good of this nation. We know you can do it because of your reputation.

Anda
andatrust@yahoo.com

Buhari, may God continue to guide and protect you. I do not think you can realize your dream in Nigerian politics.

Amin
maduyousuf@yahoo.co.uk



GEN. Muhammadu Buhari

Abba-Aji: Yar'adua to transmit letter to Assembly

HAS the resolution of the Senate been delivered to the president? If it has not, may I advise that it be sent to our envoy in Saudi Arabia. This man claims to see and speak with the presi-

dent every now and then. He is in a good position to carry out this assignment for his beloved country.

Pita
justpita@yahoo.co.uk

Northern Govs back constitution on Presidency

ASKING Jonathan to act as presidential verbally will be unconstitutional. If it is not a game, why cant the president write a short note.

Harry Joseph
harry.joesph@yahoo.com

These people lack honesty and are not serious. Why did it take them this long to issue a statement. They should have come out long ago and stated in no uncertain terms what the constitution

clearly states - that the VP steps in as acting president the moment the president is indisposed. We are in the third month of uncertainty. The governors have failed yet again to show Nigerians and the world that we are indeed serious.

Dan Kano
psayh@aol.com

Well, thank God this is coming from Northern Governors. But are

they speaking the minds of their people and elders. If this country fails, we shall blame the North.

Prince Donald Akan
donafrik@yahoo.com

I commend the courage of the governors and hope they will all be on the side of democracy throughout this dark moment in the history of our dear country.

Irene Albert
ioalbert2004@yahoo.com



By Abdul-Azeez Sulaiman

Shaking off Ali's tragic death, Gaidam lifts Yobe

The oath that Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam took on January 27, 2009 was the same oath taken a year and half earlier by his predecessor, the late Alhaji Mamman Ali, and every other state governor as prescribed by the Nigerian constitution.

But like one-time American President Gerald Ford, Gaidam assumed the governorship of Yobe state under extraordinary, unexpected and sudden circumstances, in a historic moment that troubled the minds and hurt the hearts of the people of the state.

Like President Ford, Governor Gaidam felt it his first duty that day to make a compact with the people. Not an inaugural address, not a campaign speech; just some straight talk with a people in pains.

And like Ford, Gaidam's address to the people on that day was both solemn and simple, recognizing that though he never sought that enormous responsibility, he nevertheless would not shirk it. To the people, Gaidam cautioned that there was no way the state can move forward except together; to himself, he acknowledged that no way a leader can succeed except by solving the urgent needs of the people.

Pledging to be the governor of all the

“Already, 176 children of Yobe origin who are pioneer students of the college have commenced studies for the third term”

people and to heal the internal wounds of the sudden death of his predecessor, Gaidam set out to face the priority business of state. A man of defined mission, Gaidam has already made giant strides in all the sectors in just twelve months so that for the people of Yobe, though Mamman Ali's life came to an end that January 27, the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives and the dream shall never die.

On health, Gaidam's administration set out to execute the construction of an ultra-modern hospital with a capacity for 200 beds in the state capital and another one with a 150-bed capacity in Gashua.

All the general hospitals in Gaidam, Gashua and Potiskum are also undergoing renovation while a sum of N200 million was approved for re-equipping the hospitals.

The administration has also invested N28 million into a drug revolving scheme and recruited 28 expatriate doctors from Egypt to compliment the work of the indigenous doctors.

The Gaidam recognized early that shelter is one of the basic necessities of life and has been unwavering in his determination to build houses for the people. Under the scheme, the state executive council approved the construction of 500 housing units spread across the 17 local government areas of the state at the cost of N3.6 billion. Out of the 500 housing units, 10 units are being built in each of the local govern-

ments while 15 units are for each of the two other senatorial zones of the state. The remaining units are being built in Damaturu, the state capital and all are nearing completion.

The imposing housing units built along the Maiduguri road have given Damaturu a new look because they are unique and of high quality. It is a comprehensive housing estate made up of 220 low cost housing units and standard houses. Some of the other features of the ultra-modern estate are a mosque, a clinic, primary school, police station, corner shops and a fire service station. The Yobe state property company has also concluded plans to build a shopping complex that would serve the estate and other residents of Damaturu.

It is remarkable that all the houses were roofed with long span aluminium sheets supplied by the Yobe state aluminium company. One other fascinating thing about the housing project is that the state government introduced the use of local building materials for them: the bricks used were moulded by local contractors with laterite sourced in Damaturu. Already, the state government has concluded arrangements to allocate some of the completed housing units on owner-occupier basis to civil servants and some people from the private sector

The governor is equally giving the educational sector a boost. This effort has started yielding results. Gaidam did not hesitate to approve the implementation of the 27.5 percent teachers' salary scale, TSS. To further equip the teachers to put in their best, many of them were sent on courses. The first set to attend were teachers in the core science subjects like mathematics, chemistry, physics and biology. They were sent for courses at the National Mathematical Centre, Abuja. Others who teach conventional subjects were sent to the University of Ghana, University of Abuja and the National Educational Development Center in Ondo state. To further increase the number of Yobe state students in institutions of higher learning, the administration established a high standard secondary school modelled after the Turkish International College. It is called Yobe Turkish International College. The college, located at Mahmudu near Potiskum, is a centre of academic excellence and its structure is an architectural masterpiece. Already, 176 children of Yobe origin who are pioneer students of the college have commenced studies for the third term.

The school is currently being managed by the Nigerian Turkish International College, but its teachers are made up of both foreign and local staff.

The administration has also adopted a pragmatic approach to boost food production called the Yobe state youth empowerment farm programme. It commenced at a farm on kilometre 15 along Damaturu-Potiskum road and lately spread to all the local government areas in the state. Under the scheme, youths are encouraged to direct their energies to farming instead of allowing them to be used for criminal activities.

Abdul-Azeez Suleiman wrote from Wuse II, Abuja.



By Matthew Hassan Kukah

Southern Kaduna and crisis of development (III)

Cont'd from last week

For a nation where Federal and State Governments often allocate projects not due to the needs of communities but due to the influence of individuals, these sentiments are a symptom of the failure of the strategies of governance rather than the expression of grievances. This is why today, many communities often say. We cannot forget Generals Gowon, Babangida and Abacha because they gave us independence, they created our State, Local Government or Chiefdom for us! We cannot forget Governor X or Y because they brought us water or a road. This is why Legislators now prefer to appropriate resources for Constituency projects than the job of Law making to which they were elected.

Thus, in our own situation here, the arguments often go something like this: The people from Northern Kaduna (here referred to as Muslims) have cornered and continue to monopolise power and that is why we have been oppressed. This categorization of course is misleading because, when subjected to closer scrutiny, we suddenly realize on closer scrutiny that not everyone to the North of Kaduna is Muslim or rich or has power and not everyone or community to the South of Kaduna is Christian, poor or powerless. It therefore becomes clear that the concept of Power

“For example, we might pose some important questions such as; Are all Muslims are privileged?”

and Powerlessness as defined by us may have become popular but they are not an explanation for the problem. For example, we might pose some important questions such as; Are all Muslims are privileged? Are all non-Muslims are marginalized or deprived in our State or in any part of the country for that matter? How do we explain the fact that Muslims in the North constitute the highest percentages of the unemployed, the poor and the illiterate today? Again, what accounts for the fact that some people from Southern Kaduna who are not Muslims are among the richest people in the State and Nigeria?

If we probe further, we will appreciate the fact that wealth and poverty often have more to do with, and intangible causative factors such as, cultural practices, education, geographical location, infrastructure, urbanization, education, etc. These factors are often better explanations for power and wealth than such simple classifications as ethnic group, religion or even gender. We must not deny that these sometimes help, but there are often more than single factors in explaining inequalities.

For example; we may discover that merely being born a male, growing up in Zaria, being a Muslim are not enough to make you rich and guarantee your being a Nigerian of repute. Nor would being born male, growing up in Gidan Mana, being

a Christian necessarily make you a poor man with little or nor contributions to make in Nigeria. These are the stories of General Martin Luther Agwai from Gidan Mana and Baba Nabagale who was born in Zaria. In his case, General Martin Luther Agwai was not born into privilege, but we all know where he has ended up today. Baba Nabagale grew up in Zaria, was a Muslim, but ended up living most of his life and dying as a Maigadi in St. Joseph's Seminary, Zaria. We must therefore probe the issues of marginalization well outside the routine assumptions that have come to characterize the discussions today. We need to learn from history how others have dealt with these similar problems and situations of perceived injustice.

The role of Culture, environment and development has been the subject of a vast amount of literature. Films like *Trading Places* or *Cain and Abel*, have also explored the theme. Although life is definitely more complicated than that, I wish to argue that the nature of the conditions of our people has almost everything to do with the choices we have made and nothing much to do with where we were born. Please do not get me wrong. I know that there is a wealth of literature showing that through the application of the theories of *Race, Gender, Religion, Geography*, privileges have been conferred on certain persons, locations or groups. These are some of the stories of the exclusion, marginalization, enslavement and dehumanisation of Africans under the transatlantic slave trade. They are the stories of the Aborigines in Australia, the *Native Indians* of the United States of America. Philosophies, religious and anthropological theories were systematically woven to justify and even make these claims have a theological justification. Apartheid, Nazism, Racism, had theological foundations to the fact that differences in colour were ordained by God Himself.

Today, two major factors account for the convoluted nature of the history of hostility and hatred that exists between various peoples of Nigeria in general and the North in particular today. These are *Colonialism* and the *Hausa-Fulani Islamic jihad* of the late nineteenth century. Whereas the advent of the colonial state subjugated the lands and peoples of what is now modern Nigeria, the Hausa Fulani Islamic jihad accounts for the second level of tension that persists today. These tensions are manifested in the various levels of political, economic formations and relations today. The colonial state disrupted the habitats of the various communities and finally herded them by force and law into one state called, Nigeria. But even before its advent, the period of the Jihad had sowed the seeds of the hostility and animosity between the Muslim community and the peoples against whom wars and slavery were collectively waged. These memories tend to resurface at the slightest feeling of injury and they have been transported into modern political and economic discourse today.

Concluded.

Rev. Monsignor Kukah, Vicar General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Kaduna, made these (excerpted) remarks on "Culture and Development: Southern Kaduna's struggle for national integration" at Afan Day Festival of Kagoro Chiefdom of Kaduna, on New Year's Day.



Your Letters

The matter with Akunyili on Yar'adua

All the misgivings I had of the Minister of Information and Communications, Professor Dora Akunyili seem to have disappeared with the current firmness and sincerity she exhibited in the face of reality. I know that as it is today, she would not mind resigning from the cabinet if her sincere memo was not considered.

There was nothing bad in what she had said in the memo which is now with the office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. Reading the full text of the memo on Friday, 5, 2010,

no one would be in doubt as to the stuff she is made of. One thought that she already lost her steam. Her memo was not in any way an indictment but in sympathy with President Yar'adua who he urged her colleagues in the FEC to help the ailing President as it was. Her memo drew attention of the laughing stock Nigeria is now. Just like Victor Attah, Donald Duke, Senator Ken Nnamani and others, Prof Dora Akunyili was not saying that President Yar'adua should resign but simply should obey the Constitution of the country which he swore to uphold.

As for the federal law makers of the South-South extraction who insisted that there is no vacuum in the Presidency therefore did not see any need

for their kin to be sworn in as the acting President, their utterance has shown that they do not know the workings of the arm of government they were elected to serve in. How could they have commented so, knowing full well that the National Assembly would not allow any executive bill generated by an underpowered Vice President? Recently David Mark turned back a document that emanated from Jonathan just because Jonathan has not been legally mandated to perform such function. The South-south federal law makers should bury their heads in shame.

Benedicta Apia, 199 Ezikwo Road, Abakaliki.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

On Anambra poll

GOVERNOR Peter Obi deserves congratulations on his victory at last Saturday's governorship election. I give kudos to him and more power to his elbow. May almighty God continue to endow him more wisdom and abundant blessings throughout his second tenure.

OMEGA Ngbede, New Karmo, Abuja, 08130945623.

Counting the vote

MR. Vice President, Sir, agreed but after the count and count, let the true result be announced.

ABUBAKAR Aliyu, Yaounde Street, Wuse zone 6, Abuja, 08020347575.

Shape of things to come?

NIGERIANS have woken up from a deep slumber. The prospect of credible elections is now real as shown in the Anambra election result. May God help us.

M.A. Bature, Abuja, 08099374243.

Akunyili should resign

YES, because she cannot belong to a group of greedy, rudderless, selfish and unpatriotic bunch. She

should resign, and Insha Allah she will become our next VP in joint ticket with Gen. Buhari.

MININ Bello, Kaduna, 08032881180.

And the rebranding?

BY descending so heavily and unfairly on the one who had the courage to act, surely Mahmud Jega has sent a clear message of what awaits other Dora wannabes. On the contrary, she has demonstrated tremendous and commendable courage.

CHIJOKE Edeoga, Abuja, 08033112748.

General Buhari

IT'S too late to cry. Your decision to dump the ANPP and join CPC is totally wrong, taken at a wrong time. Now we'll see who is more popular. I wish you all the best of luck, though.

ABDULLAHI Hamza Tsafe, 08035626658.

I agree

CPC won't be the solution, because Nigerians are not ready to elect any military or ex-military.

08065571412.

Not misdirected

FOR Dawat (text *Daily Trust* February 5) to say *Daily Trust* should be invited, not PRTV, to explain its role in the Jos crisis is to say the least dishonest and unfair. Trust is the only paper that gives balanced and reliable report on the crisis.

MOHAMMAD Sani, Kano, 08098982020.

Gray area

IT is high time the EFCC beamed its searchlight on traditional rulers, who are now creating useless and unnecessary traditional titles and conferring them on sitting corrupt and irresponsible public office holders.

ALIYU Abdu, Malumfashi, Katsina, 08086966667.

Seen this man?

HELP me locate my Senator who is supposed to be at the National Assembly, Kawu Peto Dukku representing Gombe Central Senatorial District. He appears to be missing because we have not heard from, or of, him, since the election.

SHEHU Usman, Abuja, 08072558613.



By Bernard Peter Damlong

AIT, Ray Power should be more professional in their programming

The mass media, in any society, are expected to play the role of an informer, educator, leader and watchdog. They are allowed under our system to exercise considerable influence on decision-makers through constructive criticism and by offering responsible alternative options on any given public issue.

Such burden is even heavier on the electronic medium. That is why the attitudes, utterances and presentation styles of some members of the DAAR Communications, operators of *AIT* and *Raypower* Newsmakers programme in the recent time have become a source of worry to all who desire good for the country. For sometime now, some journalists and correspondents in the *African Independent Television (AIT)* and the *Raypower* Radio seem to derive pleasure in unleashing all forms of contortions that are alien to the noble journalism profession. They have in recent times virtually vomited on the person and office of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for no just cause.

Those of us who are very patriotic to observe this ugly trend and development have chosen to maintain our cool, believing that these vitriolic attacks and innuendoes from the uncouth and self-styled human rights fighters and protectors hibernating in the cocoons and crannies of the DAAR Communications would soon fizzle away, because no bad dream lasts forever. The anchorman producing the POLITICAL PLATFORM PROGRAMME and FOCUS NIGERIA on both the Ray Power Radio and *AIT* have constituted themselves into a bunch of tribal bigots who do not see anything good of the North, the president and the government of the day. Those conversant with the political and historical antecedents of Nigeria would attest to the fact that President Umaru Musa Yar'adua has been one of the great leaders the nation could boast of. His level-headedness, large heartedness and ability to diffuse heated tempo coupled with the administration of justice and fair play, have earned him great respect in the eyes of the world.

We sympathise and equally empathise with the DAAR Communication Megaphone over the non-payment of their allowances and salaries for sometime now. But must they turn the heat of their anger in this respect on Mr. President and the government? In plain language, the utterances, insinuations and vitriolic attacks on the President and the Government of the day, amount to sedition. The fact that people choose not to engage the anchormen and programme producers in *AIT* and *RayPower* over their negative comments and assessments of the president and his programmes depicts our maturity, because to engage in such frivolities would amount to empty moral gymnastics.

Since assumption of office, President Yar'adua plunged himself into programmes and activities that would engender peace, stability and economic prosperity for the nation. It is on record that the president was able to achieve peace in the Niger-Delta without plunging the region into bloodshed and unnecessary destruction of lives and properties. Needless to also add that since assumption of office, the rule of law has been maintained on all fronts by the government. No one is left in doubt as the direction of the government in the areas of social security, economic development and rural infrastructure. Despite all these noticeable and notable achievements laced with unprecedented accelerate growth of our nation, it is unbelievable that the DAAR Communications has failed in its sacred duty to be an objective critic of the activities of government. We have come to realize that DAAR Communications has its own axe to grind against the Federal Government by embarrassing the government and its officers in portraying them in a poor light. These the *AIT* and *Ray Power* Radio have irresponsibly carried out by distorting or slanting information or misinterpreting government motives, all in an attempt to ventilate their personal grievances, satisfy their private and partisan commitments.

It is sad to note that despite the incidence of the disgraced former producer of the Focus Nigeria Programme, his successors at *Ray Power* Radio are not amenable to correction as they still revel in their injurious assessment and seditious vilification. As a decoy to block the listeners from their unpatriotic acts, the *Ray Power* Radio Political Platform anchormen decided to use someone else; even at that one can hear him in a painful reaction at times to some of the misguided write-ups and propaganda against the sitting government by trying hard to change the topic. Without doubt, DAAR Communications is an organization that to me is neither soundly patriotic nor intelligently selfish.

Damlong wrote from Wuse Zone 2, Abuja.

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

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EFCC and former governors

In December 2009, officers of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission arrested former Governor Attahiru Bafarawa of Sokoto State at the Hilton Hotel, Abuja where he was to attend a meeting of politicians opposed to the ruling party.

Bafarawa's arrest and subsequent arraignment at a Sokoto State High Court, two years after he left office, and especially at a time he was publicly and centrally involved in galvanizing opposition to the ruling party was seized upon by commentators as evidence to buttress claims that the EFCC had again become the instrument in the hand of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to harass and intimidate those it labels as the government's critics.

The EFCC has made strenuous efforts to deny that Bafarawa's trial has any connection with his recent political activity; that may well be true. In fact, it is likely the EFCC acted faithfully in accordance with mandate to fight corruption and abuse of office in Nigeria. But even the EFCC must admit that it is largely responsible for the mixed reactions that attended Bafarawa's arrest and arraignment. It is still fresh in the minds of most Nigerians that the EFCC allowed itself, in the twilight of the Obasanjo administration, to become an instrument of witch-hunt and vicious curtailment of the rights of persons who disagreed with the government.

Secondly, the image of the EFCC is not helped by the unanswered question on the number of ex-governors it had concluded investigations on. Erstwhile Chairman, Nuhu Ribadu put the figure at thirty-one. Farida Waziri, who succeeded Ribadu publicly contradicted him; but she is yet to shed light on such a matter of continuing national interest.

Finally, there had been no indication from the EFCC before it arrested Bafarawa that he was being investigated. There was no instance as far as we know when he was summoned by EFCC, or when queries on his tenure were sent to him. Suddenly and unexpectedly, the EFCC pounced.

Yet it is extremely important that the investigations of former governors of states are carried on and concluded. The perception of selectivity in certain instances and inertia in others, if not redressed immediately could irreparably damage the standing and credibility of the EFCC. This is what we believe should be done. The EFCC should immediately publish a detailed profile of all the former governors of the thirty-six states in Nigeria. The profile will inform Nigerians the names of governors who are being investigated, why they are being investigated and the progress being made towards arraignment or exculpation. The profile will mention the names of governors about whom petitions have been received and those on nothing untoward have been found. It is possible that at the end of the day an ex-governor or more might be held up and celebrated as one who did not abuse his office and was not tainted by corruption.

An investigation of all former governors and a report card issued on their true standing is not new in Nigeria. General Murtala Mohammed of blessed memory caused an investigation into the tenure and assets of all the administrators of states that served the regime of General Yakubu Gowon and the effect of such scrutiny, though conducted in military era, was salutary.

That is the path we recommend to the EFCC so that transparency and focus will be regained, especially with regards to the status of former governors. A comprehensive statement as to the standing of all former governors with the EFCC will not only allow a lot of them get on with their lives without being unduly constrained by fear of the EFCC; it will remove the EFCC from the growing fear that it is capable of being instigated when convenient by the government to bring up charges that otherwise would not have been laid against persons who stand up for their rights or on their principles.

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Mandela proves we are all dispensable

“I must step down when there are one or two people who admire me”- Nelson Mandela in November 1996, when he was 78, three years before he left office.

On the 2nd of February, 1990, Frederik Willem De Klerk, the Afrikaner President of the racist South Africa made the historic speech to the apartheid parliament. He unbanned the Africa National Congress (ANC), Pan African Congress (PAC), and South African Communist Party (SACP) among others. He also announced the release of prominent political prisoners. Nine days later, precisely on the 9th of February, Nelson Mandela, “466th prisoner to be admitted to the island in 1964” (466/64) tall, dignified walked into freedom unconditionally after almost three decades of incarceration on the notorious Robben Island prison. 20 years after, Mandela earned a deserved freedom, proving that time is longer than the apartheid rope. Mandela is credited with scores of leadership virtues. They include courage, principle, sacrifice, forgiveness, love and reconciliation and none vengeance among others. However one singular leadership quality of Madiba, often forgotten in a continent reputable for sit tight leaders (Egypt's Mubarak, Zimbabwe's Mugabe, Libya's Kaddafi, late Bongo of Gabon and President Museveni of Uganda) is that of “making oneself dispensable”, i.e. dispensability. Given the current crisis of leadership Nigeria avoidably gets stuck in, 20th anniversary of Mandela's long walk to freedom is another joyful worthy reminder that Mandela's model of representation and delegation and even resignation is an alternative to the current political mess in Nigeria.

Will President Yar Adua embrace Mandela formula, which interestingly his predecessor, OBJ scorned at the height of the discredited third term bid even as he today audaciously from the roof top sanctimoniously recommends what he did not practice recently to his successor? Paradoxically Nigeria among other countries fought for the liberation of South Africa. Leadership lessons expectedly should rather flow from the former not from the latter.

Authoritative reports had it that two years before he left office in 1999, Nelson Mandela actually stopped chairing cabinet meetings. His then Vice President, Thabo Mbeki was reportedly in charge. He had a good rapport with his Vice such that he was reportedly at different forums celebrating Mbeki as a better administrator than himself. He indeed modestly attributed many great ideas he championed to his Vice President, Tambo Mbeki. This contrasts with President Olusegun Obasanjo who acted indispensable by walking out of power almost without a Vice President, or with an estranged Vice President in an

Issa Aremu, mni

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open war of attrition between him and Atiku Abubakar which in turn raised more dangerous constitutional challenges than the current impasse.

Nelson Mandela presidency was inaugurated in 1994. From the day of inauguration he had prepared the minds of South Africans for the obvious fact: he would not always be there as a President. He took pride in the knowledge that ANC has army of leaders that can rule South Africa. The let-go, (as it were!) dispensability orientation of Madiba is not limited to his narrow political party preference in the ANC. During his historic presidency, Mandela allowed his arch rival and die hard apolo-

On life after his death, Nelson Mandela was once quoted as saying: “There is life after Mandela”. What is good for Mandela applies to us all. Although he demonstrated the great virtue of dispensability, almost a decade he left he has proved even indispensable for humanity as a whole through his indispensable worthy deeds well after he left office.

South Africa has produced three Presidents since he left gracefully office but his moral authority is sought more than many serving sit tight leaders. Better still; his brief and occasional intervention in global affairs captured imagination better than boring statements of speech writers of many serving Presidents. Many Presidents in Africa including Mbeki's South

Given the current crisis of leadership Nigeria avoidably gets stuck in, 20th anniversary of Mandela's long walk to freedom is another joyful worthy reminder that Mandela's model of representation and delegation and even resignation is an alternative to the current political mess in Nigeria

gist of apartheid regime, Mr Mangosuthu Buthelezi as Acting President while he was on overseas trips that also involved his Vice President, Thabo Mbeki. Can we imagine a Federal cabinet member of Nigeria Federal Republic, as an Acting President under any circumstance? Can we dream of a commissioner as an acting Governor during some of those numerous safari tours of our emperors called state governors and their deputies? Buthelezi was the first South Africa's Minister of Home Affairs, a position he “earned” more through mayhems and blackmails involving the tragic black on black violence orchestrated by his Inkatha party than a statesman-like conduct. And yet he acted Acting President for as long as Mandela generously indulged him. In his book, Leading Like Madiba, (2006) Martin Kalungu-Banda, reported Mandela's answer when confronted with an intriguing question on why he appointed his arch political rival to the position of authority thus: Witness vintage Mandela: “Is it not true that, although he is in the opposition, Mr Buthelezi is one of the capable leaders we have in this country? The fact that Mr Buthelezi and I disagree on a number of issues cannot blind me from seeing and appreciating many of his great qualities” adding that; “We in South Africa and the world out there must know that this country has many more capable leaders besides my African National Congress colleagues and myself. And this is good for our country”.

Africa and Nigeria's Obasanjo watched almost helplessly how the combined terror duo of President George W Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney of America criminally invaded Iraq in 2002. Nelson Mandela's comment on the war was as resonant as the invaders' bombs. He rudely but justly woke up a complacent world to the danger of Bush's Iraqi adventure. According to Mandela, Bush administration's advisers were like “dinosaurs” who did not want President Bush to “belong to the modern age” adding that US was a threat to world peace given its penchant for impunity and unilateralism. Mandela shows that you don't have to be in power before you are morally responsible to humanity while you can cling to power and yet prove unaccountable and intolerably indifferent to human cause. Africa is indebted to Mandela for his campaign (at that age!) for 2010 hosting right of FIFA soccer tournament on the continent.

Mandela brand is the attraction not necessarily the volumes of coca cola that would be consumed during the fiesta. What with his initiative on HIV/AIDS and initiative on Global council of Elders among others? At 90 he warned leaders to stop privileging themselves while begging their people. Mandela shows that politics of immortality and indispensability must give way to politics of representation and delegation and even resignation if only it would advance human progress.



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The Honourable Commissioner,
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APPRECIATION

The turbaning ceremony of His Excellency Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau, Executive Governor as the first ever **Sardaunan Kano** by His Highness the Emir of Kano Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero on Friday 22nd January 2010 will remain a defining moment in the annals of the traditional institution in Nigeria. The array of distinguished personalities, the mammoth but disciplined crowd of enthusiastic supporters and well wishers, who graced this historic ceremony, and the millions more who watched the live broadcast on television, all have partaken in the creation of a legend.

To Almighty Allah, whose Grace and Benevolence sustained us to bear witness to the glorification of His Good Name in the recognition given to his humble servant, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau

To Their Excellencies - The Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCON, who was ably represented by the Hon Ministers of Finance and National Planning, Dr Mansur Muktar and Dr Shamsudeen Usman, respectively; former Head of State, General Dr. Yakubu Gowon, GCFR; former President, Alhaji Shehu Usman Aliyu Shagari, GCFR; former Ghanaian Vice President, Alhaji Aliyu Mahamma; Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Malam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi; Governor Isa Yuguda of Bauchi State; Governor Mahmud Aliyu Shinkafi of Zamfara State; Governor Babangida Aliyu of Niger State; Governor Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko of Sokoto State; Governor Olusegun Mimiko of Ondo State; Governor Danjuma Goje of Gombe State, Governor Ali Modu Sheriff of Borno State; Governor Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe State; Governor Alhaji Ibrahim Idris of Kogi State; Deputy Governor Ahmed Mahmud of Jigawa State; Chief Olu Falae; former Governors of Kano State, Col. Sani Bello, AVM. Ndatsu Umaru, Colonel Idris Garba, Colonel Aminu Isa Kontagora, Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya, former Governors of Abia, Chief Ogbonnaya Ono, Yobe, Alhaji Bukar Abba Ibrahim and Zamfara, Alhaji Ahmed Sani Yariman Bakura, Members of the diplomatic community; Ambassadors of Mali, Cameroun, Congo, Eritrea, Cote D'Ivoire, Peoples Democratic Republic of Korea, Charge' d Affairs of France and Saudi Arabian Consul in Kano. Senate Whip, Senator Engr. Kanti Bello, Distinguished Senators and members of the Federal House of Representatives.

To His Highness, the Emir of Kano, Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero CFR, and members of the Kano Emirate Council, to Their Highnesses - the Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abba Kyari Umar Garbai; the Emir of Zazzau, Alhaji Dr Shehu Idris, CFR; the Emir of Daura, Alhaji Umar Farouk; the Emir of Ringim, Alhaji Sayyadi Mahmud Ringim; the Etsu Nupe,



Alhaji Yahaya Abubakar; Oba of Ede, Oba Lawal Munirudeen; the Emirs of Zamfara, Kauran Namoda, Mubi and Biu. Other royal fathers who attended the ceremony or sent their representatives, Secretary General Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, Dr. Abdullateef Adegbite, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, the national chairman of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP), Chief Edwin Ume-Ezeoke and other members of the National Executive Council of the party.

To all officials of the Kano State Government, His Excellency, the Deputy Governor, Engineer Abdullahi Tijjani Muhammad Gwarzo; Speaker and Hon members of Kano State House of Assembly; Other State Speakers and Hon members of other State Houses of Assemblies; Secretary to the State Government; Hon Commissioners; Special Advisers; Special Assistants; Chairmen and officials of the 44 Local Government Councils; State party chairmen of ANPP, Alhaji Sani Hashim Hotoro, Local Government chairmen; Alhaji Dauda Birma, chairman Board of Trustees of ANPP, Alhaji Gambo Magaji, Alhaji Bashir Othman Tofa; Bishop Elumobo; Chief Bisi Akande; Chairmen and members of Boards of Parastatals; CEOs of Government Parastatals and Agencies; the Ulama, religious, political, community, women and youth leaders, members of the Security' Agencies, Gentlemen of the Press and other Distinguished Personalities who witnessed this grand ceremony. Our thanks also goes to all those who due to one reason or the other could not attend the ceremony but send their goodwill message.

To all of you, supporters and well wishers of Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau, *Sardaunan Kano, Onwa na etiri oha 1* of Enugu-Ukwu, *Atunluse* of Edeland, we say a hearty thank you and urge your continued fervent prayers for this great man of destiny who has acquired international recognition for integrity in public service. We appreciate and salute this outpouring of goodwill, friendship and love symbolized by your impressive turnout.

Signed:

Sule Ya'u Sule

Senior Special Assistant Media & Public Relations
to the Executive Governor of Kano State

INTERNATIONAL

Christians, Muslims clash in Guinea

CHRISTIANS and Muslims clashed for two days in eastern Guinea's city of Nzerekore, leaving one person dead and two missing, police said at the weekend.

Another 29 people were injured, eight seriously, in the fighting on Friday and Saturday in the region's main centre, 1,000 kilometres (600 miles) east of the capital Conakry, a police official told AFP by telephone. State television confirmed the police information. Calm had been restored by Saturday evening, although sporadic bursts of gunfire were still sounding out in the city.

Both sides went at each other with stones and clubs on Saturday after a group of Muslims gathered to open up a mosque closed down by authorities late last month because of tensions between the religious communities.

Soldier killed in Burundi army base shoot-out

TWO Burundian soldiers went on a shooting spree at the weekend, killing a colleague and wounding a civilian in the latest in a string of incidents involving the army, a spokesman said.

"Early this morning, two soldiers approached the entrance of the camp in Ngagara," in the capital Bujumbura. "One of them pounced on the sentinel, yanked his rifle away and shot him at point blank," army spokesman Gaspard Baratuza said.

The assailant then started to shoot before fleeing under retaliatory fire, in an exchange that was heard across many neighbourhoods of the Burundian capital.

One of the assailants then shot and wounded one civilian in the centre of the capital before encountering police and being injured himself. The other fled.

S/African president expresses regret over affair

SOUTH Africa's polygamist president has apologized to the nation after being criticized for having an extramarital affair that resulted in a daughter born in October.

Analysts had argued that the love child revelations would have little impact because South African voters overwhelmingly supported Jacob Zuma in last year's election even though he was an unabashed polygamist who had admitted to having sex outside marriage. But Zuma has had to make two public statements on the matter, a sign he and his advisers may be worried that South Africans will hold him to higher standards now that he is president. "The matter, though private, has been a subject of much public discussion and debate," Zuma said in the latest statement, issued at the weekend. "It has put a lot of pressure on my family and my organization, the African National Congress. I also acknowledge and understand the reaction of many South Africans."

He added: "I deeply regret the pain that I have caused to my family, the ANC, ... and South Africans in general." Three days earlier, Zuma confirmed a South African newspaper's report of the affair. In that earlier statement, he expressed no regrets and criticized the media and rivals for making a political issue out of what he insisted was a private matter.

Helen Zille, head of the main opposition Democratic Alliance, had said Zuma should resign if he was unwilling to accept public scrutiny and criticism. In response to his expression of regret, Zille said Saturday her party "welcomes" President Zuma's apology to the South African public. "But words are not enough, he must now focus on repairing the damage he has done to the fight against HIV/AIDS," she said.

Zille and others have said Zuma is a poor role model in a country of 50 million with an estimated 5.7 million infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, more than any other country.



PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma in a solo dance during his wedding with Theobeka Madiba



BOTSWANA'S President Ian Khama.

Zimbabwe, Botswana to meet on ranger dispute

ZIMBABWE and Botswana officials are to meet this week to resolve a diplomatic stand-off over the detention of three Botswanan game rangers who strayed across the border, state media reported yesterday.

Botswana has threatened to recall its defence and intelligence envoys from Zimbabwe by end February over what it called Harare's "rebuff" of efforts to resolve the spat since the rangers were arrested tracking animals last month. Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister Giles Mutsekwa

told The Sunday Mail newspaper that a meeting will take place this week. "Government is aware of the matter and we will be meeting with our Tswana counterparts to discuss the arrest of the rangers in the coming week," he was quoted as saying. "Botswana is our neighbour and the issue of the rangers should not terminate our relations," he added.

"These are our neighbours and they should understand that the matter is before the courts. Government's intervention was, therefore, limited." The three

wildlife officers were arrested and detained after mistakenly entering Zimbabwe while tracking animals. Botswana said several efforts to resolve the matter, including an attempt by Vice President Mompoti Merafhe to meet President Robert Mugabe at a recent African Union meeting, had failed. "In view of the stance taken by the government of the republic of Zimbabwe to rebuff all attempts... Botswana has taken a decision to recall its defence and intelligence attaches by the end of February 2010," it said last week.

International



THE black box of the Ethiopian Airlines jet that crashed off the Lebanese coast.

Black box from Lebanon plane crash recovered

LEBANON'S army said yesterday it has retrieved a black box from an Ethiopian Airlines jet that crashed in the sea killing 90 people, raising hopes of an answer to why the plane veered into a fierce storm.

"The Lebanese navy has recovered a black box from the Ethiopian plane and it has been transported to Beirut naval base to

be handed over" to crash investigators, the army said in a statement.

Transport Minister Ghazi Aridi announced at the weekend that searchers had located the two flight recorders and Lebanese army divers had gone down to retrieve them. Earlier yesterday, the army had said the recovery was still underway.

The boxes were located under the rear part of the fuselage, Aridi said.

The Boeing 737-800 plunged into the Mediterranean before dawn on January 25, just minutes after take-off during stormy weather from Beirut airport. It was bound for Addis Ababa with 83 passengers and seven crew on board. No survivors were

found from Flight 409, and only 15 bodies have so far been recovered.

Lebanese officials have said the captain was instructed by the control tower to change to a certain heading, but that the aircraft then took a different course. The black boxes are expected to contain data to explain the circumstances of the crash.



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90,000	3,188	N/A	76,906.54
600,000	21,250	N/A	512,710.27
1,500,000	53,125	N/A	1,281,775.66
5,000,000	177,083	850,000	4,272,595.60

ANNUAL INCOME (N) *	PERSONAL LOAN (N)	RENT LOAN (N)	QED LOAN (N)
	LOAN OBTAINABLE **	LOAN OBTAINABLE **	LOAN OBTAINABLE **
90,000	64,135.09	N/A	N/A
600,000	427,567.26	253,007.01	317,082
1,500,000	1,068,918.16	632,517.51	542,704
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Chinese envoy meets N/Koreans amid nuclear talk bid

A special Chinese envoy held discussions with North Korean officials yesterday, state media reported, amid international efforts to persuade the North to rejoin nuclear disarmament talks.

Wang Jiarui, head of the liaison office of China's ruling Communist Party, flew to Pyongyang on Saturday for talks expected to focus on the resumption of stalled six-party negotiations on ending the North's nuclear weapons program.

Yesterday, Wang and North Korean Workers' Party officials held talks in Pyongyang and exchanged views on strengthening ties between the communist neighbours and "matters of mutual concern," the official Korean Central News Agency said in a brief dispatch.

KCNA said the North Koreans included Kim Yong Il, chief of the party's international department, but it didn't say what was specifically discussed. Wang and Kim had already met over a banquet Saturday, KCNA said.

South Korean media, including the Yonhap news agency, have reported that Wang's trip to North Korea appears aimed at pushing the communist North to rejoin the six-party talks on dismantling its nuclear program in return for aid and other benefits.

Wang is expected to meet leader Kim Jong Il during his four-day trip, Yonhap reported yesterday, without citing any source.

International



LAURA Chinchilla, presidential candidate for the National Liberation party, greets supporters outside the Virgen de Los Angeles Basilica in Cartago, Costa Rica.

Costa Rica votes, could elect 1st woman president

COSTA Ricans appear likely to elect their first woman president as Central America's most politically and economically stable country chooses between a career politician from the ruling party and an anti-taxation Libertarian.

Pre-election polls gave a nearly 20-point lead to Laura Chinchilla, who served as vice president

under current President Oscar Arias, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and free-market enthusiast.

"All of this has been worth it. We are going to win, and in the first round," said Chinchilla, who rose early yesterday to attend a traditional election-day Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral.

The winner needs at least 40 percent of the vote

to avoid an April run-off.

A scattering of voters turned out to cast early-morning ballots in a contest that was expected to produce few surprises, but could produce Latin America's fifth woman president.

But critics of the government say Arias catered to big developers to boost the economy at the cost of the nation's fragile ecosystems.

NATO chief seeks broader ties with China, India

THE head of NATO said yesterday its troubles in Afghanistan showed it was vital to boost ties with nations like China, India and Pakistan and transform the alliance into a global security hub.

Drawing from flaws exposed in Afghanistan, where NATO is struggling to hold off a Taliban and Al-Qaeda insurgency, Anders Fogh Rasmussen said the military alliance should become a forum for consultation on major hot spots.

"This is a key lesson we are learning in Afghanistan today ... we need an entirely new compact between all the actors on the security stage," he said at a major security conference in Munich, southern Germany. "India has a stake in Afghan stability, China too. And both could help further develop and rebuild Afghanistan. The same goes for Russia. Basically, Russia shares our security concerns," he said.

NATO and its partners

have more than 110,000 troops in Afghanistan, but they have been unable to put down the insurgency more than eight years after a US-led coalition ousted the Taliban from power.

Under a recent switch of strategy, almost 40,000 extra troops are streaming into the conflict-torn country, aiming to protect civilians and win their support, rather than hunt down fighters, many re-supplied from Pakistan.

Following last month's conference in London, the strategy also involves a "surge" of civilian experts, backed by redoubled efforts from major donors, financial institutions and bodies like the United Nations and European Union.

"We cannot meet today's security requirements effectively without engaging much more actively and systematically with other important players on the international scene," Rasmussen said.

Foreign student visa numbers to be slashed

ALAN Johnson, the British Home Secretary, will unveil a range of measures banning students from bringing in dependants, ensuring they speak better English on arrival and cutting down the amount of hours they can work during term time.

The Home Office has been planning the crack-down for three months, following Gordon Brown's order for a review of the controversial student visa system for those coming to Britain from outside the European Union.

Ministers believe the new rules - to be intro-

duced before the general election - will slash the numbers coming to the UK by tens of thousands. In 2008 233,000 student visas were granted with another 140,000 people granted entry as "student visitors".

Mr Johnson will face opposition from the section of the education establishment which depends on foreign students - including some prestigious colleges and schools - and is worth around £50 million a year.

"We remain open to those foreign students who want to come to the UK for legitimate study - they

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APPRECIATION



ALH. ABDULKADIR IBRAHIM, FCIM
(Chika Soron Bauchi)
 Head of Service Bauchi State

*In the Name of Allah Most
 Gracious Most Merciful*

On behalf of myself and entire members of my household, I wish to convey our profound gratitude to HRH Alh. (Dr.) Sulaiman Adamu, CFR Emir of Bauchi for conferring on me the title of *Chika Soron Bauchi*. We are also grateful to the members of his Emirate Council for their support. Our gratitude goes to the multitude of people who spared time to come from width and breadth of the Federation to attend my turbaning ceremony as *Chika Soron Bauchi* by HRH the Emir of Bauchi on Sunday 17th January, 2010 at the Emir's Palace, Bauchi.

2. We are particularly grateful to His Excellency, Mal. (Dr.) Isa Yuguda, FNIM (*Matawallen Bauchi*) for squeezing time out of his tight schedule to grace the historic occasion. We are also grateful to His Excellency, Alh. Babayo Garba Gamawa, Deputy Governor Bauchi State and Barr. Ahmed Ibrahim Dandija, Secretary to the Bauchi State Government. We also owe our appreciations to Alh. Abubakar

Ahmed Faggo, Speaker Bauchi State House of Assembly and all Members of the Bauchi State House of Assembly. Equally worthy of our appreciations are Special Advisers, Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Extra Ministerial Departments, Senior Special Assistants, Special Assistants and Directors.

Others are Personal Assistants and all Bauchi State Civil Servants as well as the entire good people of Bauchi State.

3. Our sincere gratitude also goes to our host of friends and well wishers who came from all works of life to witness the occasion. These includes Alh. Salisu Isa Bello Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Power and Steel and Alh. Umar Sanda Presidential Villa Abuja others are: Permanent Secretaries and Directors from the Federal Civil Service, the Head of Civil Service Gombe State and Representatives of the Heads of Civil Service Borno, Jigawa and Niger States.

4. Senator Abubakar Maikafi (*Dan Madamin Bauchi*) Chairman of the Central Working Committee for the Turbaning Ceremony at Bauchi and his members as well as the Chairman and Members of the Planning Committee for the reception at my home village, Yalo are worthy of mention. We feel highly indebted to them for organising a hitch free and successful ceremony and reception respectively.

5. Finally, we are thankful to all those who honoured our invitation and came personally, sent representatives and messages of good will or prayed for us. We sincerely thank each and every one who contributed directly or indirectly towards the success of the occasion. We are indeed grateful for the support, encouragement and cooperation. May Almighty Allah reward you bountifully as well as bless us all, amin.

ALH. ABDULKADIR IBRAHIM, FCIM
(Chika Soron Bauchi)
 Head of Service Bauchi State

IT WORLD

Hotline:08027649677

How to sustain Nigeria's telecoms successes— Ndukwe

Stories from Zakariyya Adaramola

EXECUTIVE Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Engr. Ernest Ndukwe has listed the prerequisites for sustaining the successes recorded in the sector in the last 10 years.

Ndukwe who was a guest speaker at the maiden edition of "Breakfast With," hosted by the Alumni Association of the School of Media and Communications at the Pan African University in Lagos, said such factors include a regulatory regime that is inde-

pendent, transparent, and predictable; an updated national telecom policy and laws, a conducive operational environment; an efficient frequency spectrum management and allocation.

He listed others to include improved power supply; expansion of the broadband infrastructure, capacity building of indigenous manpower, stable financial stability, among others.

At the breakfast meeting chaired by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Juan Elegido, the NCC boss noted that the successes recorded by the Commission in

the past 10 years was attributable to the successful sector reform, made possible by conducive environment with respect to policies and the regulatory regime.

"I think to sustain the growth, we must lay emphasis to a few things and I will start by advocating that we must maintain stability in the policy and regulatory environment," he said. He said these two factors are critical for any investor to make an investment decision.

Engr. Ndukwe, said the current telecoms policy in Nigeria needs to be updated, while the forward-looking 2003 Act needs to be revis-

ited to accommodate one or two emergent issues in the sector.

The NCC boss said with hindsight of experience, it is critical that the financial and operational independence of the regulator is maintained. "Why we moved as fast as we did over this period is as a result of fair amount of regulatory independence that the organization had," he said.

He said this independence is not just independence from the political hierarchy but also from the operating companies, which he said, makes financial independence very critical too.

Naira Rain Promo: Zain rewards winners

EYERINDIDAKE Amgbare, the Grand Prize winner and many other winners in the just concluded Zain Naira Rain Promo, has been presented with their winnings at a ceremony in Lagos.

Amgbare, a Civil Servant was rewarded with N10 million cheque while 34 others received various cash prizes by Zain at the company's Head Office in Banana Island, Ikoyi, Lagos.

Presenting the prizes, Mr Shamel Hanafi, Chief Commercial Officer, Zain Nigeria, said the promo was part of Zain's promise of a wonderful world to its customers.

According to him, Zain is proud to touch the lives of all Nigerians especially in this era of the global economic recession.

Hanafi said, "At Zain Nigeria, we keep our words and are glad to fulfil our vows and promises to our valued customers." The Zain Naira Rain promo produced 375 Nigerian millionaires during its six-week period, with 368 N1 million winners emerging in the daily draws, six N5million winners emerging in the weekly draws, and one N10million grand prize winner.

LG gets 15 CES 2010 innovations awards

THE Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) recognized LG Electronics' excellence in design and technology with 15 prestigious 2010 International CES® Innovations Awards, including "Best of" recognition in the Online Audio/

Video Content category, a statement from the company has said.

LG mobile phones, home appliances, business solutions and home electronics products were honoured with awards in nine categories: Eco-Design and Sustain-

able Technology, Video Displays, Online Audio/Video Content,

Video Components, Audio Components, Home Networking, High-Performance Audio, Home Appliances and Wireless Handsets.

"Earning more than 100 CES Innovations Awards in just seven years underscores LG's leadership in innovation, high performance and design," said Peter Reiner, Senior Vice President, Marketing, LG Electronics USA.

Tech Distributions opens branch in Liberia

A Lagos based IT firm, Technology Distributions is set to launch a branch in Liberia this week, the company has said.

The launch is expected to have the President of Liberia, Ms Johnson Sirleaf in attendance who would lead the Liberian cabinet, Captains of Industry and ICT Stake holders to herald the arrival of the continent's premier bulk mover of ICT products.

TD hopes to use the glamour of a superb launch to make its brand positioning statement while pointing to a new era of professionalism and profitability for the ICT market in Liberia, said Managing Director, Mrs. Chioma Ekeh.

Mrs. Ekeh said that TD would take to Liberia a full complement of the international OEM's whose partnership, over the years, have built the supporting evidence for the world-class performance of TD.

The TD Managing Director pointed out that TD presence in Liberia would mean increasing the range of choice available to consumers; boosting competition to enhance consumer value; patronizing local professionals and other service providers; employing and developing local skills in product support/maintenance; and contributing to national revenue through tax payments.

VACANCIES

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- Possess good Managerial skills

2. TECHNICIANS

Qualification:

- City and Guilds/OND or Trade Certification on building/Mechanical Engineering
- Ability to learn quickly
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- 4 years post qualification experience
- 3. **A. CIVIL/MECHANICAL ENGINEER**
B. BUILDING ENGINEER/TECHNOLOGIST
C. QUANTITY SURVEYOR

Qualification:

- B.Sc/HND in any of the above
- Minimum of 4 years relevant experience in reputable company
- Possess good Managerial/ Leadership skills
- 4. **MARKETER**
- Qualification:
- B.SC/HND in Marketing or Relative course
- Minimum of 5 years relevant experience in reputable marketing firm
- Good communication skills
- Possess good and aggressive marketing skills

How to apply:

Interested applicants should forward their application indicating position applying for and curriculum vitae (CV) by e-mail to ceekamolast2002@yahoo.ca not later than 2 weeks from the date of this publication

Earning more than 100 CES Innovations Awards in just seven years underscores LG's leadership in innovation

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An applicant must not be more than fifty years old on his/her last birthday.

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Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS AND
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INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER

SUPPLY OF FOODSTUFF TO THE NIGERIAN FARMCRAFT CENTRE FOR THE BLIND (NFCB), IKEJA, LAGOS FOR 2010 ACADEMIC SESSION.

The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development invites interested and reputable contractors to submit tender for the supply of Foodstuff to the Nigerian Farmcraft Centre for the Blind, Ikeja, Lagos, for the school year 2010. The details of foodstuff and quantities to be supplied weekly for fifty-two (52) weeks will be obtained from the Tenders Secretariat on the payment of a non-refundable fee of **N10, 000.00** in the Ministry's Cash Office and this will constitute the Financial Bid.

2. Interested contractors or their accredited representatives should submit the following documents:

- i. Certificate of Registration/Incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission;
- ii. Company Profile and Evidence of Experience of similar project;
- iii. Evidence of Current Tax Clearance Certificate & VAT for the last three years;

3. SUBMISSION:

All completed financial bid documents shall be addressed to:-

The Secretary,
Ministerial Tenders Board,
Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social
Development
Federal Secretariat Complex,
1st Floor Room 152.

All tenders are to be submitted on or before 12noon on Tuesday 23rd February, 2010. The bid will be opened on Wednesday 24th February, 2010 at 12noon, Ministry's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Federal Secretariat Complex.

Secretary
Ministerial Tenders Board.
**Federal Ministry of Women Affairs &
Social Development.**



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (PSIN)
(OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION)
Km12, Abuja-Kubwa Expressway, Dutsen-Alhaji Junction, Abuja.

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION PROPOSALS

- 1.0 In compliance with the Public Procurement Act 2007, the Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN), pursuant to its mandate of manpower development, is desirous of engaging the Services of competent Companies/Firms for General Maintenance of the premises of the Institute, provision of reliable Security Services, provision of Catering Services and Management of Residential Facilities (Maintenance/Running of 203Rooms' Guest Chalets).
- 2.0 In light of the foregoing, the Institute hereby invites interested and competent Companies/Firms to apply for the provision of the following:
 - (i) General Maintenance of the Premises (Phases I & II) of the Institute
 - (ii) Provision of Security Services within the premises (Phases I & II) of the Institute.
 - (iii) Provision of Catering Services for the Institute' Participants
 - (iv) Management of Residential Facilities (Maintenance/Running of 203Rooms' Guest Chalets)

3.0 SCOPE OF THE WORKS:

The scopes of works for the projects include but not limited to:

- (i) General clearing of bushes and daily watering of flowers within the premises, etc
- (ii) Provision of 24/7 security vigilance within the premises of the Institute, etc
- (iii) Provision of catering services which includes indoor and outdoor Services
- (iv) General Administration of the Chalets, etc

The details of the scope of works are contained in the respective prequalification documents

4.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective bidders are expected to possess the following minimum criteria:

- i. Evidence of Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC);
- ii. Satisfactory evidence of tax payment or tax clearance certificate for the last three consecutive years & VAT Registration Certificate including TIN No.
- iii. Evidence of experience as a prime contractor/caterer in at least 3 jobs of similar nature within the last 3 years (with provision of letters of award and Completion Certificates);
- iv. Evidence of personnel capabilities, including list of key personnel and years of experience;
- v. Evidence of financial capabilities with a letter from any reputable Bank.
- vi. Evidence of possessing adequate Equipment Capabilities for the jobs, details of which are contained in the prequalification documents.
- vii. Any other information to prove the company's corporate and technical experience and capabilities

5.0 COLLECTION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

All interested bidders are hereby requested to collect relevant Pre-qualification Document for the projects, through a written application from Procurement Unit, Room 21, Administrative Block A, Ground Floor, Public Service Institute of Nigeria

(PSIN), Km12, Abuja-Kubwa Expressway, Dutsen-Alhaji Junction, Abuja, from **Tuesday, February 09, 2010.**

6.0 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

- (a) Completed pre-qualification documents should be returned by hand on or before **12.00noon, Tuesday, February 23, 2010**, in two (2) hard copies and enclosed in a sealed envelope marked **PRE-QUALIFICATION PROPOSAL FOR "MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES" /or/ "PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES" /or/ "PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES" /or/ "MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES"**.

All Proposals should be addressed and submitted by hand to:

The Secretary,
Parastatal Tenders Board,
Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN),
Km-12, Abuja, Kubwa Express Way,
Dutsen Alhaji Junction, Abuja.

7.0 OPENING OF BIDS:

The opening of the pre-qualification proposals shall commence by 1:00pm the same day i.e **Tuesday, February 23, 2010** at the Institute's Conference Room, Km-12, Abuja Kubwa Express Way, Dutsen Alhaji Junction, Abuja

- 8.0 All enquiries are to be directed as appropriate to:

The Director, Admin. & Finance
Public Service Institute of Nigeria
Dutsen Alhaji Junction,
Kubwa Express Way,
Abuja.
Tel: 09-8700693
E-Mail: psin_abuja@yahoo.com
psin09@gmail.com

Important Information: The Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN) has the right to verify the authenticity of claims made on the documents submitted by companies.

Only the pre-qualified companies/firms shall be invited for financial tendering.

Signed,
Ag. Administrator (PSIN)

Promoting Partnership between
Africa rice project promoters
and International Rice Traders (IRTO) &
Global Food Industry operators to
realize the Africa rice potential
in 2010 and beyond

1st Africa Rice Projects Promotion Event

23rd March, 2010, Bamako, Mali

Holding during the Africa Rice Congress - www.AfricaRice.org



Why should you be at the event?

As a project promoter

- Have a chance to present your commercial rice cultivation and/or rice milling project to successful investment partners and long term funders.

As Project Investor and Funder

- Have a chance to appraise several rice projects with strong production potential and positive cashflow.

Institutions and organization expected

- Islamic Bank for Investment and Development;
- International Rice Traders (IRTO) (China, Phillip, Comoros, Viet Nam, Laos, and others)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC);
- Bank of Industry (BOI);
- Investors from Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries;
- Foundation Fund Administration;
- Global Agricultural Investment Funds.

Participation

is open to rice project promoters in the public and private sectors interested in technical and financial partnerships, equity investments and joint venture arrangements for their rice projects

Contact

Edwin Idu (Ph.D)
Project Consultant
Investment Intermediation Services
Rosland Consulting Limited
20 Baring Park Street,
Works and Housing Estate,
Gwaringa, FCT-Abuja, Nigeria
Mobile: +234-803-9245 406
Tel: +234-813 371 4050, 809 061 5049
Email: info@roslandconsulting.com

Supported by:



Organised By:



Rosland's
Rice Report

**Serious enquiries only. Please visit:
www.roslandconsulting.com**

Vacancies

An International Organization managing a large programme to support the strengthening of the health care system in Nigeria is recruiting qualified professional staff to fill a senior level technical position and a junior/mid level administrative position.

The programme provides technical assistance in health systems strengthening in Nigeria. The programme addresses the financing, governance, operational, and capacity-building constraints that block access to and use of priority population, health, and nutrition services in the country. The programme shares an office with another programme of the same organization and is located in Abuja.

Health Systems Strengthening Liaison Officer: Will provide technical and programmatic oversight of the planning, implementation and monitoring of all project activities. S/he will ensure regular and timely communications with the USAID Mission and other relevant partners in Nigeria. S/he will provide relevant technical guidance to the Ministry of Health and other partners across the six building blocks of the health system. In collaboration with the organization's international headquarters office, will ensure proper financial management of relevant project resources and guarantee timely and well-organized implementation of project activities.

Qualification requirements include a Masters Degree in Public Health or related field; MD or PhD is a plus. Candidate must have 8 or more years of experience in international health, particularly with an emphasis on health systems strengthening, HIV/AIDS and TB. Experience working with large donor-funded projects, in particular USAID programs, is highly desirable.

Health Systems Strengthening Project Assistant: Will support the HSS Liaison Officer and international headquarters staff with all administrative and operations related tasks for the programme. S/he will coordinate in-country logistics for all programme events, assists with programme procurement at the local level, maintains financial and technical reporting systems and prepares reports for headquarters staff, and ensures compliance with both USAID and the organization's financial reporting procedures.

Qualification requirements include a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration or related field plus four or more years of experience in Business Administration and office management. Demonstrated competency in financial management and coordination of events logistics is required. Experience working for an international organization and with USAID programmes is a plus.

To Apply: Please email CVs and cover letters to hssjobs@yahoo.com with the position title specified in the subject line. Closing date for all applications is February 17, 2010.

ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANCIES

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL

HEAD AUDIT/INTERNAL CONTROL

- B.Sc/HND in Accounting, Banking and Finance, Economics or any other relevant qualification.
ACA, ACCA, ACB, ACS or final stage of ICAN.
- 5 years Audit experience in a Financial institution/Audit firm preferably
 - Master Degree is an additional advantage.
 - Should be Computer Literate and conversant with different accounting software applications
 - Must be business minded, hardworking and focused with good analytical skills

HEAD MARKETING

- B.Sc/HND in Marketing, Agric Economics etc
- Solid knowledge of Marketing and Customer Business Development in a Financial Institution
 - 5 years experience in the field.
 - Masters degree is an added advantage
 - Must have good computer skills, excellent oral and written communication and willingness to work within deadline good time management skills.
 - Membership of professional body is an added advantage.
 - Must be business minded, hardworking and focused with good analytical skills.

HEAD BUSINESS OPERATIONS

- B.Sc/HND in Banking and Finance Accounting Economics or any other relevant qualification with a minimum of Second Class Upper Division, additional qualification and membership of ANA, ICAN, ACCA, CIBN, ACA will be an added advantage.
- Minimum of 5 years cognate experience as an Accountant in a Bank/Financial institution.
 - Good team player with a passion to achieve set goals and targets.
 - Must have good computer skills, excellent oral and written communication skill.

- Must be Business minded, hardworking and focused with good analytical skills.

HEAD - ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

- B.Sc/HND in Business Administration, Management, Finance or Microfinance in the field.
- Minimum of 5 years cognate experience in General Banking or Micro finance in the field.
 - Good team player with a passion to achieve set goals and targets.
 - Must have good computer skills, excellent oral and written communication skills.
 - Must be business minded, hardworking and focused with good analytical skills.

OFFICERS

- ND/OND, Banking and Finance, Accounting, Business Admin, Certificate in Cooperatives or any related field.
- Minimum of 3 years cognate experience as Marketing officer in the Banking Industry.
 - Good team player with a passion to achieve set goals and target.
 - Must have good computer skills, excellent oral and written communication skills.

REMUNERATION Very Attractive

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Please forward your application with comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, contact address with telephone numbers within two weeks of this publications to :

**The Managing Director
Phoenix Microfinance Bank Ltd
Suleja- Niger State.
Or
P.M.B 65, Suleja- Niger State**

VACANCY

A well established business outfit based in Abuja involved in the sales of building and finishing products, needs experienced, innovative and self-motivated persons to fill in the following vacancies;

1. Administrative Manager
2. Accountant
3. Marketing Manager
4. Store Manager
5. Personal Secretary
6. Marketing Executives
7. Sales Representatives
8. Accounts Clerk
9. Admin. Officer
10. Store Keepers
11. Site Supervisors
12. Yard Superintendent
13. Drivers

QUALIFICATION

- F or positions 1-7;**
- Applicants must possess good B.Sc. or HND in relevant fields including pure Sciences, Engineering, Management, marketing, Linguistics and Accountancy.
 - Must be computer literate.
 - Membership of a professional body will be an added advantage.
 - Applicants must have good analytical and communication skills.
 - 4 to 7 years working experience is required for positions 1-5.

- 2 to 5 years working experience is required for positions 6-11.

For position 8-12, applicants must possess;

- A good OND in Civil Engineering, Quantity Surveying, Town and Regional Planning, Architecture Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Purchasing and Supplies and Library Studies.
- Must be computer literate.
- Good analytical and communication skills.

For position 13, applicants must possess;

- A minimum of WAEC or GCE.
- A valid National Driver's licence.
- A very good knowledge of Abuja city.
- Be ready to travel outside Abuja at short notice.
- 5 to 10 years driving experience.

Interested and qualified candidates should send their hand written applications and detailed CV to:

**The Advertiser,
P.O. Box 8828
Wuse.
Abuja.**

Only short listed candidates shall be invited for interview.



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

PUBLIC NOTICE

CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA HELP DESK FOR COMPLAINTS ON ATM TRANSACTIONS

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has noted with serious concern the growing complaints by the customers and the general public on ATM transactions and the inability of banks to resolve them within a reasonable time frame. In order to sustain public confidence in the Nigerian Payment System, the CBN has directed that henceforth all complaints on card transactions should be treated and responded to within 72 hours of receipt of the complaints by banks.

Furthermore, CBN has directed all banks to set up help desks for handling ATM and other card-related complaints. The banks are to publish names, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of the help desk staff to be contacted when the need arises.

The CBN has equally set up a help desk for receiving public complaints on electronic card transactions with a view to fast-tracking resolutions by the affected banks. The CBN contact persons, telephone numbers and email addresses are given below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
A. R. Aleblosu	08070516649	aralebiosu@cenbank.org
H. Abdullahi	08057008200	habdullahi@cenbank.org
M. A. Adahman	08057101365	amadahman@cenbank.org
Z. Mohammed	08057008273	zmohammed@cenbank.org

The customers are therefore encouraged to make use of these channels in resolving complaints on electronic card transactions. The CBN will continue to monitor developments and ensure continuous improvement of the electronic channels in line with the programme of the Payments System Vision 2020.

Signed:

M. M Abdullahi
Head, Corporate Affairs
February 3, 2010

ABUJA ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION (AEDA)

Abuja Estate Developers Association (AEDA) is committed to developing Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory and beyond. In an exclusive interview with the Chairman, Board of Trustees, ENGR. CHINAZOR OKEREKE, a man of amiable character and well noted for his uncompromising stand on issues of transparency and accountability, believes in the adoption of probity in whatever he does. Engr. Okereke is a product of Federal University of Technology, Owerri, and a peculiar University with an enviable track record of producing one of the best Engineers in Nigeria. He is also the MD/CEO of SHELTER CONCEPTS NIGERIA LIMITED, one of the leading estate and property developers in Abuja, credited with many successful modern estate developments. Engineer Okereke is also a registered project developer with the Presidential Implementation Committee on Clean Development Mechanism (PIC-CDM) and answered our questions thus:

What informed the forming of your Association?

AEDA was formed out of the desperate need to reposition the real estate sector of the FCT in order to meet the increasing housing demand as a result of the increasing influx of people from within and outside Nigeria into Abuja. Abuja remains the most stable/secure part of Nigeria and therefore the first choice for any one relocating away from crises in the Niger Delta region or religious crises in the North or Nigerians returning from their sojourn overseas.

Secondly, there is a clear and urgent need to pay special attention to real estate development in Abuja owing to the fact that Abuja is the seat of power and as such the center-piece of Nigeria's tourism. This fact amongst others predicated the emergence of AEDA to deal with this and other peculiarities challenging effective estate development in Abuja which functions in its enviable unique characteristic as a state as well as the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

What are the objectives of your Association and how does it differ from other real estate Associations?

It would be important to understand the meaning of an association because it appears that there is this notion that people should be prevented from forming associations in the real estate sector. It simply refers to a legally formed body of individuals or entities with common aspirations and most probably challenges. It is not a political party seeking power to control any territory; in fact it is more like a club.

AEDA is different from other associations because it is structured to create value for all members through strategic creative knowledge-based innovations while assisting Governments and their relevant agencies come up to speed with international standards in real estate development. AEDA has already set up mechanisms to ensure the production of modern and affordable homes etc.

In a nut shell, our objective on one hand is to assist different tiers of Government particularly the FCTA, develop policies and programs that would attract both short and long term investments in real estate sector of our economy from within and outside Nigeria. We would also assist in streamlining Government processes to reduce bottle necks associated with doing business with Government.

On the other hand, AEDA is creating synergies among members to reduce the cost of producing modern standard homes by adopting both forward and backward integration of related industries and projects.

How do you think your association would benefit Abuja residents and Nigerians in general?

Our ultimate goal is to help create modern and sustainable living environments comparable to or even better than the best in the western world and of course increase housing stock in Nigeria. This I believe will stem divestment from our economy and encourage both foreign direct investment and tourism among others. You would also see massive creation of both skilled and unskilled employments for the growing army of our



Engr. Chinazor Okereke

unemployed. We believe that by creating orderly and planned living environments, taxation, policing, data gathering, and provision of amenities like hospitals schools etc would be more efficiently executed by Government to the good of all citizens.

We are currently encouraging our members to use available renewable energy technologies like solar and wind turbines to reduce the burden on PHCN/Government as well as contribute to the global call to reduce our carbon foot prints in preservation of our environment. Our studies show that by using solar panels to power the lighting in a home, you could reduce your dependence on PHCN by as much as 30% there by creating capacity for the use of the 30% energy you saved without generating energy. This is basically what is referred to as clean development mechanism (CDM). In a nut shell, we are working to assist different tiers of Government achieve their set goals of providing employment, housing, security, energy, a cleaner environment and much more.

What is your Association doing to raise the standard of housing delivery in Nigeria?

Firstly we have set up an internal mechanism to ensure that all our members

adhere strictly to professional standards in housing delivery. Our association in this light is already retaining the services of very highly qualified engineers and related professionals in different fields who supervise our projects from planning stages to completion. These are professionals who individual members may not afford to pay for their services but by this arrangement, they are paid from the pool of contributions from members. We have also ensured that only certified products are used by our members for construction to prevent failures associated with poor and substandard materials.

What advice do you have for Government in relation to housing delivery?

As we can see from the foregoing, housing delivery impacts directly on so many areas of our national life as it remains one of the three basic needs of man. This underscores the importance of the sector and calls for serious attention by all stakeholders. In this light therefore we would urge the different tiers of government to allow the private sector positively engage them in reviving this sector by making it attractive and profitable to both local and international investors. There is need to review the entire process from land acquisition through development approvals, building codes up to foreclosure laws to bring all up to acceptable international standards. It must be understood that our Government cannot afford to fund the production of homes to bridge the huge deficit of over 20 million homes. This leaves us with the only option of private sector participation.

It is very clear that private sector participation would only make sense if the rules of business engagement are straightforward and transparent. It is only when this is achieved that real short and long term investments can come into the housing sector. Long term investments are very necessary to at least provide funds for meaningful and humane mortgage facilities. AEDA has therefore developed a blue print for addressing most of the challenges of this sector and intends to make a formal presentation of same to the Federal Capital Territory Administration come January 2010.

ABUJA ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION (AEDA)

1st Floor, UACN Building, Plot 272/273 Central Business District, Garki, Abuja

INVITATION FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE ASSOCIATION

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Abuja Estate Developers Association (AEDA) has just been formed with a governing constitution to coordinate the activities and affairs of members of the Association while also serving as a forum for articulating and enhancing good working and business relationship among members on the one part, and between the Association and the government of the Federal Capital Territory and of the Federal Government of Nigeria.

2.0. REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION:

Interested Developers in ABUJA, FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, are hereby invited to apply for registration by submitting their Firm's profile which must include but not limited to:

- 2.1. Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (C.A.C)
- 2.2. Certified True Copy of Form C07
- 2.3. Full details of company profile including
 - List of key management/professionals and their Curriculum Vitae + copies of professional certificates
 - At least two Directors in the firm must be professional/graduates in any discipline related to construction and engineering.
 - List and insert verifiable documentary evidences of similar and other job successfully executed (or being executed) within the last three (3) years including letters of award, contract agreements and relevant completion certificates or certificates of evaluation where the jobs are on-going and addresses of such.
- 2.4. Clear indication of Head Office Address.
- 2.5. Evidence of current Tax Clearance certificate.
- 2.6. Company's audited accounts for the last three years and financial details duly endorsed by a Chartered Accountant.
- 2.7. VAT Certificate and evidence of remittance to FIRS.
- 2.8. Evidence of financial capability or support from Bankers.
- 2.9. Sworn Affidavit that the Firm is not bankrupt.
- 2.10. Any other relevant document(s) that will enhance the potentials of the Company
- 2.11. Two passport pictures of at least key directors of the company.

3.0. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested Developers should submit application with:

- 3.1. One (1) hard copy and one (1) Soft copy of registration documents accompanied with an application letter in firm's letterhead listing documents submitted.
- 3.2. A non-refundable application fee of N50, 000.00 (fifty thousand naira only) in certified bank draft payable to AEDA.
- 3.3. A registration fee of N250, 000.00 (Two hundred and fifty thousand naira only) in certified bank draft payable to AEDA, to

THE SECRETARY

AEDA
1st Floor, UACN Building, Plot 272/273 Central Business District
Garki, Abuja
ATTENTION: Smart Ihezor Esq.
Smart Ihezor, White & Case...Partners (secretaries)
attorneysmart@yahoo.com
+234-803-246-1496

Notes:

- 3.1. AEDA is not obligated to register any firm as a member notwithstanding submission of application and registration documents.
- 3.2. AEDA is not bound to give any explanations/reasons for unsuccessful applications.
- 3.3. The registration fee of unsuccessful applicants shall be returned forthwith.
- 3.4. AEDA reserves the right to verify any claim by firms applying for registration.
- 3.5. This publication shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of AEDA, nor shall it entitle responding firms to seek indemnity from AEDA by virtue of such companies having responded to this invitation to register.
- 3.6. All costs incurred as a result of this application to register and any subsequent requests for information shall be borne by the applicant.

Signed:
Smart Ihezor Esq.
SMART IHEZOR, WHITE & CASE PARTNERS (Attorneys)
Secretary/Legal Adviser



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION POST-BASIC

(STEP-B) PROJECT

(WORLD BANK ASSISTED)

FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL) BICHI, P.M.B 3473, KANO

CREDIT NO. 4304 UNI

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

IFB NO. STEP-B/FCET/B/NCB/GDBS/01.2009

1. This invitation for Bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development 'Business', issues No. 591 of 2nd July, 2007.

2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from International Development Association toward the cost of Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contract for the supply of ICT Equipment/Rehabilitation of Chemistry Research Equipment/Rehabilitation and water reticulation to ICT centre and Step-B-Project office at the Federal Collage of Education (Technical) Bichi.

3. The Federal of Education (Technical) Bichi, participating in the implementation of the Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for procurement/rehabilitation of the following:

Items	Descriptions of Items	Quantity	Bid Security	Delivery Period	Location
1	Procurement of Office Furniture for ICT centre/chemistry research laboratory	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	30 days	FCE (T) Bichi
2	Procurement of computer and accessories	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	30 days	FCE (T) Bichi
3	Procurement of V-sat equipment/accessories	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	60 days	FCE (T) Bichi
4	Procurement of laboratory equipment	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	60 days	FCE (T) Bichi
5	Procurement/installation of 40KVA generator	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	30 days	FCE (T) Bichi
6	Rehabilitation of borehole	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	60 days	FCE (T) Bichi
7	Rehabilitation of ICT center/chemistry research laboratory/Step-B Office	Various	At least 2.5% of bid price	60 days	FCE (T) Bichi

4. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) a procedure specified in the World Bank Guideline procurement under IBRD loan and IDA credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as define in the guidelines.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the project Manager, Step-B-Officer, the Federal Collage of Education (Technical) Bichi at the address below 08023576939, or the procurement office 08039280200 11:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday except public holidays.

6. Qualification Requirement include:-

- Certificate of incorporation from CAC
- Current TAX certificate for the last 3 years valid up to Dec. 2009.
- Company profile including details of key staff.
- Evidence of experience in similar contract including letters of award and details of involvement.
- Copies of current company bank statement
- Additional relevant information about the company.

COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF TENDER AND PRE QUALIFICATION DOCUMENT

Bidding document can be collected at the office of Project Manager Step-B, Federal Collage of Education (Technical) Bichi on payment of a non refundable fee of N20,000 (Twenty Thousand Naira Only). The method of payment will be bank draft in favour of Step-B, Federal Collage of Education (Technical) Bichi, the bidding documents must be delivered to the address before 12:00noon 11/3/2010. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Bids will be open in the presence of bidders and the general public in the collage council chamber on 11th March 2010 by 12:00noon.

Analysis of pre-qualification document will be carried out first. Only companies who meet the minimum pass marks will have their tender document further analyses to arrive at evaluated responsive bid.

THE ADDRESS

The Project Manager,
Science and Technology education Post-Basic
(STEP-B) PROJECT
Federal Collage of Education (Technical) Bichi
Kano-Nigeria
e-mail: step-bfcetbichi@yahoo.com
Tel: 08023576939

FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,

P.M.B 2041, KATSINA

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following posts in the Federal College of Education, Katsina:

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

1. COLLEGE LIBRARIAN (CONTISS 15)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of M.L.S with 15 years cognate experience or good degree of B.L.S with 18 years cognate experience or Professional Library qualification with 17 years post-qualification experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Chief Librarian who should have spent a minimum of 3 years in that post are qualified to apply.
- Evidence of relevant publications in journals and Textbooks plus Conference papers.

BURSARY DEPARTMENT

2. COLLEGE BURSARY (CONTISS 15)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of good honour degree on Accountancy or Finance from a recognized institution of higher learning or equivalent professional Accountancy qualification with at least with least 18 years; post-qualification cognate experience, plus registration with a recognized professional accounting body.
- Serving officers on the grade of Chief Accountant/Chief Author with 3 years experience in that grade.

3. CHIEF ACCOUNTANT/CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR (CONTISS 14)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of good honours degree or HND in Accountancy or Finance from a recognized institution of higher learning or equivalent professional Accountancy qualification(s) with at least, 15 years post-qualification cognate experience, plus registration with a recognized profession accountant body.
- Serving officers on the grade of Assistant Chief Accountant/Assistant Chief Internal Auditor after, at least, three years of satisfactory performance in that post, plus registration with a recognized professional accounting body.

4. CHIEF STORE OFFICER (CONTISS 13)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of a good honour degree or equivalent qualification with 15 years cognate experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Assistant Chief Store Officer, who should have served a minimum of 3 years in his substantive rank.

5. ASSISTANT CHIEF ACCOUNT (CONTISS 13)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of a good honour degree or HND in Accountancy or finance from a recognized institution of higher learning or equivalent professional Accountancy qualification(s) plus, at least 12 years post-qualification cognate experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Principal Accountant/Principal Auditor with at least three years satisfactory performance.

6. ASSISTANT CHIEF STORE OFFICER (CONTISS 12)

Qualification

- The candidate should possess any of the qualifications specified for the post of Store Officer plus at least 15 years cognate experience or a good degree/HND holder with at least 12 years cognate experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Principal Store Officer Grade I, who has served a minimum of 3 years in his substantive rank.

7. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT (CONTISS 11)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of a good honours degree or HND in Accountancy or Finance from a recognized institution of higher learning or equivalent professional accountancy qualification cognate experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Senior Accountant with at least three years satisfactory performance in that post.

WORKS AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1. CHIEF ENGINEER MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL (CONTISS 14)

Qualification

- The candidate should be fully registered Engineer after first Degree with at least 15 years experience in a project/work Management or a registered engineer with a Master Degree in the relevant field with 12 years relevant experience.
- Serving officers on the grade of Assist Chief Engineer with 3 years of satisfactory service in grade.

2. ARCHITECT (CONTISS 08)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of Master Degree in Architecture registerable with Nigerian Institute of Architecture.

3. ELECTRICAL ENGINEER II (CONTISS 07)

Qualification

- Serving officers on the grade of holder of good engineering in relevant field with NYSC Certificate.

COLLEGE CLINIC

1. MEDICAL OFFICER II (CONTISS 03)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of M.B.B.S or equivalent qualification registered with the Nigerian Medical Council plus NYSC discharge certificate.

2. STAFF NURSE I/MIDWIFE I (CONTISS 7)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of both N.R.N and N.R.M or a holder of a good honours degree in Nursing from a recognized institution of higher learning.
- By advancement of a staff Nurse II/Staff Midwife after twelve calendar months of satisfactory service.

3. PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (CONTISS 06)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of National Diploma or equivalent in Pharmacy Technology from a recognized institution with at least two years cognate experience.

REGISTRY DEPARTMENT

1. ADMIN. OFFICER I (CONTISS 08)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of good honour degree from a recognized institution of higher learning plus N.Y.S.C discharge certificate and, at least, 3 years' post qualification cognate work experience. Or a candidate possessing a Master's Degree from a recognized institution of higher learning plus N.Y.S.C discharge certificate.
- By promotion of a suitable and confirmed Administrative Officer after, at least, three years of satisfactory service in the post.

2. ADMIN. OFFICER II (CONTISS 07)

Qualification

- The candidate should be a holder of good honours degree or equivalent qualification from recognized institution of higher learning plus NYSC discharge certificate.

3. SPORT OFFICER/COACH GRADE II (CONTISS 07)

Qualification

- The candidate should possess either:
 - A National Diploma in Physical and Health Education with at least 4 years experience or
 - NCE in Physical and Health Education with at least 3 years coaching experience or
 - National Institute for Sport Grade I with at least 4 years coaching experience or B.Ed/BSc (Physical and Health Education).
- Serving officers on the grade of an Assistant Coach with at least 3 years satisfactory service recorded.

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

(SCH. OF EDUCATION)

1. LECTURER II (EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY) (CONTISS 09)

Qualification

- By direct appointment of holders of a good honours degree in Educational Technology or equivalent professional qualification plus a minimum of 5 years relevant post qualification teaching/research/industrial experience. OR A master degree in Educational Technology from a recognized institution plus at least 3 years teaching experience or a doctorate degree in the relevant field from a recognized institution.
- By promotion of suitable Lecturer after a minimum of 3 years satisfactory service in that grade with evidence of teaching and contribution to Curriculum Development.

In addition to requirements (1) or (2) above, candidate for this post should have evidence of either:

- Presentation of two Seminar/Conference papers/exhibition or
- One Journal article accepted for publication.

CONDITION OF SERVICE

The Condition of Service is the same as obtained in the other Federal College of Education in Nigeria.

SALARY SCALE			
1.	CONTISS 15	- N4047462	- N5305720
2.	CONTISS 14	- N3352334	- N4451471
3.	CONTISS 13	- N2723069	- N3632404
4.	CONTISS 12	- N2014717	- N2827525
5.	CONTISS 11	- N1823167	- N2578127
6.	CONTISS 9	- N77984	- N1131610
7.	CONTISS 8	- N1247854	- N185515
8.	CONTISS 7	- N1073217	- N1589508
9.	CONTISS 6	- N698251	- N1062583

QUALIFICATION

Application should be submitted in ten (10) copies with up-to-date Curriculum Vitae which should include names and address of three referees one of whom must be the present employer, photocopies of credentials must be attached.

Application should be addressed to: **THE REGISTRAR**, Federal College of Education, P.M.B 2041, Katsina, Katsina State. Candidates are required to ask their referees to send Confidential Report on them to the same address above before the closing date. Closing date: Six (6) weeks from date of this publication.

Signed
Aih. Abdullahi Abubakar
Registrar



The Presidency
Bureau of Public procurement (BPP)



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)

TRAINING CONSULTANTS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL PROCUREMENT TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OFFICERS IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.

BACKGROUND

As part of its continued efforts to carry out its functions as prescribed in the Procurement Act 2007 part II, section 5 k, the Bureau of Public Procurement in collaboration with the World Bank Economic Reform and Governance Project intends to engage a Training Consultancy Firm to provide professional procurement training and development programmes for procurement officers in Federal Ministries, Departments, Parastatals and Agencies during the year 2010.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Objectives:

- To provide professional procurement training programmes for public procurement officers in the Federal MDAs
- To prepare selected procurement officers for professional procurement examinations leading to relevant Certification and Accreditation by recognised and reputable procurement professional Institutes meeting international standards.
- Facilitate the registration and examination of selected and qualified procurement officers with reputable procurement institutions approved by the Bureau of Public Procurement.

Scope:

- Prepare procurement training plan and programmes to close identified skills and competence gaps
- Provide relevant procurement training to prepare selected officers for relevant professional accreditation and certification
- Register and prepare selected officers to write required examinations leading to professional accreditation and certification by approved institutions

This Training programme will include provision of all relevant course materials, classroom work, assignments, case studies, revision classes and other materials in line with the curriculum and scheme issued by the selected procurement institutions.

The programme will take particular cognisance of the following Critical Success Factors:-

- Provision of professional procurement knowledge, Skills and Techniques that meet international standards
- Registration of procurement officers as students of the selected procurement institutions
- Prepare officers to write professional examinations leading to the relevant accreditation and certification by selected institutions
- Organise revision lessons for officers registered for examinations

Requirements and Selection Criteria

To be considered, a training consultancy firm must have the following experience and competence:

- Relevant experience of 8 years or more in providing professional Procurement Training and capacity building programmes.
- Demonstrate a good understanding of the Public procurement Act 2007
- Demonstrate understanding of Procurement Training Needs assessment
- Demonstrate ability to prepare and deliver a professional procurement training plan/scheme

- Submit verifiable List of previous procurement training programmes carried out in the past 5 years and for which clients
- Submit evidence of partnership/relationship with any international professional procurement training providers or Institute
- Submit a detailed CV, including e-mail address, plus evidence of verifiable professional certification and accreditation of procurement and other professionals, with minimum of First Degree or its equivalent, to be utilized to deliver this training and development programme
- Submit a copy of company registration verifiable from CAC
- Submit a copy of Tax Clearance Certificate verifiable from Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS)
- Submit evidence of compliance with Pensions Act

Responsibility of the Client

It is expected that the Bureau of Public Procurement (The Client) will as much as possible provide assistance and support to the Consultants, including supply of all useful and available information/documentations that will facilitate the task and all other information/documentations as may be requested by the Consultants to ensure speedy and successful completion of the task. The BPP will also provide all necessary backups that will ensure unhindered access to the relevant Ministries and Agencies. Any other reasonable support such as authorization letters to institutions concerned with the procurement process will also be provided.

Reporting

The Consultants will report directly to the Programme Manager i.e. Director-General of the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP). The Consultants will also ensure regular consultations with the World Bank ERGP team during the period of the exercise and shall update them with the progress being made.

Submission

Three copies of Expression of Interest must be packaged in sealed envelopes clearly marked "**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AS A CONSULTANT TO UNDERTAKE PROCUREMENT TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING**" and addressed to **Programme Manager, BPP-ERGP Team, Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP)**, and left in the appropriate Tender Box at **11, Suleiman Barau Street, State House, Abuja**, within **working hours on or before 12.00 noon on Friday, 26th March, 2010**. All EoI will be opened immediately after the deadline in the Bureau's conference room in the presence of bidders in attendance.

Please note that:

- Only short-listed consultants will be invited for further consideration
- Late Submission shall be rejected
- This advertisement shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of BPP to appoint any consultant, nor shall it entitle any consultant submitting documents to claim any indemnity from BPP
- BPP reserves the right to take final decision on any of the documents received in your proposals

For any further enquiry, please send a text to: **08138377013**, or e-mail: info@bpp.gov.ng

SIGNED:

Dr. Abiodun Adeniyi
Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP).



NATIONAL HOSPITAL ABUJA

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION NHA/ADM/CP/176/10/VOL.1

1.0 The National Hospital, Abuja intends to execute the under-listed approved Capital Projects in the year 2010 and hereby invites competent and experienced Companies to apply for pre-qualification.

2.0 Proposed Projects:

- (i) Lot 1 - Construction of Additional Wards/Pharmacy Complex
- (ii) Lot 2 - Supply and Installation of Hot Water Pipe Line Networks & Calorifiers
- (iv) Lot 3 - Supply of Medical/other Equipment
- (v) Lot 4 - Supply of Kitchen & Laundry Equipment
- (vi) Lot 5 - Supply of Communication Equipment
- (vii) Lot 6 - Construction of Fuel Dump

3.0 Pre-Qualification Requirements:

3.1 Interested Companies are required to submit the following documents with their written application:

- i) Evidence of Incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)
- ii) Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the past 3 years
- iii) Evidence of VAT Registration
- iv) Evidence of Registration with the National Hospital, Abuja as a Contractor
- v) Evidence of Financial Capability/Banking Support
- vi) Evidence of Audited Accounts for 3 years
- vii) *List of Key Personnel showing their experience and technical qualification
- viii) *Evidence of similar projects executed in the past 5 years
- ix) *List of Equipment and Technology Capacity
- x) *Evidence of Registration with Federal Ministry of Works

(* - Applicable to Lot 1 only)

4.0 Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents:

4.1 All applications with relevant pre-qualification documents are to be submitted in a sealed 15" x 9.5" envelope marked appropriately at the left hand corner e.g. "Pre-qualification for Lot 1" and addressed to:

The Chief Medical Director
National Hospital
Plot 132 Central District (Phase II)
P. M. B. 425 Garki
Abuja

and to reach him on or before 10:00 am, 5th March 2010. The envelopes containing the Pre-Qualification documents shall be open on the same day at 12 Noon at the Boardroom, National Hospital, Abuja and representatives of Companies and general public are invited to witness the exercise.

4.2 Please note that only Companies that are successful in the pre-qualification exercise shall be invited to tender for the relevant project, which shall attract appropriate processing fee.

4.3 The National Hospital, Abuja is not obliged to give reason(s) for any unsuccessful application.

Signed
(Management)



Kainji Hydro Electric Plc

PUBLIC NOTICE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING
OF A POWER TRANSFORMER

INTRODUCTION

The Power Holding Company of Nigeria, Kainji Hydro Electric Plc wishes to invite reputable and qualified Manufacturers/Companies to submit expression of interest for the supply, Installation and Commissioning of a Power Transformer for use on two of its Generating Units.

SOURCE OF FUND

The Equipment is to be purchased through the Federal Government Intervention Funds allocated to Kainji Hydro Electric Plc.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION	QTY REQU R ED	TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
16/33 0KV 184MVA POWER TRANSFORMER Tied to two (2) 80MW Generating Units	1	Three phase Power transformer 50Hz. Standard IEC 70: Rating 184MVA Type of Cooling OFAF Voltage: HV' 330KV LV 16KV Vector Group YNd1

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested Manufacturers, Companies should submit Technical Bid, Sealed in an Envelope and marked "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE SUPPLY OF POWER TRANSFORMER"

CONDITION OF ELIGIBILITY

- Interested Manufacturers/Companies should provide the following documents
- Evidence of Company Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) or home Country Registration for International Bidders.
 - Evidence of having successfully carried out similar job of the same rating or above in the past.
 - VAT Registration Certificate and Tax Clearance for 3 years (Original to be sighted at the point of Bid Opening)
 - Company Profile including details of key officers
 - Evidence of Letter of Appointment by the Manufacturer in case of Agents
 - Detailed Company Bank Statement of Accounts for six (6) months and Letter of Reference from a reputable Bank.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Only Technically qualified Manufacturers/Companies will be allowed to participate in this competitive tender.
2. The Equipment type must not be less than five years after its first manufacture.
3. The Equipment must be manufactured in Europe.
4. The equipment must satisfy International Standard Organization (ISO) specifications.
5. KHE Plc reserves the right to verify any claim made by a Company.
6. All prospective Companies/Manufacturers should note that Non-compliance with the requirements above will lead to outright disqualification.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

All documents must be submitted to Procurement Office, Kainji Hydro Electric Plc., Dam Site, within six (6) weeks from the first date of this advert in a sealed Envelope marked "PROCUREMENT OF POWER TRANSFORMER" at the left hand corner of the envelope and addressed to:-

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
KAINJI HYDRO ELECTRIC PLC.
P;MB 1111, NEW BUSSA
NIGER STATE

This advert should not be construed to be a commitment by KHE Plc nor shall it entail the tenderer to make any claim(s) whatsoever by virtue of such tenderer having responded to this publication.

Signed:
Management,
Kainji Hydro Electric Plc.
Kainji, New Bussa, Nigeria.

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MANAGING Director/CEO, Aso Savings & Loans Plc Hassan Usman (right) presenting the keys to the grand prize of a 3 bedroom bungalow to the winner Mr. Arema Yekmi Olayiwola in a brief presentation ceremony at the premises of the house in Abuja last week.

BRIEF

NSE records 12% growth in 25 trading days

AS investors continue to exercise caution in the new year, listed equities at the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) have displayed 12 per cent growth in just 25 trading days. The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the impressive returns to investors saw the All-share index appreciating to more than 23,000 points on Feb. 5, compared with the closing 20,827 points at the end of 2009. Meristem Stockbrng Ltd analysis made available to NAN described the performance of the equities so far as astounding when benchmarked against the 34 per cent loss experienced in 2009 and 45 per cent loss recorded in 2008. The firm in its weekly analysis said that the gradual rebound of the market when benchmarked against other global markets showed that Nigeria strides along Egypt to lead global equity performance in year to date evaluation while dwarfing emerging and frontier markets. It said that while emerging market equities had yet to find their feet in 2010 having lost about 6 per cent from the huge recovery experienced in 2009, Nigerian equities had taken bold steps at outperforming Brazil by 26 per cent and South Africa by 20 per cent.

The firm also said that on the average, the liquidity position of the banking system has improved significantly and that the hitherto high rates for money market instruments were getting less and less attractive for fund managers and portfolio builders. (NAN).

European Bank may buy into Nigerian banks

By Idris Ahmed & Aisha Umar

THE European Investment Bank (EIB) may buy into Nigerian banks as its delegate meets with Nigerian officials including the Central Bank Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi today.

This is the first meeting between the EIB and Nigeria's officials to discuss financial deals.

EIB Vice President Plutarchos Sakellaris is leading a delegation of senior European Investment Bank executives to Nigeria to announce a number of key deals with the Nigerian financial sector. The delegate will also meet with Vice President Jonathan Goodluck, Ministers of Finance, Petroleum, Power and the National Planning Commission.

A number of foreign banks have shown interest in the eight troubled Nigerian banks that were bailed out by the CBN. Already, a bank in London has been appointed as financial supervisor to work with two local companies like the Stanbic IBTC and another company in Nigeria.

EIB has said that in recent years it provided over 220 million euros to fund various projects in Nigeria. The bank said that this amount is alongside 3.5 billion euros of investment in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the Cotonou Mandate. Last year, the bank invested in excess of 79 billion euros in

projects across the European Union, Africa and beyond. EIB is the European Union's long-term lending institution, owned by all 27 member states.

Meanwhile, FirstRand Limited and Standard Bank Group Limited, South Africa's two biggest banking groups, are said to have registered with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to investigate and acquire one or two of the recently bailed-out banks in the country. The timetable for buying any of the 10 rescued banks is to be determined by the CBN, but FirstRand Chief Executive Officer Sizwe Nxasana said on Thursday that it may prefer to buy one of Nigeria's "healthier" banks. "There are opportunities across the board," Nxasana, 52, said. "We are still looking at all the options." FirstRand first mooted its African expansion plans last June while Standard Bank is also looking to add to its assets in Nigeria.

While the country's banking crisis last August saw the central bank inject 620 billion naira (\$4.1 billion) into 10 banks to cover bad debts, the economy's growth potential means Nigerian institutions offer "nice opportunities," investor Mark Mobius said last week.

Standard Bank, which already operates in Nigeria as Stanbic IBTC Plc after buying a Lagos-based bank in 2007, may use acquisi-

tions to bolster expansion.

"Standard Bank sees further growth opportunities in Nigeria, both organically on the back of a well established local business, which is fully integrated into the rest of our network, as well as through select acquisitions that can facilitate faster development of our Nigerian business or add market share and scale," Clive Tasker, CEO of the bank's African unit, said in an e-mailed response to questions. The country's 10 distressed lenders are Afribank Nigeria Plc, Finbank Plc, Intercontinental Bank Plc, Oceanic Bank International Plc, Union Bank Nigeria Plc, Bank PHB Plc, Spring Bank Plc Equatorial Trust Bank Plc, Wema Bank Plc and Unity Bank Plc.

"There are risks in Nigeria but I believe FirstRand is well placed to help manage those risks with a local partner," said Jan Meintjes, portfolio manager and director at Gryphon Asset Management in Cape Town, which owns FirstRand shares. "The opportunity far outweighs the risks." "Because FirstRand does have excess capital it is a good time for it to now be acquisitive and arguably its entry to Nigeria will be cheaper than Standard Bank's," said Neville Chester.

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	→ \$75 a barrel
Power Supply	→ 2,700MW
Oil output per day	→ 1.9mbd

CBN	CBN EXCHANGE RATES		
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
CFA	0.2966	0.3066	0.3166
DANISH KRONER	27.7195	27.8132	27.9068
EURO	206.4896	207.1872	207.8848
POUNDS STERLING	235.9268	236.7239	237.5209
RIYAL	39.4667	39.6	39.7333
SDR	229.5317	230.3072	231.0826
SWISS FRANC	140.125	140.5984	141.0718
US DOLLAR	148	148.5	149
WAUA	229.3379	230.1127	230.8875
YEN	1.6325	1.638	1.6435

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES	
BUYING	
DOLLAR	N151
EURO	N210
POUNDS	N248
SELLING	
DOLLAR	N153
EURO	N213
POUNDS	N250

Source: S&J Bureau de Change, Wise Zone 4, Abuja.

Stock Market Index	
Date: Friday, February 5, 2010	
Index:	23,226.28
Volume:	428,477,164
Cap.:	N 5,593,645,143,350.00

Business

Oando posts N7bn profit, promises investors better gains

By Jibrin Abubakar

OANDO Plc, one of the country's leading integrated energy company has pledged better gains for investors this year as it posted a net profit of N6.64 billion in its third quarter performance report ended September, 2009.

This is against N5.56bn recorded in 2008 within the same period. In addition, the period witnessed 107 per cent growth in the Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) to N20 billion compared with N9.5bn recorded within the same period in 2008.

The Group Chief Executive Officer of Oando Plc Mr. Wale Tinubu said the results for third quarter 2009 once again underscores the robustness of the business.

"Through prudent resource management and consistent value creation, we have maintained market leadership in spite of the harsh operating environment created by the global economic crisis, the effects of banking sector reforms and the persistent uncertainties over deregulation of the petroleum industry."

According to him, Group's outlook remains positive with strong revenue prospects, adding, "capacity will be created by the gas division, and the captive power plant, expected on-stream before year end, promises to be a strong revenue source".

He said with the planned reinforcement of the company's financial structure and a committed management team, "we will accelerate our activity rate to ensure our objective of a robust year end for shareholders is achieved."

The company has projected a turnover of N596 billion, N782 billion and N931 billion for the years ending 2010, 2011 and 2012. Net profit for the three years have been estimated to be N18 billion, N42 billion and N59 billion respectively while investors are expected to receive dividends of N4.48 billion, N5.7 billion and N6.2 billion in that order.

Tinubu said that while the Group continues to show resilience across its different businesses, the years ahead present a very promising outlook.

"The Group remains focused on fast tracking monetising its upstream portfolio and assets that commenced revenue gen-

eration last year and which continues to positively impact the Group's bottom-line. OML 125 and 134 are already in production and Akepo and OML 56 are expected to start production in the near future."

Similarly, the Gas and Power division is posi-

tioned for superior performance this quarter as its power generation arm, Akute Power Limited will commission its captive power solutions to Lagos Water Corporation with immediate revenue contribution to the Group's bottom-line among others."

Last year when many stocks suffered depreciation, Oando Plc was the only equity in the petroleum market sub-sector that posted a positive return in terms of capital gain. The stock gave investors 17.8 per cent while others gave negative returns of

between 26 per cent and 88 per cent.

As the market firms up further, Oando Plc said it is giving existing investors another opportunity for an instant capital gain of about 24 per cent through its ongoing Rights Issue.

The company is issuing 301,694,876 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at N70 per share to existing shareholders whose names appeared on the register of the company as at the close of business on December 18, 2009 to raise over N20 billion.

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Business/Finance

Hot air in NDIC

By Jibrin Abubakar

SUCCESSION crisis is rocking the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation. The NDIC is the country's apex financial undertaker and second only to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in significance within the banking sector's regulatory framework.

The immediate past Managing Director/CEO of NDIC Ganiyu Ogunleye ended his second term in November last year after ten years in office. The Federal Government subsequently appointed Alhaji Umaru Ibrahim the Executive Director of Corporate Services in the organization as the acting Managing Director.

Already the power tussle that is creating hot air in the Corporation has polarized top government officials such as the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Yayale Ahmed and the Minister of State for Finance Mr. Remi Babalola over the choice of a new Managing Director for the agency.

The power tussle has been blamed on the prolonged absence of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, who is receiving treatment in Saudi Arabia on heart condition.

The NDIC is wholly owned by the Federal Government through the Central Bank of Nigeria (60 per cent stake) and the Ministry of Finance which holds 40 per cent. Mr. Babalola is said to



MAHMUD Yayale Ahmed, SGF



ADEREMI Babalola, Minister of State for Finance

have disregarded the recommendation of the SGF to the minister of finance on the choice of the new MD/CE for the agency.

Yayale, in a letter dated December 9, 2009 recommended a former Director of the NDIC Dr. Hussein I. Mohammad for the top job. Mohammed holds a doctorate degree in banking and finance, and was a pioneer staff of the NDIC. He has also held positions including being executive director and chairman of management committees of some distressed banks in recent times.

However, Babalola in a letter routed

directly to the office of the Vice President Goodluck Jonathan forwarded the name of a certain Owolabi Tiamiyu, who had previously applied for the post of Deputy Director in the same organization for ratification as the new Managing Director. Tiamiyu currently works in the United States' Federal Reserve Bank.

Industry insiders have questioned his nomination because it appears to be a throw-back to the Obasanjo era when several Nigerian expatriates were lured back to the country to take up plum positions regardless of their competences and pedigree. They

pointed at the case of Jimi Lawal who was recruited for the disposal of Federal Government houses despite being on the wanted list of failed banks tribunals of the 1990s, and the choice of Arunma Oteji who was brought from African Development Bank to head the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) which also generated controversy.

Industry experts who spoke to Daily Trust on condition of anonymity expressed the fear that Babalola's choice may not have what it takes to complement the current efforts of the CBN to sanitize the banking sector based on the new risk focused supervisory framework being implemented. They believe the new man will take "far too long learning the ropes at a time painful, albeit necessary decisions needed to be taken to rescue the sector from the Precipice."

Little is known about Tiamiyu but his promoters believe he has the requisite experience to play a major role in the sector given his work in the US Reserve Bank.

In the same letter, Remi Babalola also nominated Eunice Mbgjikwe as an executive director to take over from Peter Umoh. Eunice Mbgjikwe is currently director special insured institution department which oversees micro finance banks. Some experts fear that the president's absence

played up the tussle. As it is, no one is sure where the pendulum will swing to. But the battle line may also be enlarged as the CBN may want to assert its position given its 60 per cent stake.

One of the agencies quoted a source as saying that this was the experience last year when a director general was to be appointed for SEC and the finance ministry outsmarted the Attorney General of the federation. The Finance ministry recommended Arunma Oteji ahead of the AGF's candidate Robert Orya who was later appointed NEXIM MD.

Efforts to speak to the spokesman of the NDIC about the controversy failed, but some staff who spoke to Daily Trust directed our reporter to the Ministry of Finance. Spokesman to the finance minister Akintunde Olayinka did not pick his phone when called.


In addition to the Managing Director, the NDIC ACT also provides for the appointment of two Executive Directors each for (Finance and Administration) currently occupied by Alhaji Umaru Ibrahim the Acting MD, and Executive Director (Operations) occupied by Mr. P.N. Umoh.

In the interim, anyone that will eventually be at the helm of the affairs, according to some who spoke to this paper, will be selected by, and serve the pleasure of, the president or his vice as the case may be.



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ZUP	30.60	30.60	0.00	0.00	30.60	0.00	13	71,502	2,265,596.50
ACCESS	9.60	9.40	9.40	9.12	9.12	-0.48	180	23,164,341	211,683,040.00
AFPRINT	0.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.00	1	701	602.86
AFRIBANK	3.00	3.01	3.01	3.00	3.01	0.01	247	4,450,301	13,449,788.00
AF	37.50	39.37	39.37	39.37	39.37	1.87	65	303,900	11,842,077.00
ASHAKACEM	15.01	15.10	15.10	14.50	14.96	-0.05	153	7,100,062	105,708,816.00
							45	7,384,922	5,001,565.00
BAGCO	2.08	2.06	2.08	1.99	1.99	-0.09	177	2,311,682	4,655,889.50
							55	2,057,181	102,765,152.00
BECOPETRO	2.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.07	0.00	6	69,434	136,784.98
									22,953.92
BIGTREAT	0.81	0.85	0.85	0.80	0.81	0.00	30	1,423,261	1,161,388.50
									3,352,838.50
CONTINSURE	1.01	1.05	1.06	0.97	0.97	-0.04	12	2,264,154	2,304,954.00
CORN			0.57					526,500	288,656.50
COSTAIN	5.91	5.62	6.10	5.62	5.95	0.04	133	2,153,819	12,621,442.00
CUSTODYINS						-0.15	39	2,235,200	6,676,526.00
CUTIX	3.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.28	0.00	3	10,110	31,543.20
DAARCOMM	0.66	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69			169,911	117,238.59
DANGFLOUR	13.02	12.72	12.72	12.37	12.37	-0.65	198	4,971,758	61,947,964.00
DANGSUGAR	18.88		6.70	15.96	15.96			5,137,777	83,362,296.00
DIAMONDBNK	9.75	9.50	9.50	9.27	9.27	-0.48	41	14,519,701	134,939,024.00
DUNLOP			1.00	0.00	0.50	0.00		72,000	36,000.00
ECOBANK	7.07	6.72	6.72	6.72	6.72	-0.35	73	1,630,559	10,957,356.00
EKOCORP	5.51							100	531.00
EQUITYASUR	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	1	104,000	52,000.00
ETE								871,000	5,205,704.50
ETI	15.76	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	0.24	41	1,074,833	17,101,220.00
									110,516.44
FCMB	9.45	9.01	9.70	9.01	9.52	0.07	137	15,435,080	143,972,400.00
									35,295,568.00
FIDSON	2.29	2.18	2.27	2.18	2.20	-0.09	42	1,220,350	2,688,772.25
								9,002,845	
FIRSTINLND	0.84	0.86	0.88	0.80	0.80	-0.04	228	100,834,013	83,472,928.00
								271,149	
FINCOCOA	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.81	0.86	0.01	44	2,549,667	2,099,472.25
								60	
GLAXOSMITH	26.00	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	0.50	27	732,807	19,420,396.00
								29	
GTASSURE	2.31	2.25	2.29	2.22	2.25	-0.06	37	10,658,433	23,970,724.00
IBTC	9.43	9.02	9.40	9.00	9.10	-0.33	74	4,978,473	45,658,884.00
JBERGER	28.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.50	0.00	23	58,782	1,617,688.62
MOBIL	97.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	97.51	0.00	7	3,196	304,899.44
MULTIVERSE	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	5	715,000	357,500.00
NIGERINS	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.78	0.78	-0.04	8	315,500	248,710.00
NNFM	21.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.80	0.00	3	6,000	130,850.00
OASISINS	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	0.00	1	500	675.00
OMATEK	0.66	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63	-0.03	8	348,000	219,690.00
		20	2.20	2.0				740	
SKYEBANK	8.09	8.00	8.00	7.69	7.69	-0.40	142	7,758,117	60,348,804.00
		0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00			
SPRINGBANK	1.34	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.06	47	1,349,100	1,888,740.00
			2.33	2.22	2.33	0.11			
STDINSURE	0.66	0.67	0.68	0.67	0.68	0.02	24	1,277,700	862,566.00
STERLNBANK	1.25	1.60	1.57	1.57	1.60	-0.03	75	6,955,476	11,258,786.00
TANTALIZER	0.92	0.96	0.96	0.93	0.93	0.01	38	4,831,880	4,626,702.50
TOTAL	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	14	16,744	2,445,775.00
TRANSCORP	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	20	4,969,200	2,484,600.00
TRIPPLEG	4.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.60	0.00	1		
UAC-PROP	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	16	151,710	3,029,936.50
UACN	44.10	43.00	43.01	41.90	41.90	-2.20	45	1,136,615	
UBA	14.40	13.73	13.75	13.68	13.68	-0.72	235	16,479,469	225,509,712.00
UBN	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.15	6.15	-0.20			
UNHOMES	1.07	1.02	1.12	1.02	1.12	0.05	68	6,794,942	7,279,031.50
		0	0.80	0.76	0.76	-0.04			
UNILEVER	25.00	24.03	25.00	23.75	24.00	-1.00	115	7,042,030	170,404,944.00
		1.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.03	79	2,262,189	
UNITYBNK	1.04	1.00	1.04	1.00	1.04	0.00	36	6,787,293	6,830,322.00
			0				4	125,000	
WEMABANK	1.22	1.18	1.28	1.16	1.28	0.06	88	11,465,148	14,400,426.00

Banking Reforms in Nigeria: What Next After CBN's Intervention



SANUSI LAMIDO SANUSI
Governor,
Central Bank Of Nigeria



AIHAJI UMARU IBRAHIM
Acting MD/CEO
Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation



REMI BABALOLA
Hon. Minister of State, Finance



DR. MARIO BLEJER
Former Governor,
Central Bank of Argentina



BJÖRN CHRISTIAN STEIN
Director, German-based
Global Banking Development
Solutions



SVEIN HARALD OYGARD
former Central Bank Governor
of Iceland, now Director at
McKinsey & Company



Dalvinder Singh
Associate Professor of Law,
University of Warwick



Razia Khan
Regional Head of Research
for Africa Standard Chartered Bank, UK



Luca Del Conte
Executive Director,
Treasury & Capital Markets
at Capital Bank Plc, UK



Tara O'Connor (UK)
Managing Director,
Africa Risk Consulting, London

- OPTIONS FOR RE-CAPITALISING BAILED-OUT BANKS
- BANKING RISK MANAGEMENT
- CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & REGULATION
- INSURING DEPOSITORS' FUNDS

KEY NOTE

SANUSI LAMIDO SANUSI
Governor, Central Bank Of Nigeria

GOODWILL MESSAGE

AIHAJI UMARU IBRAHIM
Acting MD/CEO, Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR

REMI BABALOLA
Hon. Minister of State, Finance

PANELISTS

ONNO RUHL
World Bank Country Representative

ROTIMI OYEKANMI
CEO, Rencap Nigeria

SOLOMON QUAYNOR
Country Director,
International Finance Corporation (IFC)

TEMITOPE OSIKOYA
Director-General,
West African Monetary Institute, Accra, Ghana.

DR. OLADIMEJI ALO
Consultant

BEX NWAUWUDU
Director, CBO Capital Partners

NICK BASTIN
Director, Capital MS&L Investor Relation,
London

BIODUN ADEDIPE
Consultant

Date: 11 February, 2010

Venue: Federal Palace Hotel, Ahmadu Bello Way, Victoria Island, Lagos

For sponsorship and delegate registration details call Phillip on 08035555568 and Amadi on 07082256051 | e-mail: amadi@businessdayonline.com & phillip@businessdayonline.com

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POLICY ON PUBLICATION OF ADVERTORIALS, PETITIONS AND RELATED MATERIALS



Media Trust Limited

Media Trust Limited, publishers of Daily Trust, Weekly Trust, Sunday Trust and Aminiya newspapers take very seriously its responsibility to the public to publish all points of view, including those we do not share. We think this is the function of an independent, liberal newspaper dedicated to the pursuit of the common good. We are also conscious of the fact that it is a shortsighted business policy for a newspaper to shut out a particular point of view for its own reason or due to pressure from powerful institutions and advertisers.

But we are also aware that professional agitators can use the pages on newspapers to malign governments, companies and individuals on spurious grounds.

Caught between our desire to give voice to the concerns of the voiceless and to protect public officers and institutions from unfair and demoralizing attacks, we have been forced to develop a more stringent policy for the placement of advertorials, petitions and other related materials in the pages of our newspapers.

The new policy is depicted hereunder

1. The writer(s) of such advertorials must not be anonymous but people who can stand by what they say, with their full names and address.
2. If there is any accusation against any person or organization, such writer(s) must substantiate the claims with evidence which can stand before a Court of Law. For example, if they claim that a contract was inflated, they must show Media Trust, relevant documents to back this up.
3. The placement must be fully paid for, before it is carried.
4. The author(s) should be

prepared to accept corrections or alterations made by us but the corrected version would be shown to the author(s), before publishing.

5. The publishers have the right to reject any piece considered to be libelous, containing assertions without supporting facts and figures to prove the authenticity of such claims.
6. In the alternative, we are prepared to enter into an indemnity agreement with those who place such advertorial which will put the onus of proof squarely on them.
7. Media Trust employees that collect such materials have been instructed to contact the Advert Manager, who will also consult further with the relevant superior officers to analyze the piece before placement is made.
8. If the publishers of Daily Trust, Weekly Trust, Sunday Trust and Aminiya newspapers reject any material regarded as unprintable based on the above consideration, they will not enter into any correspondence with the author(s).

Finally, we wish to assure our readers that we will not shy away from publishing fair and balanced criticisms of any government or individuals, which is in the nature of free exchange of ideas.

This, we will continue to do in our free opinion columns and with advertorials where some readers feel strongly enough to pay for them.

We thank you for your support and assure you that we will do our best to keep your trust.

Signed:
MANAGEMENT



another
MILESTONE

We rejoice with the management and staff of **MicroMana Limited** on the relocation of their business operations to its befitting ultramodern office complex.

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Congratulations!!!

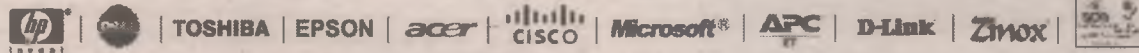
From all of us @



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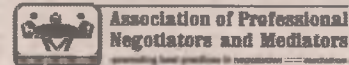


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PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATION COURSE ON

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Negotiation, Mediation, Arbitration, Hybrid Processes & Restorative Justice

PART I FEB. - APRIL 2010

LOCATION	DATE	VENUE
ABUJA	FEB. 12 - 13	Merit House, near NUC, Aguiyi Ironsi St., Maitama, Abuja
LAGOS	FEB. 19 - 20	Lagos Chambers of Commerce & Industry, 1, Idowu Taylor Str., Victoria Island
ENUGU	FEB. 26 - 27	Toscana Hotels, Independent Layout, Enugu
PORT HARCOURT	MARCH 5 - 6	Bar Centre, Court High Complex, Station Road, Port Harcourt
BENIN	MARCH 12 - 13	BIBI Hotel, 72 Boundry Road, Benin City.
KANO	MARCH 19 - 20	Central Hotel, Bompai Road, Kano
JOS	MARCH 26 - 27	Hotel Mc Doria, Apollo Crescent, G.R.A Jos
ZARIA	APRIL 9 - 10	Teejay Palace Hotel, G.R.A Zaria
IBADAN	APRIL 16 - 17	Main Hall, University of Ibadan
OWERRI	APRIL 23 - 24	SETTLEMENT HOUSE, Works Layout, Owerri.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

All persons who regularly confront, manage and resolve disputes either in their private or official dealings

COURSE FEE (For Part I)

N28,000.00 (Twenty Eight Thousand Naira Only) per person. Fee covers course materials (including a testimonial) and lunch only. Special discount rate of 50% available to students.

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Early Registration is advised. To register pay course fee into DCON CONSULTING Account No. **6015802125** at any branch of ZENITH BANK PLC. Bring Deposit Slip to the course venue. (NO CASH PAYMENT AT THE VENUE PLEASE)

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SCOPE OF THE VISIT
The programme offers real-life experience of the practice of ADR. Plus Bargaining and Restorative Justice through working visits to selected institutions and agencies in America. Institutions to be visited include Departments of Justice, Courts, Law Offices / Attorneys, Universities, Congresses / Legislators, Mediation / ADR service providers, Arbitration Institutions, Restorative Justice and other Specialised Dispute Resolution programmes.

ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION

Lawyers; the judiciary; lawmakers; ADR practitioners; police; the military; para-military agencies; academics; corporate executives; leaders; NGOs; CSOs and religious bodies interested in promoting access to justice.

Basic training in ADR, plus bargaining and restorative justice. Completion of the 3 stages of the Professional Foundation Course organised by DCON CONSULTING or any other equivalent training programme will suffice.

Sponsorship by a public or private institution.

For more information, contact:

Tel: 08036699063; 08065707711; 08073885345; 08034386334. E-mail: dconconsulting@yahoo.com



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF ANIMAL HEALTH & PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY,
P.M.B. 01, VOM, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA**

ANNOUNCEMENT:

COMMENCEMENT OF ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE COLLEGE

This is to bring to the knowledge of all students of Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom that following the return of peace in the state, the college has commenced all its academic activities in earnest.

All students are by this advised to return to school as management have resolved to strictly adhere to the academic calendar of the college.

The management of the college also commiserate with all those affected by the crisis and pray for a permanent return of peace to the state.

**Reuben Tyoden
Information/Protocol Officer
For Provost**



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE

HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA

PUBLIC NOTICE

PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF THE CURRENT TARIFFS AND FISCAL INCENTIVES

The challenges thrown up by the global economic recession has made it necessary for Nations of the World to return to the drawing board in search of creative strategies that would not only protect their countries and people from the huge shocks of the recession but also re-position for the future.

For countries like ours that depend largely on income from natural resources, the situation cannot be more precarious as we watch the price of crude oil plummet, pulling down our gross earnings and seriously threatening our savings. Therefore, our response to the recession must be clear, decisive and workable. We must make deliberate move to develop the real sector of our economy, especially by seeking to stimulate Foreign Direct Investments into our country.

This compelling need to boost the FDI into our economy however requires us to review the framework of our tariffs and incentives and make it more attractive for investors the world over.

It is in recognition of this that His Excellency, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua **President and commander In Chief, Federal Republic of Nigeria**, constituted a Presidential Committee to review the current Tariffs and Fiscal Incentives with the following as members of the main Committee:

- i. His Excellency, Dr. Abubakar Bukola Saraki, Governor of Kwara State, Chairman;
- ii. His Excellency, Babatunde Fashola, SAN, Governor of Lagos State, Member;
- iii. His Excellency, Alhaji Isa Yuguda, Governor of Bauchi State, Member;
- iv. His Excellency, Adams Oshiomole, Governor of Edo State, Member;
- v. Honourable Minister of Finance, Member;
- vi. Honourable Minister of Commerce & Industry, Member;
- vii. Honourable Minister of State for Finance, Member;
- viii. Chief Economic Adviser to Mr. President, Member;
- ix. Chairman National Economic Intelligence Council, Member;
- x. Comptroller General of Customs, Member;

- xi. Deputy Governor (Policy), CBN, Member,
- xii. President, MAN, Member;
- xiii. Alhaji Ahmed Abdulkadir, Member;
- xiv. Mr. Bsimark Rewane, Member;
- xv. Mazi Sam Oluabunwa, Member;
- xvi. Senator U.Udoma
- xvii. Chairman FIRS
- xviii. Executive Secretary, NIPC

2. The Committee is charged to review the existing Tariff structure and fiscal Incentives and make appropriate recommendations that would encourage Foreign Direct Investments and thereby promote the growth and development of the productive sector of the Nigerian economy. In carrying out this task, the Committee has identified three key sectors as being critical to the development of the economy. These include: Agriculture; Automobile and Construction and; Textile, Leather and Garments. Consequently, three sub-committees have been set-up to co-ordinate inputs, views and ideas on these specific sectors and make appropriate recommendations to the main committee.

By this notice, the Committee takes the honour to invite views, comments and suggestions from key stakeholders, as well as existing and prospective investors in our economy. The Committee welcomes inputs on strategies to improve direct investments in the identified sectors with the aim to increase production, create jobs, promote backward integration and reduce dependence on import. Specifically, the Committee also welcomes suggestions on existing barriers to investments in these sectors and the strategic incentives necessary to attract and encourage investments both locally and internationally.

Following this public notice, the various sub-committees shall be reaching out directly to critical stakeholders in the days ahead to ensure a robust engagement with all relevant players in the economy.

Ochi C. Achivu
Permanent Secretary
For: The Honourable Minister



TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF NIGERIA (TCN) PUBLIC NOTICE

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR SUPPLY OF TRANSMISSION EQUIPMENT AND REHABILITATION OF TRANSMISSION LINES & SWITCHGEARS.

INTRODUCTION :

The Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), intends to develop a pool of tested and competent contractors for rehabilitation of transmission lines and supply of equipments, tools and materials for maintenance of the transmission grid, to improve electricity supply in the

Pursuant to this, manufacturers and/or their representatives are hereby invited to apply for pre-qualification for the following:

- (A). Supply of power transformers, (330/132kV and 132/33kV), mobile substations and installation materials.
- (B). Supply of 75MX 330kV reactors and associated control systems, switchgears, instrument transformers and transformer oil filtration machines.
- (C). Supply of protection relays, control equipment and instrument transformers.
- (D). Supply of 330kV and 132kV transmission lines materials, tools, composite insulators and services (rehabilitation of 132kV transmission lines).
- (E). Supply of electrical materials/substation equipment and tools.
- (F). Rehabilitation of switchgears (e.g., circuit breakers etc.).
- (G). Supply of heavy duty equipment and machineries (e.g., maintenance work vehicles, fork lifts, self-loading utility vehicles etc.).
- (H). Power system dynamic stability studies and review.
- (I). Helicopter maintenance/facilities.

PRE-QUALIFICATION PRE-REQUISITE:

Interested companies are to provide the following:

- (1). Copy of Certificate of Incorporation in Nigeria (Forms CO2 and CO7 must be attached) or overseas.
- (2). Company profile must include:
 - Populated organizational structure and key professional staff with relevant experience dedicated to high voltage power lines, substations and equipment.
 - Availability of requisite and appropriate skills among key staff and persons to be engaged in the project.
 - Record of quality assurance/quality management system to be implemented.
- (3). Evidence of having successfully carried out at least two (2) similar works within the past five years and/or details of on-going projects. Evidence of Taking-Over/Certificates of Performance from clients must be attached.
- (4). When a company is in Joint Venture (JV) Partnership or Consortium agreement, the role of each partner must be clearly defined in the JV agreement. Additionally, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), must specify the lead partner. Evidence of such a relationship must be signed by the Chief Executives/Partners. A copy of the firm legal relationship must be attached.
- (5). Evidence of quality of equipment and services, including product brochure(s).
- (6). Audited Account of the company along with the corresponding 3 years Tax Clearance Certificate which shall be verified and the original sighted on demand.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

1. Only manufacturers or their duly accredited agents will be considered. Contracts facilitated by duly accredited agents must be formalized in the names of the manufacturers.
2. Preference will be given to manufacturers whose equipment meet European Union specifications and TCN's quality standards.
3. Manufacturers whose equipment in TCN System are known to have high failure rates will not be considered.
4. Any manufacturer of major power equipment not in business for at least 5 years will not be considered.
5. Evidence of supplying similar equipment to environments with similar climatic condition as Nigeria will be an advantage.
6. Only pre-qualified companies will be invited to submit Commercial Proposals.
7. Pre-qualification is free.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:

Interested applicants should submit their documentations as requested above, delivered by hand or registered mail to reach the following address not later than **12.00 noon on 22nd March, 2010:**

**The Assistant General Manager (Procurement) TCN,
Room 228, Power Holding Company of Nigeria Plc., Corporate Headquarters,
Plot 441 Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja.**

Tel: +2348055027497.

One hard copy and a soft copy of proposal are to be submitted for each item of applicant's choice.

The name and mailing address of the applicant's Company shall be clearly marked on the envelope(s). All the information requested for pre-qualification shall be provided in English Language by all applicants.

Failure to provide information / supporting document that is essential for the evaluation of the applicant's qualifications, or to provide timely clarification or substantiation of the information supplied, may result in disqualification of the applicant.

For further information and /or clarification, please contact the following e-mails:

1. solaakinniranye@yahoo.com
2. atonack@yahoo.co.uk
3. dipoadeeko@yahoo.co.uk

Signed:

Management
Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN).



TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF NIGERIA (TCN) PUBLIC NOTICE PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR YEAR 2010 HV TRANSMISSION LINES & ASSOCIATED TRANSMISSION STATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), intends to develop a pool of tested and competent contractors in the construction of 330kV and 132kV new Transmission Lines and Substations to improve electricity supply in the country. These contractors and consultants are to be involved in the following areas:

- A) DESIGN AND ENGINEERING
- B) PROCURMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

PRE-QUALIFICATION

To pre-qualify. Contracting and Consulting companies are required to provide the following:

- 1) A copy of Certificate of Incorporation in Nigeria (Forms CO2 & CO7 must be attached) or Overseas
- 2) Company profile including:
 - Populated organizational and key professional staff with relevant experience on high voltage power lines and substations.
 - Availability of requisite and appropriate skills among key staff and persons to be engaged in the project
 - Record of Quality Assurance/Quality Management System to be implemented.
 - List of Company Directors, their individual addresses and phone numbers, curricula vitae should also be attached.
- 3) Evidence of having successfully completed three (3) similar projects within the past five years and/or details of ongoing projects. Evidence of Final Taking Over Certificate/Certificate of Performance from clients including names must be attached.
- 4) When a company is in Joint Venture (JV) Partnership or Consortium agreement, the role of each partner must be clearly defined in the JV agreement. Additionally, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) must specify the lead partner. Evidence of such a relationship must be signed by the Chief Executives/ Partners. A copy of the JV agreement must be attached.
- 5) For the purpose of the same project, a firm can only be partner in ONE JV or consortium. Submissions for the same job/lot by JV or consortia having the same firm(s) as partner(s) shall be rejected.
- 6) Any other relevant information which may assist in enhancing the profile of the applicant.
- 7) The applicant MUST submit an audited account of the company along with the corresponding 3years Tax Clearance Certificate which shall be verified and the original sighted on demand

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- 1) Only pre-qualified contractors will be invited to tender for the projects.
- 2) Contractors engaged in either PHCN, PMU or NIPP projects whose performance is unsatisfactory will not be pre-qualified.

3) Contractors with litigation history/petitions with either PHCN, PMU or NIPP will not be pre-qualified.

4) TCN reserves the right to categorise applicants for 330kV or 132kV projects based on their submissions.

5) Pre-qualification is free.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:

One hard copy plus a soft copy are to be submitted.

The name and mailing address of the applicant company shall be clearly marked on the envelope(s).

All the information requested for pre-qualification shall be provided in English Language by all applicants.

Failure to provide information/supporting document that is essential for the evaluation of the applicant qualification, or to provide timely clarification or substantiation of the information supplied, may result in disqualification of the applicant.

Completed pre-qualification documents by applicants should be submitted in Sealed Envelope and clearly marked "APPLICATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION PROJECTS" delivered by hand or registered mail to reach the:

Asst. Gen. Manager (Procurement) TCN, Room 228, 2nd Floor, PHCN CHQ, Plot 441 Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja, NOT later than 5.00 p.m, on Monday, 22nd March, 2010.

Opening of applications will be at 10:00hrs, Tuesday, 23rd March 2010 in the conference room, 2nd floor, PHCN Headquarters, Plot 441, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja.

Tel: 08055027497

For further information and/or clarification, please contact the following e-mails;

a) solaakinniranve@yahoo.com;

b) denislyd1@yahoo.co.uk

c) atonack@yahoo.co.uk

Signed:

**Management
Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN)**

YAR'ADUA AND THE REST OF US (IV)

...A Matter of Good Conscience

Professor Dora Akunyili grabbed the headlines when she reportedly broke ranks with her colleagues in the Executive Council of the Federation at the last Council Meeting. She has been eagerly applauded by the perennial agitators and the desperate politicians who will stop at nothing to unseat President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua. In fairness, applause, which is a major obsession for the former NAFDAC boss, is in order. At least she has finally revealed her true colours. She should be encouraged to take the next honorable step: apologize for previously lying to Nigerians, leave the cabinet, and follow her conviction by openly joining the opposition and the agitators. That is the path of honour.

But before she is hastily lionized on account of her conviction, a few facts are worth examining.

Fact #1: on 2nd December 2009, Professor Akunyili told the country: "Council, having reviewed all the facts on ground, unanimously resolved that there is no basis for the invocation of provisions of Section 144 of the Constitution, for the reason that the President has not been found incapable of discharging his functions. Council wishes to inform all Nigerians that all organs of government are functioning and that government will continue to deliver."

Fact #2: on 9th December 2009, Professor Akunyili told the nation: "There have been no changes by Council on our earlier comment. Council came up with a statement last week and that statement remains valid."

Fact #3: on 27th January 2010, the council unanimously declared that President Yar'Adua was fit to continue in office. Professor Akunyili was in attendance and did not register a dissenting opinion.

Fact #4: on 3rd February 2010, Professor Akunyili said in a memo not properly introduced to Council and subsequently leaked to the press: "We love our President but we should remember that he is not infallible. Before he left Nigeria he had a moral and constitutional obligation to officially inform the

Senate and hand over the mantle of leadership to the Vice President pending his return and recovery. That did not happen. Yes, the mistake has been made by our Boss and our brother. Mr. President is ill and did not choose to be sick. But while we continue to pray for his recovery, we should try to right the wrong."

On the basis of the above, certain questions are natural:

- Was Professor Akunyili under duress when she made the statements in #1 and #2 and endorsed the position in #3 above?
- Are there new facts on the ground that led to a reversal of positions taken in #1 to #3 above? And what are those facts?
- Did the Honourable Minister have Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution in mind when she said the President has a constitutional and moral obligation to transmit power to the Vice President?
- If so, could she educate the rest of us about where she saw the constitutional and moral obligations in that section? And if she has other sections in mind, could she direct the rest of us to them?
- Could she tell us the constitutional underpinning of the "mistake" that she presumptuously wants to set "right"?
- Since the court has ruled on Section 145 (and also on sections 144 and 148), where did the Honourable Minister derive the power to review and overturn the decision of the courts?
- Where did the Honourable Minister derive the power to serve as the arbiter of "morality"?
- And is the Honourable Minister saying that the Vice President has not been effective in holding the fort for the President despite a consensus of opinion to the contrary and despite her earlier position that "all organs of government are functioning"?

With her sloppy and selective reading of the Constitution (which is our grundnorm), with her appropriation of the powers of the courts (in glaring violation of the concepts of separation of powers), and with her attempt to game the gallery, it is clear Madame Minister has pitched her tent with the opposition. In good conscience, she should move on or be nudged on, not indulged with cheap applause.

THE MAY 29TH GROUP

OAU Quarters, Abuja

YAR'ADUA AND THE REST OF US (IV)

...A Matter of Good Conscience

Professor Dora Akunyili grabbed the headlines when she reportedly broke ranks with her colleagues in the Executive Council of the Federation at the last Council Meeting. She has been eagerly applauded by the perennial agitators and the desperate politicians who will stop at nothing to unseat President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua. In fairness, applause, which is a major obsession for the former NAFDAC boss, is in order. At least she has finally revealed her true colours. She should be encouraged to take the next honorable step: apologize for previously lying to Nigerians, leave the cabinet, and follow her conviction by openly joining the opposition and the agitators. That is the path of honour.

But before she is hastily lionized on account of her conviction, a few facts are worth examining.

Fact #1: on 2nd December 2009, Professor Akunyili told the country: "Council, having reviewed all the facts on ground, unanimously resolved that there is no basis for the invocation of provisions of Section 144 of the Constitution, for the reason that the President has not been found incapable of discharging his functions. Council wishes to inform all Nigerians that all organs of government are functioning and that government will continue to deliver."

Fact #2: on 9th December 2009, Professor Akunyili told the nation: "There have been no changes by Council on our earlier comment. Council came up with a statement last week and that statement remains valid."

Fact #3: on 27th January 2010, the council unanimously declared that President Yar'Adua was fit to continue in office. Professor Akunyili was in attendance and did not register a dissenting opinion.

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Senate and hand over the mantle of leadership to the Vice President pending his return and recovery. That did not happen. Yes, the mistake has been made by our Boss and our brother. Mr. President is ill and did not choose to be sick. But while we continue to pray for his recovery, we should try to right the wrong."

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THE MAY 29TH GROUP

OAU Quarters, Abuja



BAUCHI STATE GOVERNMENT
STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD (SUBEB)
 AJIYA ADAMU ROAD, NEAR AWALAH HOTEL ROUND ABOUT
 P.M.B. 0109 BAUCHI

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

The State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) Bauchi, intends to carry out some projects under the 2009 Education Trust Fund (ETF), Special BOT intervention.

Reputable contractors are hereby invited to bid in the following projects:

A. LOT I - KIRFI PRIMARY SCHOOL, KIRFI LGA.

B. LOT II

- i) YUGUDA PRIMARY SCHOOL, BAUCHI LGA
- ii) DULL PRIMARY SCHOOL, T/BALEWALGA
- Hi) JSS RISHI, TORO LGA

C. LOT III

- i) TIRWUN PRIMARY SCHOOL BAUCHI LGA
- ii) KANGERE PRIMARY SCHOOL BAUCHI LGA
- iii) BAKARO PRIMARY SCHOOL, BAUCHI TOWN
- iv) COMPLETION OF LIBRARY BUILDING AT SHEKAL PRIMARY SCHOOL, BAUCHI TOWN

D. LOT IV - JSS NASARAWA, GANJUWA LGA

E. LOT V- NASARAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL, GANJUWA LGA

F. LOT IV - MANGARI PRIMARY SCHOOL MISAU LGA

G. LOT VII - CPS MISAU, MISAU LGA

H. LOT VIII - JSS L/KATAGUM, BAUCHI LGA

1. LOT IX - RIMIN JAHUN PRIMARY SCHOOL BAUCHI TOWN

2. To qualify for the bidding, the following documents are required:

- i) Certificate of Incorporation of Company with the Corporate Affairs Commission.
- ii) Evidence of registration as a Contractor with the Bauchi State Government.
- iii) Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years.
- iv) Evidence of Financial strength of the Company.
- v) Professional qualification of key personnel of the company.
- vi) Availability of plants and equipments to execute the works.

3. Pre-qualification document should be sealed and marked **CONFIDENTIAL** and addressed to the Executive Chairman, Bauchi State Universal Basic Board, Ajiya Adamu Road, Near Awalah Hotel Roundabout, P.M.B. 0109, Bauchi, Bauchi State.

4. This is only an invitation for pre-qualification and not for tender and is valid for two (2) weeks from the date of this publication.

5. Only successful contractors will be contacted for tender after screening, please.

Signed

KABIR ALI KOBI

Public Relations Officer

For: EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN



UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

P.M.B. 1154
BENIN CITY, NIGERIA

VACANCY FOR THE POST OF REGISTRAR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Registrar in the University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria.

The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five (5) years beginning from the effective date of his appointment and on such terms and conditions as may be specified in the letter of appointment, and may be re-appointed for one further period of five (5) years and no more.

REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should be graduates with good honours degree in relevant discipline obtained from a recognized University and must have had not less than 15 years post-graduation experience, including relevant administrative experience not below the rank of a Deputy Registrar or cognate senior management position. Candidates must be Information and Communication Technology (ICT) compliant and must command respect and be able to carry colleagues along. Candidates should be under 55 years on appointment.

SCHEDULE

The Registrar is the Chief Administrative Officer of the University and shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administrative work of the University except as regards matters for which the Bursar is responsible in accordance with Section 6(2) of the Universities (Miscellaneous Provision) Decree (1993). The Registrar is, by virtue of that office, also Secretary to Council, Senate, Congregation and Convocation.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Applicants are required to submit twenty (20) copies of their applications and detailed Curriculum Vitae highlighting, among others, the following.

- (a) Full Names
- (b) Place and Date of Birth
- (c) Home Address
- (d) Contact Address
- (e) Nationality
- (f) Marital status
- (g) Number and Ages of Children (if any)
- (h) Institutions attended with dates
- (i) Academic Qualifications obtained with dates
- (j) Working Experience
- (k) Present Employment, indicating present status and salary
- (L) Extra Curricular Activities
- (m) Referees (3)

Each applicant must have three (3) referees who should be requested by the applicant to forward their referees report under confidential cover by Courier Service directly to the Vice-Chancellor.

All applications should be submitted by Courier Service under confidential covers in sealed envelopes marked "Post of Registrar, UNIBEN" to reach the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, University of Benin, P.M.B. 1154, Benin City, Nigeria, not later than six (6) weeks from the date of this publication.

Only the applications of short-listed candidates will be acknowledged.

Singed:
Professor O.G.Oshodin
Vice-Chancellor

NIGERIA UNION OF TEACHERS

MOTTO: SERVICE & JUSTICE

All Communications to be addressed to the Secretary General.
P.M.B. 516 Garki, Abuja, Nigeria.

NATIONAL HEAD OFFICE:

National Teachers House, Off Airport Road, Lugbe Abuja, Nigeria.
09-6713710, 6725717, 6725113 Fax: 09-6724481. Website: www.nutnigeria.org e-mail: nutnigeria_hqtrs@yahoo.com



COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEC) MEETING OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF TEACHERS (NUT) HELD IN ABUJA ON FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY, 2010.

The National Executive Council (NEC) of the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) held its first meeting in year 2010 at the Union's National Head Office, Abuja on 29th January, 2010 to examine critical outstanding and emerging national and international issues that affect education and the society at large.

NEC-In-Session exhaustively deliberated on the outlined issues and came up with the following resolutions:

1. NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF 27.5% ENHANCED PROFESSIONAL ALLOWANCES FOR TEACHERS BY SOME STATE GOVERNMENTS.

NEC-In-Session noted with utmost dismay, the unwillingness of some State governments to implement the 27.5% Special Allowances for teachers as negotiated with the NUT, and agreed to by the Nigeria Governors' Forum on 6th August, 2008. NEC-In-Session expressed extreme sadness and disappointment with the negative posture of some Governors who have deliberately delayed and withheld the implementation of these allowances for teachers long after the collective agreement had been reached.

NEC-In-Session hereby calls on the governments of Rivers, Benue, Plateau, Imo, Edo, Ogun, Abia, Enugu and Oyo States to honour the collective agreement reached with teachers on the 27.5% special allowances without further delay, failing which the affected State Wings of the Union should invoke the subsisting directive of NEC to compel compliance in honoring the agreement by the governments concerned. NEC-In-Session viewed it as most ungentlemanly and a lack of trust and integrity for any democratic government to continue to breach an agreement reached over a two-year period.

In a similar vein, NEC-In-Session expressed gratitude and appreciation to the State Governments that have kept faith with the agreement by implementing the 27.5% Special Allowances to teachers accordingly for the teachers in their States. In due course, the NUT will issue a national bulletin cataloging the activities of State governments in the country as far as education delivery is concerned, so as to give a clear indication of those who are truly interested in providing affordable, accessible and quality education to the citizens in the various States. The Union will leave no stone unturned in exposing those involved in lip-service, tie-peddling and politicization of education rather than actually providing education for the children of school going age in their respective States.

2. POOR WAEC/SSCE/NECO RESULTS:

NEC-In-Session expressed concern over the poor performance of students in WAEC/SSCE and NECO Examinations in recent years and blamed government squarely for the bane in the nation's education system.

NEC-In-Session strongly observed that the current poor performance of students in WAEC/SSCE/NECO Examinations can not, but be attributed to the poor funding of education, infrastructural decay, lack of motivation of teachers, inadequate training and re-training programmes for teachers and poor teaching and learning environment, among others. Government should move education beyond the current level of lip-service consideration and show concrete evidence of their determination to make education qualitative, accessible, affordable, attractive and functional.

NEC-In-Session, therefore, urged governments at all levels to consider education as its basic social responsibility and the fundamental human right of every child of school going age, by making greater financial investment and commitment to the sector, if the country hopes to achieve and actualize the vision 20:2020, Millennium Development and Education For All Goals.

The Union advocates the establishment of two model secondary schools and five model primary schools out of the existing institutions in every local government area in the country. The schools should be well equipped with laboratory and library facilities, adequately staffed and provided with boarding facilities. It is the view of the Union that with these as models to be emulated and replicated

over time, the standard and level of performance of students will be enhanced.

3. HAND-OVER OF SCHOOLS TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

NEC-In-Session reflected soberly on the renewed attempts by some State Governments in the 21st Century to hand-over schools already taken over by law more than three decades ago to Voluntary Agencies.

NEC-In-Session considered this development as a deliberate plan to privatize and commercialize education at the expense of the poor masses in outright violation of International Conventions on Education For All (EFA), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the 7-Point Agenda of the Federal government.

The Union insists that education is the fundamental right of every child and public education remains the cardinal responsibility of government to provide. It remains an act of dereliction and outright abdication to cede public-acquired schools on which tax-payers funds have been heavily invested, built on community land, and for which adequate compensation had been paid, back to voluntary and private agencies. The policy is anti-people, retrogressive and obnoxious. Any government that toys with the fortune and future generation of her people by denying them education not only toys with the future and fortunes of the nation, but toys and jokes with the greatest and most potent instrument of national regeneration, development and future growth of generations yet unborn.

NEC-In-Session reiterated that the Union remains strongly opposed to this undemocratic, elitist, anti-social and most repugnant policy which tantamounts to drawing back the wheel of educational progress in the country. In this 21st Century, and with the pains Nigerians now bear to exist and eke out a living, commercialization of education stands out as an over-kill.

NEC-In-Session therefore, strongly advised any State Government contemplating hand-over of schools to rescind the decision forthwith in the overall interest of the impoverished and suffering masses who can ill-afford the prohibitive fees imposed by private school proprietors.

The Union, is however, not opposed to the establishment of new schools by Voluntary Agencies and private proprietors in a healthy and competitive environment with the existing schools that have already become public property.

Our public schools should not be privatized through any guise.

4. CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS IN FCT.

NEC-In-Session totally condemned the unwarranted closure of some secondary schools in FCT for two weeks for a carnival that had no visible direct benefits to the school system. NEC-In-Session decried the care-free attitude of government towards matters of educational concern and advised that care must be taken in future by governments in making decisions that will have both long and short term negative effects on the school system, particularly on the learning outcomes of the children which in most cases are blamed on the teachers who unfortunately find themselves at the receiving end over poor performance of students.

No right thinking government should close down schools on account of a cultural carnival for two weeks, and expect that it will not negatively impact on the students/pupils.

5. OYO STATE ISSUE

NEC-In-Session viewed with serious concern the current unhealthy industrial relation between Oyo State government and the Nigeria Union of Teachers, which has lingered for some time now. NEC-In-Session particularly condemned the undue interference of Oyo State government in the NUT/Oyo State Wing internal affairs, to the extent of even directing the stoppage of statutory deductions of the Union's check-off dues from its members. NEC-In-Session considered the whole idea as

ill-advised and wondered why a "pace-setter" State like Oyo which had been labour-friendly, and particularly teacher-friendly would suddenly become anti-labour, and wear a garb of unfriendliness, applying the divide and rule strategy rather uniting to control.

NEC-In-Session was particularly pained to note the open threat to the lives of the State Secretary and some principal officers of the Union by some overzealous government functionaries and, therefore, resolved to call on the Chief Executive of Oyo State His Excellency, Governor Adebayo Alao Akala, to ensure peace and safety of lives and property of his citizens especially NUT family, whose lives are now put at serious risk with threats by overzealous aides, hired thugs and hoodlums sponsored to wreak havoc on NUT officials and disrupt the activities of the Union.

NEC-In-Session also calls on the Oyo State government to adhere strictly to the rule of law by respecting the existing order of the High Court of Oyo State which has restrained the State government from stopping the deduction of check-off dues and Endwell funds from the salaries of teachers and remitting same to the NUT.

6. JOS CRISIS

NEC-In-Session strongly condemned the wanton destruction of lives and property in the recent Jos crisis and considered the crisis as one too many.

NEC-In-Session expressed sympathy with the families of those who lost their beloved ones in the crisis, particularly the teachers, and prayed for the repose of their souls.

NEC-In-Session noted with regret the devastating effects of the crisis and the serious set-back inflicted on the educational system following the disruption of academic calendar arising from the indefinite closure of schools in the affected areas.

NEC-In-Session calls on the Federal Government to address, with every sense of finality, the issue of incessant ethno-religious crisis which has turned some parts of the country into theatres of war.

7. HAITI DISASTER

NEC-In-Session equally sympathized with the government and people of Haiti over the recent natural disaster which claimed so many lives and property in that country.

As our fellow brothers and sisters who circumstantially found themselves in that part of the world more out of conscription than choice, the teachers of Nigeria share this moment of grief and sorrow with the Haitians and pray that God will comfort all those who lost their loved ones.

NEC-In-Session calls on the Federal Government of Nigeria to join hands with other members of the international community in providing succor and relief to the people of Haiti.

Meanwhile, NEC-In-Session resolved to contribute meaningfully to the Teachers' Organisation in Haiti in order to alleviate their present condition and aid their recovery process.

2010 NUT NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES.

NEC-In-Session deliberated on the forth-coming National Conference of Delegates of the Union which is scheduled to hold from 2nd - 7th May, 2010 in Asaba, Delta State with the theme: **The Future of a Nation Depends on Today's Investment on the Teacher**, and enjoined all State Wings to ensure that the Conference remains peaceful and successful.

CHIEF ONEM NELSON ONEM
Ag. National President

OBONG I. J. OBONG
Secretary General.

COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS COMMISSION



COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO

VACANCY ANOUNCEMENT

The Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, based in Abuja, Nigeria, has as part of its mandate, the design and implementation of new programmes and initiatives aimed at strengthening cooperation between member states and speeding up the integration process thereby attaining the main objective of ECOWAS: Economic and Monetary Union.

In a bid to facilitate this process, the ECOWAS Commission seeks to recruit qualified, capable and result oriented individuals into the positions of:

S/N	POST	DIRECTORATE	DEPARTMENT
1.	Legal Adviser (1)	Legal Affairs	Office of the President
2.	Programme Officer (Coordination of activities, ECOWAS/Partners/Pool Fund (2)	External Affairs	Office of the President
3.	Principal Programme Officer (Strategy & Planning) (1)	Strategic Planning	Vice-President
4.	Programme Officers, Programme Monitoring & Reporting (2)	Monitoring & Evaluation Unit	Vice-President
5.	Programme Officer, Data Management (1)	Monitoring & Evaluation Unit	Vice-President
6..	Programme Officer (Process Management) (1)	Strategic Planning	Vice-President
7.	Programme Officer (Programme Management) – (1)	Strategic Planning	Vice-President
8.	Project Accountant (1)	Finance	Administration & Finance
9.	Assistant Account (1)	Finance	Administration & Finance
10	Procurement Officer (2)	General Administration	Administration & Finance
11	Procurement Assistant (2)	General Administration	Administration & Finance

To know more about and **apply** for the above positions, interested ECOWAS citizens are advised to visit the official ECOWAS Website: www.ecowas.int.

In line with their desire to speed up and improve the recruitment process, the ECOWAS Commission **will only accept online applications**

DIGEST

You really can be bored to death...

BOREDOM could be shaving years off your life, scientists have found. Researchers say that people who complain of boredom are more likely to die young, and that those who experienced 'high levels' of tedium are more than two-and-a-half times as likely to die from heart disease or stroke than those satisfied with their lot.

More than 7,000 civil servants were studied over 25 years - and those who said they were bored were nearly 40 per cent more likely to have died by the end of study than those who did not.

The scientists said this could be a result of those unhappy with their lives turning to such unhealthy habits as smoking or drinking, which would cut their life expectancy.

Specialists from the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London, looked at data from 7,524 civil servants aged between 35 and 55 who were interviewed between 1985 and 1988 about their levels of boredom. They then found out whether they had died by April last year.

Researcher Martin Shipley, who co-wrote the report to be published in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* this week, said: "The findings on heart disease show there was sufficient evidence to say there is a link with boredom.

"It is important that people who have dull jobs find outside interests to keep boredom at bay, rather than turn to drinking or smoking.

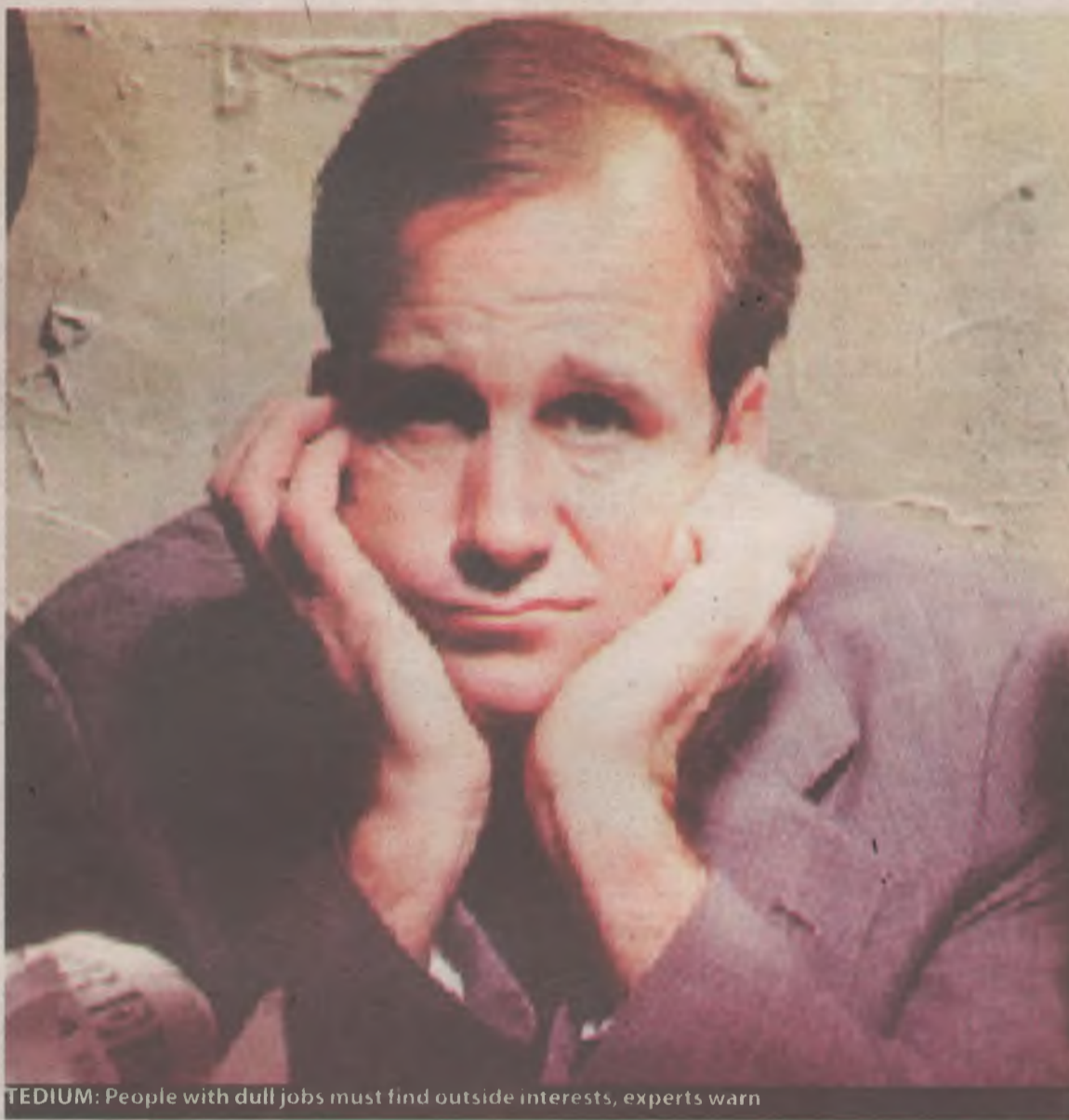
Psychologist Graham Price added: "It is important to distinguish between cause and effect. Are these people turning to drink and drugs because they are bored or because they have certain characteristics?

"For many people who are unmotivated or uninspired by life, or maybe have a tendency towards depression, the way out of it is to change their focus away from themselves and on to other people.

"From being all me, me, me, they should be thinking, what can I do for my family, my friends, my colleagues, even my boss."

The original survey found that one in ten civil servants had been bored within the past month, with women more than twice as likely than men to suffer. Younger employees and those with more menial jobs were also found to be more prone to boredom.

Those who reported feeling a great deal of boredom were 37 per cent more likely to have died by the end of the study.



TEDIUM: People with dull jobs must find outside interests, experts warn

Pushy parents 'should devote less time to their children and more to their marriage'



DESERT Island Discs host Kirsty Young believes pushy parenting is a "modern disease"

PUSHY parents should devote less time to their children and more to their marriage to ensure family wellbeing, according to a new book.

Children who receive too much attention from over-anxious "helicopter parents" who hover over them constantly will end up

demanding and dissatisfied, it claims.

Instead, parents should leave their children to forge their own path and instead focus on having a fulfilled marriage to provide them with a stable backdrop.

The advice comes from family therapist and *Wall Street Journal* writer David Code, in a new book entitled *To Raise Happy Kids, Put Your Marriage First*.

It is the latest addition to a continuing debate which has *Newsnight* presenter Kirsty Wark defend pushing parenting and *Desert Island Discs* host Kirsty Young condemn it as a "modern disease" where adults treat their offspring as "an extension of their own success".

Code argues that parents who channel all their energy into their children are not only doing themselves a disservice but their offspring too.

"Today's number one myth about parenting is that the more attention we give our kids, the better they'll turn out," he told *The Observer*. "But families centred on children create anxious, exhausted parents and demanding, entitled children. We parents today are too quick to sacrifice our lives and our marriages for our kids. Most of us have

created child-centred families, where our children hold priority over our time, energy and attention.

"But as we break our backs for our kids, our marriage and self-fulfilment go out the window while our kids become more demanding and dissatisfied."

He claimed that many modern ills faced by this generation of children can be put down to pushy parenting. "We parents convince ourselves that putting our children first is child-friendly, but we make two main mistakes by doing so," he said. "First, it becomes harder to respect and enforce the boundaries that shape a child's character, so he simply badgers his parents until he gets his way. Future bosses and spouses may not be so patient with this behaviour. "Second, we put tremendous pressure on our children to fulfil our emotional needs, which may lead to the child acting out. This draws even more attention to the problem, as parents seek a diagnosis and physicians increasingly rely on medicating children.

"What had been a molehill becomes a mountain, creating a self-fulfilling prophecy that can cripple the child's development."

And as the child becomes increasingly neurotic, he said, the marriage suffers.

"We often believe we just don't have time for our spouse. But when two parents drift apart, often one parent will drift closer to the kids," he said. "By killing ourselves to provide a perfect, trauma-free childhood for our children, we're wasting our energy. The greatest gift you can give your children is to have a fulfilling marriage yourself." Although they may prove controversial, Code is not alone in his views. Writer Ayelet Waldman told *The Observer* that she is still reeling from the public censure she experienced last year when she admitted that she loved her husband more than her children.

"I long for the day when an eminent sociologist publishes a definitive study of marriage where the parents openly admit they love each other desperately, ardently and even more than they love their children," said Waldman, author of *Bad Mother, a Chronicle of Maternal Crimes*.

"It would be wonderful if it could be established once and for all that the children of these marriages are more successful and have happier and healthier lives than children whose mothers focus their desires and passions on them."

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

Sign Language



This can't be true!
Photo location: Anchorage, Alaska, by Michael Bottrell
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.

81

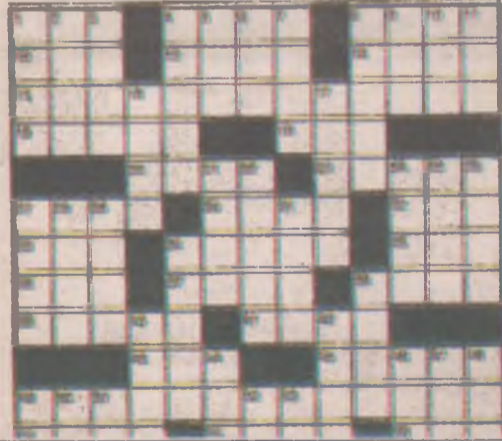
		9	7	4	2			
					4	5		
			3					6
	1			6		3	9	
		7	2	5	9	1		
	6	8		3			2	
4					3			
	2	1						
			9	7	4	5		

Solution to Sudoku 80

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

EASY CROSSWORDS

- ACROSS**
- 1. ___ Today
 - 4. Cherry-___
 - 8. Yard work
 - 12. Wood and wall
 - 13. Antique accessory
 - 14. Backless
 - 15. Baker's last holder (2 wds.)
 - 18. Delicacy
 - 19. Cakes
 - 20. Fashion
 - 23. Chalk oval
 - 27. Jimmy or Jerry & Jack
 - 30. Transfer
 - 31. Apart
 - 32. Bark
 - 33. Street (abbr.)
 - 34. Auction
 - 35. Mrs. in Title
 - 36. Car
 - 37. Mystery writer Gardner
 - 38. They're out on their
 - 39. Clean one's
 - 41. Pile over
 - 43. Mounds
 - 45. Art class
 - 46. George
 - 54. Lucas (pp. 13 wds.)
 - 55. Medical school
 - 56. The (ghost and his)
 - 58. That woman
 - 59. Additional unit
 - 60. Punctuated
 - 61. Put a trailer
 - 69. **69**
 - 7. Attack with
 - 8. David's
 - 9. ___ Chris
 - 10. Summer
 - 11. Baker's
 - 16. Grade
 - 17. Pressure
 - 21. Burn
 - 22. Felted
 - 24. Well St.
 - 25. Vamp
 - 26. Accountable
 - 27. Watery
 - 28. Exactly
 - 29. Musical
 - 31. Sink
 - 34. Movie (50)
 - 36. Potato
 - 39. Mashed
 - 40. Mashed
 - 44. Novel
 - 46. ___
 - 47. Mashed
 - 48. Short
 - 49. Lunch
 - 50. Ahi
 - 51. ___
 - 52. ___



Solution to Easy Crosswords

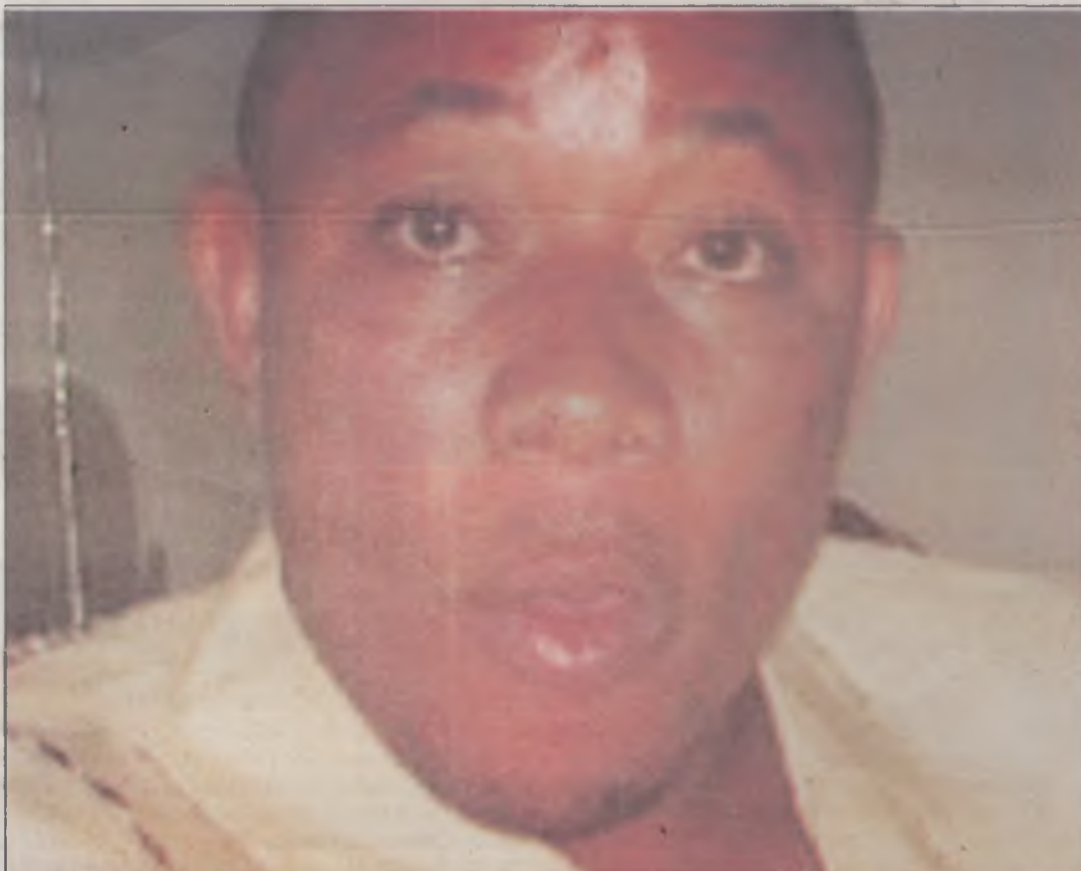
I	R	A	S	L	A	T	E	A	L	S
L	O	S	M	A	R	I	A	M	I	T
K	I	S	S	I	N	G	E	R	E	E
		I	R	K		R	A	N	U	P
D	R	I	N	K	S	W	I	G		
R	E	F	S	S	H	A	N	T	I	E
E	D	S	A	P	I	N	G	P	R	E
W	O	O	D	W	I	N	D	J	O	I
		N	E	T	S	A	I	D	E	D
A	L	I	A	S		A	L	L		
B	A	C	O	L	I	V	E	T	R	E
A	R	K	M	A	K	E	R	C	N	N
P	A	Y	E	X	E	R	T	A	G	E

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News Extra

Charles Taylor's son, Chuckie, ordered to pay N3.3bn compensation to torture victims

'Chuckie' Taylor is said to have laughed as prisoners were beaten and raped by his 'Demon Forces' paramilitaries



CHUCKIE Taylor



EL-HADJ Lamie Jasu Jake, president of the Association of War Victims and Amputee People arrives for the beginning of the trial of former Liberia president Charles Taylor at the Special Tribunal in Sierra Leone

The American-born son of former Liberian president Charles Taylor has been ordered to pay more than £14m (about N3.3 billion) in compensation to five people tortured during the West African country's civil war.

A judge in the US made the order a year after the same Miami court sentenced Charles McArthur Emmanuel Taylor, known as Chuckie, to 97 years in prison for his role in one of Africa's bloodiest chapters; he was the first person to be convicted by a federal court of committing offences outside the US.

The 32-year-old led the notorious Anti-Terrorist Unit, a band of pro-government paramilitaries nicknamed the Demon Forces who carried out murder and torture during his father's presidency from 1997 to 2003.

Witnesses at his criminal trial in 2008 spoke of hearing him laugh as prisoners were abused and how the Anti-Terrorist Unit "did things like beating people to death, burying them alive, rape - the most horrible kind of war crimes".

His father, Charles Taylor, is currently on trial at the Hague facing 11 counts of crimes against humanity. The former warlord's regime was accused of involve-



MAKE-SHIFT shelters of thousands of refugees who fled the war in Liberia at the Salala camp in central Liberia.

ment in murder, rape, gun running and diamond smuggling in both Liberia and neighbouring Sierra Leone. The trial - in which Taylor denies all the charges - has been going on since June 2007.

"Chuckie" Taylor was the result of a teenage romance when the former president was at college in Boston, Massachusetts, and lived in Florida with his mother until he was a teenager when he went to

live with his father in Liberia. He was first arrested on a fake passport charge at Miami airport in 2006 but later indicted under the 12-year-old anti-torture law, the first time it had been used.

This latest civil case heard that five Liberians had testified before the court that they had been tortured and abused by the Anti-Terrorist Unit.

They described being held in

jungle pits filled chest-high with water, being exposed to electric shocks to the genitals and other body parts and witnessing the killing of others by Taylor's men.

At the end of the civil trial last week, Taylor, who is currently in prison in Illinois, dismissed the torture allegations as deceptive propaganda.

However, human rights groups have welcomed this latest

ruling against him. They say it is a move that might serve as a warning to others who commit similar abuses that they will be held accountable for their actions.

A spokesman for United States immigration and customs enforcement said that it was a "clear message the US would not be a safe haven for human rights violators".

Culled from observer.co.uk

News Extra

Delayed tribute to Nelson Mandela

... Struggle to put his old law office to good use

The Johannesburg building that once housed Nelson Mandela's law firm is now a derelict squat. The BBC's *Andrew Harding* finds that long-stalled plans to turn it into a centre for black lawyers say a lot about the pace of change in modern South Africa.

George Bizos shuffles slowly across Fox Street, in the centre of Johannesburg. A lunchtime crowd is clogging the entrance of a shabby-looking cafe.

Mr Bizos slips inside - unnoticed at first. But within seconds there are nods and smiles of recognition.

The Chinese man behind the till is complaining about the criminals in the area.

"There's a derelict building on the next block. Chancellor House. It's full of criminals," he says sharply.

Mr Bizos' crumpled, 82-year-old back straightens - his barrister's instincts alerted.



GEORGE Bizos

"That house," he explains patiently, "is occupied by dozens of squatters who have no alter-

PIC: AFP



PEOPLE walk past a statue of Nelson Mandela Wednesday in a square honouring him at the entrance of a shopping mall in Sandton, Johannesburg. South Africa will, on Thursday, mark the 20th anniversary of Mandela's release from jail where he spent 27 years under white-minority rule.



THE building is now completely derelict

native accommodation. They should not be casually categorised as criminals."

It is a good 50 years now since Mr Bizos first bought lunch at this cafe.

He and his friend Nelson Mandela used to come at least once a week to grab a couple of pies and take them back to Mr Mandela's office around the corner.

As a white man, born in Greece, Mr Bizos could have eaten at the cafe. But in those days black people were not allowed to sit down here.

On the way out today, two men in workmen's clothes stop Mr Bizos and ask if they can shake his hand.

Historic place

One block down Fox Street, opposite the Magistrate's court, is the derelict, three-storey building the Chinese man was complaining about.

The walls are blackened by fire. Half a dozen young men are standing outside it. There is a strong smell of marijuana and rubbish.

"A lot of memories," says Mr Bizos, smiling at the crowd then slowly climbing the pitch-black stairwell of Chancellor House, up to the water-logged landing on the first floor.

At the far end, a makeshift door opens into what was once Mr Mandela's office - the very first black law firm in South Africa and a place that used to be besieged by clients.

Today it is occupied by a 38-year-old unemployed electrician, Dick Macomary, and his growing family.

There is a mattress on the floor, pots and pans, and some clothes drying by the boarded-up windows.

"Sorry," says Mr Macomary, clearing away some old newspapers. "It's a special place. I just

don't have the power to make it more nicely."

Mr Bizos looks around in the gloom. "If we brought Mr Mandela here now, it would break his heart," he says.

To the Mandela family, Mr Bizos is Uncle George. Although he is still very active as a human rights lawyer, he is often interrupted by telephone calls asking him to come to a house in the elegant northern suburb of

my lifetime - and his."

Mr Macomary nods enthusiastically. If only it were that simple.

The city council is supposed to offer alternative accommodation to the 60 or so people living in Chancellor House.

Money has at last been allocated. But still, the legal negotiations drag on. It has been a decade now.

Mr Bizos sighs. "This is not good for you, and it is not good for Mr Mandela. The city council has a reputation for being a little tardy, to say the least," he says. "It is almost a malaise. Nobody seems to take responsibility."

Mr Macomary works on the street outside washing cars. "I'm sure the future is bright for everyone," he says, then stops. "But maybe not for me. I don't have anything now. But my babies are going to get everything."

Mr Bizos shakes his hand and walks out.

Eternal optimist

I ask him if the fate of Chancellor House says something about modern South Africa. He cuts me dead: "I hate generalisations," he says.

To prove his point we walk east



MANDELA & Tambo: South Africa's first black law firm opened in 1952

Houghton.

That is where Nelson Mandela is in deep retirement - 10 years older than Mr Bizos, and now rarely seen in public.

Occasionally he slips out to attend a grandchild's graduation or to visit his home village near the coast. But he tires quickly, and his short-term memory is fading.

Honouring Mandela

Mr Bizos points to a corner of Dick Macomary's bedroom. "We want to put computers here, and a library over there," he says.

The plan is to turn Chancellor House into a legal resource centre for young black lawyers.

"Not a mausoleum, but something living," says Mr Bizos. "Something to honour Mr Mandela. I hope to see that happen in

along Fox Street towards the central business district.

"Look at this," he says, pointing at Main Street. "It used to be a slum. Now it's like a French boulevard with cafes on the pavements."

And it is true - large chunks of central Johannesburg are changing. The businesses that were chased out by crime in the 1990s are returning.

A group of lawyers standing outside the Magistrate's court all turn and smile at Mr Bizos as he walks past in the sunshine.

"I'm optimistic about South Africa," he says. "But you must bear in mind that I was optimistic in the 40s, and the 50s, and 60s, and so on. I have always been optimistic."



FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

No. 3 Abidjan Street Wuse Zone 3, Abuja.

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF PROJECT VEHICLES

INTRODUCTION:

The Federal Civil Service Commission intends to procure Project Vehicles to enhance its oversight and monitoring functions. To this end, the Commission wishes to invite interested accredited agents and dealers in Toyota Vehicles to apply for pre-qualification and tender for the award of the contract.

2. SCOPE OF WORK:

The scope of work consists of supply of the following brands of Toyota vehicles:

a. Toyota Coaster Bus

Specification:

Engine 1HZ, long Wheel Base, High Roof, Seating capacity 30, Overall length mm 6990, Overall width mm 2025, Overall height mm 2600, Air Condition, Petrol Engine, ABS, Reinforced Suspension, 2700cc, Reversed lamp with alarm.

b. Toyota Camry

Specification:

2.4 XLE, Automatic Transmission, key less entry, Inner wood finishing, ABS, Dual climate Air conditioner, CD changer/MP3 Adopted, leather Seat, Petrol Engine, 2400 cc.

c. Toyota Corolla

Specification:

1.8 litre 16 soupepes (2ZR-FE), Categorie N, Transmission 6MT/4AT, Type 4 Cylinders, avec Double VVT-i, Air Condition, Airbags, Alloy Wheels.

d. Toyota Hilux

Specification:

2.7VVT-i, 4 Wheel Drive, Double Cabine DLX, Air Condition, Petrol Engine, Reinforced Suspension, Airbags, Auxiliary gear.

3. PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Evidence of registration or incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission.
 - Evidence of valid tax clearance and VAT certificate for the past three (3) consecutive years.
 - Verifiable evidence of similar jobs executed in the past.
 - Bank reference from reputable bank(s).
 - Profile of the Company.
 - Evidence of dealership or Agency from Toyota Company.
 - Company's audited account for the past three (3) consecutive years.
4. Prospective contractors may wish to note that the officials of the Commission may undertake a visit to their premises to confirm the availability of the vehicles.

5. SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The pre-qualification documents should be submitted not later than 12.00 noon Monday 22nd February, 2010 in a sealed envelope marked on the right hand corner "Pre-qualification documents for the supply of project vehicles for the Federal Civil Service Commission" addressed to the Secretary, Ministerial Tenders Board, Federal Civil Service Commission, No. 3 Abidjan Street, Wuse Zone 3, Abuja.

6. The pre-qualification documents will be opened on 22nd February, 2010 at 1.00pm in the Committee Room Federal Civil Service Commission, Abuja. Companies or their representatives are advised to be seated before the opening.

7. TENDER PROCEDURE

Tenderers are required to pay non-refundable deposit of N25,000 in the Cash Office of the Commission and obtain a receipt. Tender documents are obtainable from the office of the Director, Planning, Research and Statistics, Room 345 upon presentation of evidence of pre-qualification and payment of stipulated fee.

8. SUBMISSION OF TENDER

Completed tenders should be returned in sealed envelope on or before 12 noon on 23rd February, 2010 clearly marked "Tender for the Supply of Project Vehicles for the Federal Civil Service Commission". Tenders will be opened at 1.00pm on 23rd February, 2010 in the Committee Room Federal Civil Service Commission, Abuja.

9. Please note that only contractors that are pre-qualified and found suitable will have their tenders considered for the award of the contract.

Signed:
MANAGEMENT

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

COUNTRY: NIGERIA

NAME OF PROJECT: KANO STATE EDUCATION SECTOR PROJECT

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

CREDIT NO: 4295- UNI

Project ID No: P096151

The Federal Government of Nigeria has applied for financing in the amount of US\$ 65mn equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of the Kano State Education Sector Project (SESP), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The project will include the following components: Procurement of Goods- Printing of various Training manuals and Procurement of Machineries; Works- Rehabilitation of Offices, Consultancy services-in various components which includes Schools and Teachers development, EMIS, Inspectorate, capacity building, M&E and Project Management.

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits* (May 2004. Revised October 1, 2006 edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines. Consulting services will be selected in accordance with the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers* (May 2004. Revised October 1, 2006 edition).

Specific Procurement Notices for contracts to be bid for under the World Bank's National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures and for contracts for consultancy services will be announced, as they become available, in *UN Development Business* and *dgMarket* as well as some technical magazines, newspapers and trade publications of wide international circulation and in Nigerian local newspapers].

Prequalification of suppliers and contractors will be required for the following contracts [Not Applicable to this Credit]

Interested eligible bidders who wish to be included on the mailing list to receive invitations to bid under NCB procedures, and interested consultants who wish to receive a copy of advertisement requesting expressions of interest for consultancy contracts, or those requiring additional information, should contact the address below:-

Project Support Unit Attention: Danlami Garba, The Project Coordinator

Kano State Education Sector Project (SESP),

Kano State Ministry of Education (SMOE)

3rd Floor, Gidan Murtala

Bayero University, Kano (BUK) Road,

PMB 3042

Kano,

Kano State, Nigeria.

Telephone: M 234 08037881377, 08029180333

Email: kano_sesp0709@yahoo.com

PROPERTY

property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

Kaduna River to get another bridge

THE daily traffic congestion commuters experience in Kaduna State while trying to cross River Kaduna into the city centre would soon disappear.

The Commissioner for Works and Housing, Alhaji Mohammed Sidi, who disclosed this to newsmen, said a new bridge would soon be built by the state government, add-

ing that consultancy work has already been done on the site for the bridge and in the first quarter of this year.

He noted that the contract would be awarded, he said, adding that the state inhabitants should be patient with the state government infrastructural development.

The chairman said, "the issue of another

bridge across river Kaduna keeps on re-occurring, and I will want to say that the master plan of Kaduna metropolis was last done in 1967 by Maxlock, a United Kingdom firm of development and town planning consultants.

"We invited Maxlock, they have reviewed the master plan that was last done in 1967 and a preliminary report has already been

submitted to the government; it is on that note that His Excellency has now directed that we should include the fourth bridge in our budget.

The design of the fourth bridge will be awarded this first quarter of the year 2010 and as soon as the design is completed, the construction will commence.

Fed Secretariat contractor gets March 31 completion deadline

By Nasir Imam

WORRIED by the inadequate office accommodation faced by several ministries, departments and agencies in the FCT, the FCT Minister, Sen. Adamu Aliero, last Friday gave the contractor handling the construction of the second phase of the Federal Secretariat complex in Abuja up till 31st March to complete the project.

The minister, who led a team comprising the minister of aviation and the head of the Bureau for Public Procurement, on a site inspection of the project site, however expressed satisfied with the, according to him, ninety-five

percent state of completion of the multi-storey edifice.

Contract for the project was awarded since 1991 at the cost of N6.2 billion to Bulet International (Nig.) Ltd.

Answering questions from journalists, Chairman of Bulet, Alh. Ismaila Isa Funtua, said his company and the visiting team were putting heads together to see that the building is ready for occupation.

Alh. Funtua, who said the major problem hindering the completion is the installation of the lifts, said his company will do everything possible to oblige to the deadline given by the client.



THE Federal Secretariat Phase 2 Complex, central area, Abuja, nearing completion

Coy launches radial off highway tyres

From Zakariyya Adaramola, Lagos

THE Management of Viramsun Nigeria Limited, sole distributors of Balkrishna otherwise known as BKT off-highway tyres has said the introduction of 'Earthmax' radial tyre profile to the BKT product range is a demonstration of the manufacturer's persistence and intensive market research to satisfy customers' growing demand for high profile off highway tyres.

BKT is the first Indian Tyre company to launch radial off highway tyres and the first Indian tyre manufacturer that would have its entire tyre range benchmarked with leaders in this category - a criterion that has distinguished the brand and reinforces the confidence of customers who had at different times fitted the product.

Pankaj Arora, general manager, Viramsun Nigeria Limited who made this pronouncement in Lagos said "BKT is committed to offering tyres that meet stringent specifications and custom-made development needs.

He however added that the BKT Earthmax radial off-highway tyre is a uniquely designed profile for stringent specifications, special research and development challenges as well as custom-made development needs in the agricultural, industrial and construction tyres' segment.

Mr. Arora recalled BKT's success story began in 1995 when it entered into the production of off-highway tyres and the subsequent introduction of niche segment tyre such as agricultural, construction, industrial, earth-mover ATV (All Terrain vehicle) and turf care applications.

Why we reviewed land charges downwards - Aliero

By Nasir Imam

THE crisis in the banking sector which has made it very difficult for Nigerians to get easy credit facility as well as the cry that trailed the increase of Abuja land charges by Nigerians informed the decision of the FCT Administration to recommend its downward review to the Federal Executive Council.

The FCT Minister, Senator Muhammad Adamu Aliero made this disclosure at the weekend while receiving the leadership of the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) led by its National President, Comrade Garba Muhammad that paid him a courtesy visit in his office.

The Minister said that the coming of Sunusi Lamido Sanusi as the Central Bank Governor exposed the rots in the banking sector which was heading for a ruin.

"The government never had information about the problems in the sector and would have been more horrible if not remedied now," he remarked.

According to him, "these rots in the banking sector have made it virtually impossible for Nigerians particularly investors to access soft bank facilities that would enable them easily pay for increased land charges and build houses in Abuja, so the reduction is just like stimuli to the economic."

Senator Aliero reiterated that as a democratically elected government accountable to the people, the cry of ordinary Nigerians and the advice of the National Assembly also propelled the FCT Administration to make downward review recommendation to the Federal Executive Council for subsequent approval.

He stressed that President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's administration is a listening government and would always endeavour to do whatever the people that gave him the mandate desire because government is all about social contract.

With this downward review in land charges, the Minister charge Abuja land lords to reflect this government magnanimity by reducing the rents being charged their tenants to enable the effect trickle down to the masses.

Senator Aliero seized the opportunity to present a Right of Occupancy of 50 hectares of land in Mabushi District of the Federal Capital City, to the National President of the NUJ, being a plot of land allocated to one of Union's subsidiaries, the International Institute of Journalism by the FCT Administration.

FERMA carries out vegetation control along Nasarawa roads

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

THE Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) has embarked on vegetation control to enhance visibility along the about 686 kilometers of federal roads running through the state.

Work began on the project in December, last year with seven contractors of the agency awarded various points of the federal roads in the state. These roads include Lafia-Shendam, Lafia-Doma, Makurdi-

Lafia-Akwanga, Akwanga-Keffi, Akwanga-Andaha, Keffi-Nasarawa Town and Keffi-Kaduna borders.

FERMA's Chief Maintenance Engineer, Engr. Useni Musa told Daily Trust yesterday that the contractors will soon deliver the project, adding that over 80 percent completion has been achieved so far.

Engr. Musa the contract specification entails cutting of grasses and trimming of trees to about three metres from the shoulders of the roads on both sides. He said the

tree trimming exercise entails the cutting off of overhanging branches that shoot into the road, providing an umbrella-like cover to the road, thereby clustering visibility on the highways.

He said he is satisfied with both the speed and quality of work on the project. "We are closely supervising the contractors and our assessment has shown that they meet the specifications. We are satisfied with the speed, also," Engr. Musa added.

The growth of grasses and tree branches

into the roads have always had visibility problems to drivers just as criminals especially armed robbers use them as veritable hideouts in their operations.

A motorist, James Adi told Daily Trust that the project has provided visibility aid especially during night times when overgrowing trees and grasses would compound the many bends on Nasarawa roads. "Now, at least a driver can see far ahead. This is good especially for night driving," Adi said.

CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513

email: citynews@dailytrust.com

News about your capital city

Drama as magistrate vacates arrest warrants on Ringim, lawyer

By Abubakar Yakubu

A mild drama took place Thursday morning in a case instituted by one Alhaji Atiku Hafiz Ringim against one Amina and two other ladies, when the chief magistrate declared her intention not to continue with the matter.

The drama began when Barrister Thomas Oko, the lawyer of Ringim (who is alleged to be a top police officer) wanted to introduce his case and was cut short by Chief Magistrate Josephine Obannor, who said both counsels were accusing her of bias and verbally vacated the arrest warrants placed on Ringim and his lawyer as well as said she is transferring the case to the central registry for re-assignment to another magistrate.

The applicant, Ringim, had on November 2009, filed the suit with number Cu/86/09, stating that he is the landlord and owner of Block 2, flat 3, Umme Street, Wuse Zone 1, Abuja.

The top police officer said he never entered into any tenancy agreement before three ladies occupied his building and accused them of partitioning the house and damaging the water pipes. He appealed to the court for the

immediate possession of the three bedrooms flat from the defendants and the payment of the rent arrears from August 2009 till the date judgement is given as well as the payment of the cost of the law suit.

When the hearing of the suit began in court, the chief magistrate was informed that the applicant's names, address and phone number inside his sworn application proved difficult to trace.

Amina's lawyer, Esther Uzoma, also told the court that her client's property were forcefully removed from the room she rented in the building by 10 armed policemen while the case was still being heard in court.

She said the eviction took place when Amina was on vacation to the village, adding that she does not know where her belongings are.

The lawyer then prayed that the court stopped further renovation of the property as what the plaintiff had done amounted to contempt of court.

Chief Magistrate Josephine Obannor then ordered that the action by the plaintiff (Ringim) by which the property of Amina was forcefully removed and taken away is no doubt criminal and

criminal contempt of the court.

She ordered for a bench warrant against the plaintiff and asked Amina to take immediate possession of the property, adding 'that the plaintiff should stop further renovation work pending the determination of the suit.

When the case came up on January 25, 2010, Ringim's lawyer, Barrister Thomas Oko, told the court that Amina's property were still in her apartment and there was no renovation work taking place in the building.

The magistrate then stepped down proceedings for an hour, so that a court official and the plaintiff's lawyer could go to the said house to observe what was happening there.

When the court official returned, he was put in the box to give his testimony and he said Amina's property were not in the apartment, while renovation work was going on in the place.

Chief Magistrate Obannor then asked the plaintiff's lawyer if he wanted to cross-examine the court official and he declined, which prompted the magistrate to order for the immediate arrest of the lawyer for trying to mislead the court.

Pastor remanded over N25m fraud

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A middle-aged pastor, accused of using a fake micro-finance bank to defraud unsuspecting persons, was recently remanded in prison custody by an Abuja magistrate court for over N25 million frauds.

The pastor, Kalu Ezera of Kubwa village, Abuja, was accused of conniving with two others, now at large, to commit the offence last year.

Prosecutor Sani Yakubu had earlier informed the court that on January 18, 2010, one Dele Usman and Henry Ifejika jointly petitioned the FCT police commissioner alleging that the accused defrauded them.

"The accused and two others now at large defrauded the complainants by collecting money amounting to N25 million under the guise of operating one Alpha Trust Multipurpose Cooperative Society," the prosecutor added.

He further told the court that after collecting the money from the complainants, the accused person converted it to his own use, adding that the accused committed offences punishable under Sections 79, 312 and 322 of the Penal Code Law.

"During police investigations, it was revealed that the accused dishonestly presented some none existing names as members of his cooperative society to obtain a license from the Abuja Municipal Area Council," the prosecutor disclosed.

When the charges were read to the accused, he denied them and applied for bail, which was opposed by the prosecutor, who asked the court to remand the accused pending the time the police will complete investigations on the case.

Chief Magistrate Hafsat Soso ordered that the accused be remanded in prison custody and adjourned the case to March 2 for hearing.

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Plot 2001 Michael Okpara Street, Zone 5 Wuse Abuja.

Tel: 08026412099, 08063706393, 07028162927, 08037451148

PDP flags off campaign at Kwali

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THE Kwali Area Council chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) at the weekend flagged off its campaign rally with the presentation of Mr Danlami Saleh Yebu as the party's flag bearer during the forth coming council's election.

The rally witnessed the decamping of about 2,700 members of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) that consisted of ward chairmen and a former House of Representatives candidate, Barrister Enoch Etsu.

FCT PDP Chairman, Alhaji Alhassan Gwagwa, commended them for pitching their tents with the ruling PDP, noting that the party has been providing democratic dividends to people in the grass root.

The chairman, who was represented by his vice, Habila Bwambwa, urged the new members to be committed at all times and to offer advice on decisions that will make the party win the forth-coming council polls.

Speaking on behalf of the new party members, Barrister Enoch Etsu, said their decision to join PDP was as a result of some undemocratic processes adopted in the ANPP that forced them out of the party.

According to him, ANPP has two chairmanship aspirants in the council and later imposed a candidate on them with out allowing party executives to take any decision, which caused a faction within the party.

Barrister Etsu said he was a one time pioneer chairman of PDP in the council from 1998 till 2003, when he joined the ANPP, adding that the incumbent chairman of the council, Mr Danlami Saleh Yebu is providing meaningful social amenities and enhancing peace in the council.

Reacting, the acting Chairman of Kwali council, Mr. Danlami Saleh Yebu urged the new members not to be deceived by the opposition but to sacrifice their energies for the party's success in the forth coming election.

FCTA to shut newly opened Chelsea Hotel

By Nasir Imam

THE Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) is set to close down the newly opened multi-million naira branch of Chelsea Hotel located in the Central Business District of Abuja for violating various environmental laws.

AEPB Director, Dr. AbubaKar Yabo, who dropped this hint, said the hotel has no Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) form from the board as well as building plan approval from the FCT Department of Development Control.

He noted that the hotel would be closed

down for that reason as it was not supposed to be sited where it is located in the first instance.

The director said the hotel is located on a junction, where there are no provisions for parking spaces, which he noted causes traffic jams when the hotel's customers park their vehicles on the road.

Meanwhile, the board has warned the residents of House 108 Aminu Kano Crescent, Wuse 2, of their generator that causes environmental pollution with its smoke killing flowers around the area.

The board also impounded a tipper and arrested its driver at Wuse 2 for digging sand in an area that could cause erosion.

Challenges of social development in FCT

By Abubakar Yakubu & Abubakar Sadiq Isah

RESIDENTS of the Federal Capital Territory have continued to praise officials of the Social Development Secretariat of the FCT for their renewed posture in attacking the issue of destitute and beggars that are caught contravening the begging laws of the territory.

During the past FCT administrations of Mallam Nasir el-Rufai and Dr Aliyu Moddibo, it was common sight to see trucks parked at street corners with law enforcement officials chasing beggars and throwing them into vehicles for onward deportation to their respective states without help.

In some cases, some of the beggars, who consisted of women and children, were detained for some days under harsh conditions.

A beggar, Mustapha Talib, said the present FCT administration of Senator Adamu Aliero appears to be more humane and he praised the head of the Social Development Secretariat of the FCT, Barrister Habiba Sani Kalgo for her human feelings.

Barrister Kalgo, who has enjoyed tremendous support from the FCT minister in carrying out her programmes, frowns at situations where beggars are evacuated from the territory and dumped in their respective states as it is done in Lagos State.

She said it will be more decent if state governments send people to take their indigenes that are beggars back.

According to her, in a bid to stop the influx of beggars into the territory, letters have been written to governments of northern states so that the issue can be properly deliberated upon and a position paper adopted in stopping the practice.

Barrister Kalgo also suggested that state governments will be advised to establish well furnished beggar's centres to accom-



FROM left: Wife of FCT Minister Hajiya Zainab Adamu Aliero and Barrister Habiba Sani Kalgo, Secretary, FCT Social Development Secretariat, during the commissioning of Unity Orphanage Home at Gwagwalada on Thursday.

modate their indigenes that are brought back from the FCT in order for them to learn vocational skills that will empower them economically as well as make them leave begging.

The social development secretariat according to her, has secured land to accommodate beggars that are apprehended for breaking FCT laws against begging.

She said those arrested will be properly accommodated and served food and drinks before being taken to their respective states.

Barrister Kalgo has also informed that boxes for alms will be provided in public places such as Mosques, Churches, schools, filling stations and malls

so that the amount collected can, be distributed to the needy with the help of leaders of the Christian Association of Nigeria and Jama'atu Nasarul Islam.

Last Thursday, the FCT Minister of State, Chief Chuka Odom, commissioned the opening of FCT Unity Home of the Orphanage at Gwako village, in Gwagwalada Area Council.

Odom, while commissioning the home, observed that the two measures of civilization of anybody, is their ability to cater for the weak and the vulnerable members of their communities, which consists of orphans.

He said the plight and challenges of children in such categories are for them to be accepted as equal members of the society.

Earlier in her welcome address, Barrister Kalgo, said the commissioning of the home was part of the FCT Social Development Secretariat's strategy to provide social services that has direct bearing on the lives of residents, particularly orphans and vulnerable children.

According to her, the operations of orphanages in the FCT have largely been in private hands over the years, which she said is a great concern to the FCT administration, especially with the influx of people into the FCT with attendant increase in orphan children as well as those forced into destitution.

Structures in the orphanage were named after Senator Abubakar D. Sodangi, late Mrs. Julie

Useni, Hajiya Zainab Adamu Aliero, Mrs. Maryam Babangida, Mrs. Adaku Chuka Odom and Mrs. Bolanle Onagoruwa.

Our reporters learnt that the home apart from orphans also accommodates the less privilege, especially widows.

Some residents appealed to the social development to also come out with an action plan for street hawkers, especially the children among them, so that they are kept of the road.

Isaac Monday, a resident said some of the child hawkers are brought from the villages and made to sell sachet water without any concern for their education.

"Such children need to be helped so that they can have bright futures," he said.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA ON THE 12th FEBRUARY, 2010
BEFORE THE HON. CHIEF JUSTICE, JUSTICE L.M. GUMARI

BETWEEN
THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF
NIGERIA

SUIT NO. FCT/ABU/MISC/1980

AND
1. HON. MINISTER FEDERAL CAPITAL
TERRITORY (Joined by order of court of 11/8/09)
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANTS

COURT ORDER

Upon reading the motion ex-parte and the accompanying affidavit of CORNELIUS OKOLI and upon hearing O. USHEDI with T.E. EPHIGBE praying this Hon. Court for the following Order:-

- (1) An Order granting leave to Plaintiff/Applicant to effect the service of the writ of summons, the Statement of Claim and all other Court Processes filed in this suit and such other court process that may be filed in this suit on the 2nd Defendant by way of substituted means to wit by leaving same with an adult inmate at the property in dispute known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja, or by posting same/posting same on the property.
- (2) AN ORDER deeming such mode of service as proper and effective in law.
- (3) Any Order or Orders as this court may deem fit to make in this circumstance of this application.

It is hereby ordered as follows:

The application is hereby granted as prayed. Leave is hereby granted to the Plaintiff/Applicant to serve the writ of summons and all other process filed and to be filed in the matter by publishing same in a single publication in the Daily Trust Newspaper and such service will be deemed as good and effective service on the 2nd defendant. The matter is adjournment to the 18/2/2010 for hearing. Hearing notice to be served on the defendants.

Given under the hand and seal of this Hon. Court.



HON. JUSTICE L.M. GUMARI, C.F.J.
CHIEF JUSTICE



FORM 2
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AND DISTRICT COURTS OF
F.C.T. ABUJA OF NIGERIA
(Under 3 Rule 7)

HEARING NOTICE

Between THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF NIGERIA
VS
HON. MINISTER OF F.C.T. AND FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

To FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

the above named HON. COURT NO. 028, MOUNTAIN ROAD

This cause will be transferred from the General Cause List to the Hearing Paper for HEARING

The 12th day of Feb 2010

At 9.00 a.m. which is the forenoon, and will continue to be heard on that day if the business of the Court permits or on any other day which you will receive no further notice.

If either party desires to postpone the hearing for some day to the court as soon as possible for that purpose, and if the application is based on any matter of fact, he must be prepared to give proof of those facts.

The parties are warned that at the hearing they are required to bring forward all the evidence by witness or by documents which each of them desires to rely on in support of their case and to communicate that of the substance. The court will not be bound by the hearing, and on a subsequent day, and neither failing to bring their evidence forward at the proper time nor that the court will not be bound by the evidence if at all, or at least only allowed to do so on payment of substantial costs to the other side, and on such other terms as the court think fit to impose.

Provisional orders for interim relief require proof. It is the responsibility of the applicant to establish the facts on which such relief is sought. If the applicant is required to bring forward or produce, they must participate in the costs of such evidence.

Any party representing a witness through the Court, thereby becoming liable to pay such witness a reasonable sum of money to be fixed by the court, for his expenses and loss of time.

The court may refuse to enforce the attendance of a witness unless such sum has been first deposited in the court.

If either party desires to see in evidence at the hearing any book or document in the possession or power of the other party, he must give the other party reasonable notice in writing to produce it at the hearing, failing which he will not be allowed to give any evidence in support of his case.

Dated at F.C.T. COURT NO. 028, on 2nd day of Feb 2010

GENERAL FORM OF WRIT OF SUMMONS
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA

SUIT NO:CV/722/09

BETWEEN
THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF
NIGERIA

PLAINTIFF

AND
1. HON. MINISTER FEDERAL CAPITAL
TERRITORY
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
(Joined by order of court of 11/08/09)
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS

DEFENDANTS

TO:
1. HONOURABLE MINISTER OF F.C.T.
HONOURABLE MINISTER'S OFFICE
FCDA, AREA II,
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL,
Plot 22, Road, 1, College Road,
Ungwan Dosa Ext.
Near Legislators Quarters Kaduna.
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS
NO. 8 ADEKUNLE FAJUYI
CLOSE, OFF AJAYI CROWTHER,
ASOKORO,
ABUJA.

You are hereby commanded that within eight days after the service of this Writ on you, inclusive of the day of such service, you do cause an appearance to be entered for you in an

Amended writ - N50 - 2/10/2009
Amended statement of claim - N50 - 2/10/2009
Pre-hearing conference on 18/2/2010 - N50 - 2/10/2009
R.I.W.

By order of the Court2009

Summons.....
Services.....
Mileage.....
Transport.....
Others.....
Total.....

MEMORANDUM TO BE SUBSCRIBED ON THE WRIT

NB: This Writ is to be served within twelve calendar months from the date thereof, or if duly completed, at the Registry of the High Court of the Judicial Division in which the action is to be brought or by sending them to the Registrar by registered post.

ENDORSEMENT TO BE MADE ON THE WRIT BEFORE ISSUE THEREOF.

The plaintiff claims against the defendant the following reliefs:-

- 1. A DECLARATION that the Plaintiff is the rightful owner and therefore entitled to possession, beneficial ownership and use of the plot of land known as Plot No.63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- 2. A DECLARATION that any purported revocation or reallocation of the Plaintiff's parcel of land known as Plot 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980, and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja] by the 1st Defendant to the 2nd Defendant or to any person is null and void and of no effect whatsoever as same is done in flagrant violation of the mandatory provisions of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999.
- 3. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant cannot in law divest, confiscate or acquire the plaintiff's parcel of land to wit Plot No. 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], and the purported reallocation of same without compliance with the mandatory requirements of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- 4. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant's continuous encroachment on the Plaintiff's plot of land known as Plot No.63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], constitutes trespass in law.
- 5. AN ORDER of perpetual injunction restraining the Defendants either by themselves, agents, servants, privies or through any person(s) however described from further disturbing, interfering or trespassing on the Plaintiff's land situate, being and being at Plot No. 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- 6. AN ORDER of the court compelling the Defendants to give to the Plaintiff possession of the said land in dispute known as Plot No. 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres same duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- 7. The sum of N50,000,000 (Fifty Million Naira) as damages for act of trespass committed against the Plaintiff by the 2nd Defendant in respect of the Plot No. 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.176, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- 8. The sum of N10,000,000 (Ten Million Naira) being the litigation cost.

Dated this 28th day of May, 2009

[Signature]
Uehenna Uche Esq.
Ibrahim Ideis & Co.
(ALOAYE CHAMBERS)
Suite 316, Anbeez Plaza
Opp. Corporate Affairs Commission
Plot 2121 Ndola Square
Wuse zone 5,
Abuja.

FOR SERVICE:

- 1. Honourable Minister of Federal Capital Territory
Honourable Ministers office
FCDA, Area 11
Abuja.
- 2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Plot 22, Road, 1, College Road,
Ungwan Dosa Ext.
Near Legislators Quarters,
Kaduna.
- 3. UNKNOWN PERSONS
No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi
Close, Off Ajayi Crowther,
Asokoro,
Abuja

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA

SUIT NO:CV/722/09

BETWEEN

THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF
NIGERIA

PLAINTIFF

AND

1. HON. MINISTER FEDERAL, CAPITAL TERRITORY
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (joined by order of court of 11/05/09)
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS

DEFENDANTS

STATEMENT OF CLAIM

1. The Plaintiff is an Islamic organization or foundation registered as a corporate body with Corporate Affairs Commission under Part C of the Companies And Allied Matters Act, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1999.
2. The Plaintiff has her Corporate Office at No.1 Iyaka Road, Off Zaria Road, Kano, and she has consistently maintained her contact postage address as P.M.B. 3193 Kano, to the knowledge of the 1st Defendant and his agents.
3. The statutory registration of the Plaintiff aforesaid was effected on the 2nd day of January, 1982. The Plaintiff shall found on the Certificate of Incorporation during the hearing of this suit.
4. The 1st Defendant is charged, among other duties, with the statutory duty or power to allocate lands to prospective land allottees within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.
5. The 2nd Defendants are cronies of the erstwhile Minister of the F.C.T Mallam Nasir El-Rufai and are currently trespassing on the Plaintiff's land.
6. The Plaintiff avers that sometime in 1989, and in realization of her objectives, applied to the office of the Honourable Minister, Federal Capital Territory, for an allotment of a plot of land.
7. The Plaintiff avers that the demand or application for the aforesaid land was to enable the Plaintiff erect an Islamic School and Mosque.
8. The Plaintiff avers that the 2nd Defendant, in response to the Plaintiff's application, on the 1st day of July, 1989, vide a letter dated 16/6/89, conveyed a Right Of Occupancy to the Plaintiff over a parcel of land measuring 2825.89 Square Meters situate or located within Asokoro District, Federal Capital Territory. The Plaintiff shall found on a copy of the said letter dated 16/6/89, during the hearing of this suit.
9. The Plaintiff avers that the aforesaid grant (Right of Occupancy) has an effective date of 16/2/89 to 15/2/2088.
10. Upon the said Grant, the Plaintiff fulfilled all the conditions and terms contained in the said Right of Occupancy which included the prompt payment of all the necessary fees and charges as itemized in the letter of Grant.
11. It was upon satisfactory fulfillment of the conditions aforesaid that the 1st Defendant on the 30/01/90 caused a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued in favour of the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff shall found on a copy of the Certificate of Occupancy during the hearing of this suit.
12. The Plaintiff avers that immediately the aforesaid land was allocated to her, she immediately exercised her right of possession by erecting a fence to secure the said land.
13. As a precondition for development of lands within the Federal Capital Territory, the Plaintiff applied to the office of the 1st Defendant for Approval to develop the land in issue.
14. The 1st Defendant granted the Plaintiff Development Approval vide a letter dated 6th Sept., 1996. The Plaintiff hereby pleads a copy of the Development Approval.
15. The Plaintiff avers that owing to dearth of infrastructural facilities to service the location of the land, immediate development of the Plaintiff land could not take place.
16. The Plaintiff avers that sometime in January, 1997, she received a letter, through her mail box, P.M.B. 3193, Kofa Mata, Kano, from the office of the Revenue Consultants to Federal Capital Territory, a unit under the 1st Defendant's control or authority. The said letter was a demand Notice for Outstanding Ground Rent in respect of the Plaintiff's land.
17. The Plaintiff immediately paid the assessed Ground rent accordingly. The Plaintiff shall found on receipts evidencing the said payments during the hearing of this suit.
18. On 14/07/05, the 1st Defendant office caused another letter titled "Demand For Ground Rent" to be addressed to the Plaintiff vide her postal address above. As the title suggested, it was a demand for the Plaintiff to settle her outstanding rents. The Plaintiff shall found on the said letter during the hearing of this suit.
19. In response to the 1st Defendant's request aforesaid, the Plaintiff paid the assessed Ground Rent accordingly. The Plaintiff shall found on receipt evidencing the payments during the hearing of this suit.
20. The Plaintiff avers that all the assessed Ground Rents were duly paid. The Plaintiff shall found on copies of receipts evidencing payment of Ground Rents.
21. The Plaintiff avers that in the wake of the Federal Capital Territory Administration's re-certification programme through the Abuja Geographical Information Systems (AGIS), the Plaintiff submitted the said Certificate of Occupancy to AGIS.
22. The Plaintiff avers that AGIS duly acknowledged receipt of the said Certificate of Occupancy vide a letter of acknowledgement dated 3/10/05. The Plaintiff shall found on a copy of the said letter of acknowledgement during the hearing of this case.
23. The Plaintiff avers that the Plaintiff's trustees /official are all aged and resident outside the F.C.T., Abuja.
24. As a result of the place of residence of the trustees/officials aforesaid, the trustees/officials do pay occasional visits to the land in dispute whenever they are in Abuja to ensure that no person trespasses on the said land.
25. The Plaintiff avers that on one of such visits to the land in late November 2008, the Plaintiff discovered that an unknown person has unlawfully entered and commenced construction of a building on the land.
26. The Plaintiff avers that an inquiry from the men working on the land as to the identity of who engaged them proved abortive.
27. The Plaintiff avers whilst the men refused to unveil the identity of the person trespassing on the Plaintiff's land, they hinted the Plaintiff that the person constructing the land is highly placed and has been to the land with the erstwhile Minister of F.C.T. Mal. Nasir El-Rufai on several occasions.
28. The Plaintiff's trustees/officials decided to engage some persons to lay siege or ambush at the land with a view to ascertaining the identity of the intruder.
29. The Plaintiff avers that it became apparent that the 2nd Defendant got wind of the Plaintiff's motive and started accelerating the building or construction of the building under the premise that the 1st Defendant allocated the said land to him.
30. Owing to the ongoing judicial strike the Plaintiff remained helpless while the 2nd Defendant continued with his unlawful and detestable act.
31. The Plaintiff shall contend during hearing that her title over the land in dispute is by law and under the Constitution of the Federation intact as at no time whatsoever was any purported revocation of same communicated to the Plaintiff.

32. The Plaintiff shall contend further that any purported allocation of the Plaintiff's land to the 2nd Defendant by the 1st Defendant is wrongful, illegal and unconstitutional.

33. WHEREFORE the Plaintiff claims against the Defendants as follows:

- a. A DECLARATION that the Plaintiff is the rightful owner and therefore entitled to possession, beneficial ownership and use of the plot of land known as Plot No.63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- b. A DECLARATION that any purported revocation or reallocation of the plaintiff's parcel of land known as Plot 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980, and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja] by the 1st defendant to the 2nd defendant or to any person is null and void and of no effect whatsoever as same is done in flagrant violation of the mandatory provisions of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999.
- c. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant cannot in law divest, confiscate or acquire the plaintiff's parcel of land to wit: Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], and the purported reallocation of same without compliance with the mandatory requirements of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- d. A DECLARATION that the 2nd defendant's continuous encroachment on the plaintiff's plot of land known as Plot No.63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], constitutes trespass in law.
- e. AN ORDER of perpetual injunction restraining the defendants either by themselves, agents, servants, privies or through any person(s) however described from further disturbing, interfering or trespassing on the plaintiff's land known as Plot No. 63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres same duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- f. AN ORDER of the court compelling the defendants to give to the plaintiff possession of the land known as Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres same duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- g. The sum of N50,000,000 (Fifty Million Naira) as damages for act of trespass committed against the Plaintiff by the 2nd Defendant in respect of the land known as Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 and bound by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.174 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
- h. The sum of N10, 000,000 (Ten Million Naira) being the litigation cost.

Dated this 28th day of March 2009

IBRAHIM IDRIS Esq.
Solicitor & Co.
(ALCOVE CHAMBERS)
Suite 216, Anbes Plaza
Opp. Corporate Affairs Commission
Plot 2121 Ndola Square
Wuse zone 5,
Abuja.

FOR SERVICE:

1. Honourable Minister of Federal Capital Territory
Honourable Ministers office
FCDA, Area 11
Abuja.
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Plot 22, Road, 1, College Road,
Ungwan Dosa Ext.
Near Legislators Quarters,
Kaduna.
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS
No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi
Close, Off Ajayi Crowther,
Asokoro,
Abuja

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA

SUIT NO:CV/722/09

BETWEEN

THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF
NIGERIA

PLAINTIFF

AND

4. HON. MINISTER FEDERAL CAPITAL
TERRITORY
5. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
(Joined by order of court of 11/05/09)
6. UNKNOWN PERSONS

DEFENDANTS

WITNESS STATEMENT ON OATH OF
ALHAJI MUAZU SHUAIBU

ALHAJI MUAZU SHUAIBU, Male, Muslim, Nigerian, of Islamic Foundation of Nigeria, Kano State, Nigeria, do hereby make oath and state as follows:-

1. That I am the Secretary of the ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF NIGERIA, the Plaintiff in this suit.
2. That I am familiar with the facts and circumstances of this case by virtue of my position aforesaid.
3. That I have the consent and authority of other trustees to depose to this statement, for and on their behalf.
4. That I make this statement as my evidence on oath in support of the Plaintiff's pleadings filed before this Honourable Court.
5. That the pieces of evidence set out herein are either from my own direct knowledge or derived from the relevant documents in possession of the Plaintiff.
6. That the Plaintiff is an Islamic organization or foundation duly registered as a corporate body with Corporate Affairs Commission under Part C of the Companies and Allied Matter Act, Law of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.
7. That I know as a fact that the Plaintiff has her Corporate Office at No.1 Iyaka Road, Off Zaria Road, Kano.
8. That the Plaintiff has consistently maintained her contact postage address as P.M.B.3193 Kano, to the knowledge of the 1st Defendant and his agents.
9. That the 2nd Defendants are cronies of the erstwhile Minister of the FCT Mallam Nasir El-Rufai and are currently trespassing on the Plaintiff's land.
10. That sometime in 1989, and in realization of her objectives, the Plaintiff applied to the office of the Honourable Minister, Federal Capital Territory, for an allotment of a Plot of land.
11. That the demand or application for the aforesaid land was to enable the Plaintiff erect an Islamic School and Mosque.
12. That the 2nd Defendant, in response to the Plaintiff's application, on the 19th day of July, 1989, vide a letter dated 16/06/89, conveyed a Right of Occupancy to the Plaintiff over a parcel of land measuring 2825.89 Square meters situated or located within Asokoro District, Federal Capital Territory.
13. That the Plaintiff avers that the aforesaid grant (Right of Occupancy) has an effective date of 16/02/89 to 15/02/2088.
14. That upon the said Grant, the Plaintiff fulfilled all the conditions and terms contained in the said Right of Occupancy which included the prompt payment of all necessary fees and charges as itemised in the letter of grant.
15. That it was upon satisfactory fulfillment of the conditions aforesaid that the 1st Defendant on the 10/01/90 caused a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued in favour of the Plaintiff.
16. That the Plaintiff avers that immediately the aforesaid land was allocated to her, she immediately exercised her right of possession by erecting a fence to secure the said land.
17. That as a precondition for development of lands within the Federal Capital Territory, the Plaintiff applied to the office of the 1st Defendant for Approval to develop the land in issue.
18. That the 1st Defendant granted the Plaintiff Development Approval vide a letter dated 6th Sept., 1996.
19. That the Plaintiff avers that owing to dearth of infrastructural facilities to service the location of the land, immediate development of the Plaintiff's land could not take place.
20. That the Plaintiff avers that sometime in January, 1997, she received a letter through her mail box, P.M.B. 3129, Kofa Mata, Kano, from the office of the Revenue Consultants to Federal Capital Territory, a unit under the 1st Defendant's control or authority. By the content of the said letter, the Plaintiff was asked to pay the outstanding Ground Rent accrued on the land. The Plaintiff immediately paid the assessed Ground Rents accordingly.
21. That on the 14/07/05, the 1st Defendant office caused another letter titled "Demand for Ground Rent" to be addressed to the Plaintiff vide her postal address above. As the title suggested, it was a demand for the Plaintiff to settle her outstanding rents.
22. That in response to the 1st Defendant's request aforesaid, the Plaintiff paid the assessed Ground Rent accordingly.
23. That the Plaintiff avers that in the wake of the Federal Territory Administration's re-certification programme through the Abuja geographical Information Systems (AGIS), the Plaintiff submitted the said Certificate of Occupancy to AGIS.
24. That the Plaintiff avers that AGIS duly acknowledged receipt of the said Certificate of Occupancy vide a letter of Acknowledgement dated 3/10/05.
25. That the Plaintiff avers that the Plaintiff's trustees /officials are all aged and resident outside the F.C.T., Abuja.
26. That as a result of the place of resident of the trustees/officials aforesaid, the trustees/officials do pay occasional visits to the land in dispute whenever they are in Abuja to ensure that no person trespasses on the said land.
27. That on one of such visits to the land in late November 2008, the Plaintiff discovered that an unknown person has unlawfully entered and commenced construction of a building on the land.
28. That an inquiry from the men working on the land as to the identity of who engaged them proved abortive.
29. That whilst the men refused to unveil the identity of the person trespassing on the Plaintiff's land, they hinted the Plaintiff that the person constructing the land is highly placed and has been to the land with the erstwhile Minister of F.C.T. Mal. Nasir El-Rufai on several occasions.
30. That the Plaintiff's trustees/officials decided to engage some persons to lay siege or ambush at the land with a view to ascertaining the identity of the intruder.
31. That it became apparent that the 2nd Defendant got wind of the Plaintiff's motive and started accelerating the building or construction of the building under the premise that the 1st Defendant allocated the said land to him.
32. That owing to the ongoing judicial strike at the material time the Plaintiff remained helpless while the 2nd Defendant continued with his unlawful and detestable acts.
33. That at no time, whatsoever, did the 1st Defendant or his agents notify the Plaintiff of any revocation of her Certificate of Occupancy over the land in dispute.
34. WHEREFORE the Plaintiff claims against the defendants as follows:

2. A DECLARATION that the purported revocation or reallocation of the Plaintiff's parcel of land known as Plot 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980, and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Asokoro, Abuja] by the 1st Defendant to the 2nd Defendant or to any person is null and void and of no effect whatsoever as same is done in flagrant violation of the mandatory provisions of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999.
3. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant cannot in law divest, confiscate or acquire the Plaintiff's parcel of land to wit; Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.150, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], and the purported reallocation of same without compliance with the mandatory requirements of the Land Use Act, 1978 and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
4. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant's continuous encroachment on the Plaintiff's plot of land known as Plot No.63 located or situate within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 and back to the starting point [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja], constitutes trespass in law.
5. AN ORDER of perpetual injunction restraining the Defendants either by themselves, agents, servants, privies or through any person(s) howsoever described from further disturbing, interfering or trespassing on the Plaintiff's land situate, lying and being at Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres same duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
6. AN ORDER of the court compelling the Defendants to give to the Plaintiff possession of the said land known as Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres same duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC. 1980 and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
7. The sum of N50,000,000 (Fifty Million Naira) as damages for act of trespass committed against the Plaintiff by the 2nd Defendant in respect of the Plot No. 63 located or situated within Cadastral Zone AO4 Asokoro District, measuring 2825.89 square metres duly covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. FCT/ABU/MISC.1980 and bounded by property beacons Nos. PB.161, PB.160, PB.159, PB.158, PB.167, PB.166, PB.165, PB.173, PB.172, PB.171, PB.179, PB.178, PB.177, PB.194 and PB.191 [Now known as No. 8 Adekunle Fajuyi Close, Off Ajayi Crowther, Asokoro, Abuja].
8. The sum of N10, 000,000 (Ten Million Naira) against the 2nd Defendant being the litigation cost.

Sworn to at the F.C.T., High Court
Registry Abuja, this 28th day of May, 2009

DEPONENT

BEFORE ME
COMMISSIONER FOR OATH

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA

SUIT NO:CV/722/09

BETWEEN

THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF
NIGERIA

PLAINTIFF

AND

1. HON. MINISTER FEDERAL CAPITAL
TERRITORY
2. FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
(Joined by order of court of 11/05/09)
3. UNKNOWN PERSONS

DEFENDANTS

PRE-ACTION COUNSELLING CERTIFICATE ORDER 4 RULE 17

I, Ibrahim Idris Esq., Legal Practitioner of Ibrahim Idris & Co., solicitors to the plaintiff have gone through the facts of the case of the said plaintiff and on my honour have appropriately counseled her on the strength of her case or otherwise and should this turn out to be frivolous, I am prepared to be liable as per the provisions of the Rules of this Court.

Dated this 28th day of May, 2009

IBRAHIM IDRIS ESQ
Ibrahim Idris & Co.
Suite 316, Anbec Plaza,
Plot 2121 Ndofa Square,
Wuse Zone 5,
Abuja.

FOR ISLAMIC FOUNDATION
OF NIGERIA.



VACANCIES



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION BUREAU

(1)

Post /Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BAGASOO (Establishment of Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization)

Post Number: 12-01

Duty Station: Abuja, Nigeria (with missions to the BAG Member States (Banjul Accord Group) Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, and Sierra Leone)

Duration: 12 months

Date Required: 1 January 2010

Requirements:

The Executive Director is responsible for providing strong leadership for the BAGASOO. He/she will lead by example, setting clear strategies and performance expectations developed in an environment of participation and collaboration with senior management of aviation stakeholders including Directors General of Civil Aviation Administrations and service providers within the Banjul Accord Group sub-region.

The ideal candidate would be an experienced Executive with particular strengths in program development and management, and have the ability to mobilize and work with aviation stakeholders within and outside the BAG region. This individual would be highly organized, energetic, a good communicator and motivator, and will thrive in a start-up, regional organization. He/She would be expected to significantly contribute to the success of a start-up regional safety oversight organization and be committed to enhancing aviation safety within the Banjul Accord Group Member States.

Qualifications and Experience:

1. University degree, preferably in an aviation-related discipline, or equivalent qualifications and experience (see item 5 below).
2. Management or supervisory experience with a State Civil Aviation Administration, directly associated with the preparation and responsibility for implementation of rules, regulations, and procedures deemed necessary for flight safety, inspection and certification.
3. Experience in the implementation of multi-faceted projects, including time line development, tracking, and reporting. Excellent planning, analytical, writing, and presentation skills. Fully computer literate.
4. Knowledge of legal responsibilities and administrative procedures for the issuance of documents including safety certificates under State of Registry approval relating to supervision of aircraft operations.
5. A minimum of 10 years experience in an aviation environment either as pilot-in-command or maintenance engineer on heavy turbojet aircraft or substantial experience as a Government Aviation Safety Inspector Airworthiness or Flight Operations.
6. Knowledge of the requirements for personnel licensing systems, and of the training, and maintenance of competency of flight and ground crews concerned with flight operations or Knowledge of aircraft inspection and airworthiness certification requirements is required.
7. Sound knowledge of ICAO Standards And Recommended Practices (SARPs) and related documentation.
8. Experience in ICAO safety oversight functions within national and/or international environment.
9. Demonstrate good leadership qualities in a diverse environment including staff, board members and other aviation stakeholders. Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to work well with others.
10. Command of the English language and proven ability in preparing assignment reports and similar documents. Knowledge of French and/or Portuguese is desirable.
11. Initiative, tact, sound judgment and ability to maintain harmonious relationships.

Duties:

Under the direction of the Board of Directors of the BAGASOO, the Executive Director shall undertake the overall coordination and administration of the BAGASOO including but not limited to the following duties as specified below:

1. Assist the Board of Directors in identifying suitable candidates from within the BAG States for recruitment as staff of the BAGASOO;
2. Maintain a register of inspectors appointed under the Co-operative Inspectorate Scheme (CIS);
3. Liaise with Member States for the services of national inspector resources under the Co-operative Inspectorate Scheme (CIS) for supplementing the BAGASOO resources on as required basis;
4. Develop a detailed work programme covering the concepts, objectives, outputs, and activities of the BAGASOO;
5. Assign inspectors appointed under the Co-operative Inspectorate Scheme (CIS) to Member States for the purpose of conducting inspections and related duties;
6. Maintain current database on information pertaining to the Civil Aviation Authorities of Member States on aviation organizations, aircraft registers, the number, categories and availability of licensed aviation personnel and other relevant matters;
7. Serve as a key member of the Board of Directors to carry out the objectives, outputs, and activities contained in the BAGASOO Agreement document and, over time, to adjust outputs and activities to changing conditions within the Member States.
8. Liaise with entities such as FAA, EASA, Transport Canada, UKCAA, CAA/CASA Australia, Airbus-Industries, Boeing Aircraft Company and other relevant institutions/companies for the provision of flight safety related training to National/Regional Inspectors and airline personnel in seminars/workshops, training courses, etc. Coordinate and arrange the training sessions.
9. Develop an administration manual containing procedures and guidelines to be followed in obtaining and using regional human resources for inspection activities, scheduling required surveillance, performing audits of organizations of Member States, and responding to ad hoc requests for supplemental assistance in flight safety related matters.
10. Organize and conduct audits at the request of Member States or as scheduled in the approved work programme for the purpose of assessing compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs);
11. Develop annual work programme (airworthiness, flight operations and aerodromes certification/inspection schedules) for the Member States in accordance with the activities approved by the Board.
12. Perform flight operations certification and surveillance functions directly on behalf of the Member States, including assistance in the issuance of operations specifications, certification of aircrew, the approval of operations manuals, crew training and checking programmes, and the performance of regularly scheduled operator surveillance.



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION BUREAU**



13. Provide on-the-job training on job functions for Inspectors assigned under the Co-operative Inspectorate Scheme (CIS) to the BAGASOO and to the available National Inspectors, in order to qualify them in the full range of related tasks.
14. Assist with resource mobilization by maintaining liaison with members of the Board of Directors, ICAO and other potential donor entities.
15. Prepare an annual report on the performance of the functions of the BAGASOO at the end of each year for submission to the Board.
16. Make quarterly reports on the activities of the BAGASOO to the Board;
17. Act as Secretary to the Board; and
18. Perform any other duty as may be assigned by the Board.

(2)

Post Title: COMMISSIONER, BAG AIA (Establishment of Banjul Accord Group Accident Investigation Agency)

Post Number: 11-01

Duty Station: Praia, Cape Verde (with missions to the BAG Member States (Banjul Accord Group) Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone)

Duration: 12 months

Date Required: 1 January 2010

Requirements:

The Commissioner is appointed by the Council of Ministers for a period of three years on such terms and conditions as the Council of Ministers may determine, and is eligible for re-appointment for a second term of three years. The Commissioner is responsible to the Council of Ministers.

The Commissioner prepares, for the approval of the BAG Council of Ministers, an annual programme of activities and budget for the BAG AIA and implements the approved programme; in consultation with the Council of Ministers, assess and approve applications by non-member States seeking assistance from the BAG AIA; and performs any other duty assigned by the Council of Ministers.

Qualifications and Experience:

The Commissioner shall have a minimum experience of 10 years as an aircraft accident investigator and shall have had experience as an investigator-in-charge (IIC). The Commissioner should have held:

1. An Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL) with appropriate airline command experience on jet aircraft; or
2. An Engineering degree in Aeronautical Engineering or other relevant aviation related subject matters.
3. Specialized aircraft accident investigation training.

Duties:

The Commissioner shall carry out the following functions:

1. Convene the meetings of the Commission and through the BAG Secretariat, request the convening of meetings of the Council of Ministers;
2. Supervise and coordinate the development of common accident investigation regulations for adoption and use by the BAG AIA Member States;
3. Supervise and coordinate the development of common guidance material, investigator handbooks and manuals and checklists for use in investigations in the BAG AIA Member States;
4. Coordinate with the BAG AIA Member States the deployment of the BAG AIA Commission's investigation teams, for the purpose of carrying out investigations into aircraft accidents and serious incidents, on delegation by the State of Occurrence;
5. Establish and maintain a database of aircraft accidents and serious incidents compatible with the ICAO Accident/Incident Data Reporting (ADREP) system;
6. Establish and maintain a list of aircraft accident investigators available as members of the BAG AIA Commission's investigation teams;
7. Develop and implement a training programme for accident investigators;
8. Exchange and share information with the BAG AIA Member States and relevant agencies on accidents and serious incidents;
9. Develop staff regulations, rules and procedures and undertake the general management of the Office of the Commissioner;
10. Ensure the provision and management of technical support to the BAG AIA Member States in the area of accident investigation; and
11. Service meetings of the Commission;
12. The Commissioner is the chief spokesperson of the BAG AIA and the principal liaison between the BAG AIA Member States and the BAG AIA.

All applications must be submitted by the 17th of February, 2010 to the address below:

COSCAP - BAG,
CO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
NIGERIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY,
AVIATION HOUSE, P.M.B 21029, 21038,
IKEJA - LAGOS



The Nigeria Prize for Literature 2010



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Entries are hereby invited for The Nigeria Prize for Literature. The yearly literary prize is endowed by Nigeria LNG Limited (NLNG) to honour the author of the best book by a Nigerian within the last four years.

The prize will rotate amongst four literary genres - prose fiction, poetry, drama and children's literature. **This year, the competition is for Drama.**

The competition is open only to published works by Nigerian writers. It carries a prize of \$50,000. Two other writers may also be accorded honourable mention.

Submission Procedure

Six copies of the entry together with evidence of Nigerian citizenship (photocopy of Nigerian passport or National Identity card) may be submitted either by authors or publishers, in accordance with the genre in competition.

Books should be submitted to Nigeria LNG Limited's External Relations Division, promoters of the prize, by the stipulated deadline. Failure to meet the stated conditions will lead to disqualification of the entry.

This being an annual competition, the date of publication on the works submitted must be within the previous three years. Complete contact information, including full postal address and/or e-mail and evidence of Nigerian citizenship, should accompany each submission.

An author in any competition will enter only one published work. Manuscripts will not be considered. No book previously submitted for this competition may be resubmitted at a later date, even if major revisions have been made or a new edition published.

The prize will be awarded for no other reason than excellence.

Judges for 2010 competition

Prof. Dapo Adelugba - (Chairman)
Prof. Kalu Uka
Prof. Tanimu Abubakar
Prof. Mary Kolawole
Prof. John Illah

Calendar for Prize Administration

- Close of entries (deadline) - **March 30, 2010**. Late entries will not be entertained.
- Announcement of winners will be at the prestigious NLNG Grand Award Night.

All entries should be sent to:

The Nigeria Prize for Literature
External Relations Division
Nigeria LNG Limited
7th Floor, C & C Towers
Plot 1684, Sanusi Fafunwa Street
Victoria Island, Lagos
Nigeria.

For further information, visit the Nigeria LNG Limited's website:
www.nigerialng.com



Nigeria LNG Limited

Helping to build a better Nigeria



The Nigeria Prize for Science 2010



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are invited for The Nigeria Prize for Science. The yearly science prize is endowed by Nigeria LNG Limited (NLNG) to recognise outstanding scientific achievements by Nigerians. It includes an award of fifty thousand US Dollars (US\$50,000.00).

Eligibility

- The award is open to all Nigerian scientists in the pure and applied disciplines including agriculture and engineering.
- The work should be of outstanding merit and would have advanced the frontiers of knowledge and/or provided a solution to a major scientific and/or technological problem.
- The material for consideration must indicate the specific area of merit and all submissions must relate to that area. The materials for the award must not have been submitted for any other award in the year under consideration.
- All materials in support of the nomination must be submitted along with the application.
- Applications, including the supporting documents, must be submitted in six (6) copies.

The Nomination Process

Candidates for The Nigeria Prize for Science shall normally be nominated on prescribed forms by persons who are in their area of specialty. There should be a relationship between the candidate's area of specialisation and the professional background of the nominator. Candidates may also nominate themselves.

- Nominators may nominate more than one person in the same field for consideration for a joint award.
- No member of the panel of judges can nominate or be nominated by any person for the award in the year they are serving.

Forms can be downloaded from the website of Nigeria LNG Limited — www.nigerialng.com — or at the website of The Nigerian Academy of Science — www.nas.org.ng

Alternatively, forms can be obtained from the offices of either the

Nigeria LNG Limited, Lagos or the Nigerian Academy of Science, Lagos:

8A, Ransome Kuti Road, University of Lagos, Akoka.

Panel of Judges

- A panel of judges will be selected for The Nigeria Prize for Science
- The appointment of judges will be done in a way that reflects and represents the various branches of science. Persons appointed as judges are those who have wide experience, peer recognition, good public image, and command respect nationally and internationally.
- The decision of the judges shall be final.

Judges for this year's competition

Prof. Emeritus Ifedayo Oladapo- (Chairman)
 Prof. Emeritus Anya O. Anya
 Prof. Emeritus Grace Olaniyan-Taylor
 Prof. Awele Maduemezia
 Prof. Emeritus Lateef Salako

Calendar for Prize Administration

- Close of nominations (deadline) - **March 30, 2010.** (Late entries will not be entertained).
- Award of prize will be at the prestigious NLNG Grand Award Night.

All nominations should be sent to:

The Nigeria Prize for Science
External Relations Division
Nigeria LNG Limited
7th Floor, C & C Towers
Plot 1684, Sanusi Fafunwa Street
Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.



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ETSAKOR UNITED CLUB OF NIGERIA

The general public is hereby informed that the above-named Club has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

The trustees are:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Andrew Idaye | Bashir Jemegah |
| 2. Suleman Audu | Peter O. Agiamha |
| 3. Shaibu Ademu | Sunday Omegba |
| 4. Puis Agbonaga | Johnson Adams |
| 5. Stephen Agonoh | |
| 6. Aminu Kadiri | |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Progress and unity for all sons and daughters of Etsakor in general
2. To promote educational scheme.
3. To see to the wellbeing of our members.

Any objection to the Above registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication. Signed: Peter O. Agiamha

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as **MISS AJETOMOBI OPEYEMI OLUBUSAYO**, now wish to be called **MRS AWODIYA OPEYEMI OLUBUSAYO**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

Formerly **MISS ENEH SIMON** now wish to be known as **MRS JOSEPHINE ENEH AMEH**. All former documents remain valid. GDSS Maitama Abuja. Grand Square Abuja and general public should please take note.

I, formerly **MISS ESTHER ADA ELAKPA** now wish to be known as **MRS ESTHER ADA OKOH**. Former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS ELIZABETH YESIDE ROBERTS OGILI**, now wish to be called as **MRS ELIZABETH ROBERTS ONOJA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly Known as **NASIRU BELLO** now wish to be called **YUNUSA ABUBAKAR YUNUSA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly Known as **LAWAN MUSA** now wish to be called **LAWAN SUNDAY IBITEYE**. All former documents remain valid. Nigerian Police Force, Aminu Kano College of Islamic and Legal Studies and General public to note.

I formerly **MISS BLESSING PATRICK**, Now wish to be called as **MRS BLESSING DAVID**, All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **MISS LATEEF BOLANLE SIKIRAT**, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **MRS. KASCH-HASSAN BOLANLE SIKIRAT**. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE OF NIGERIA (ASCON) AND GENERAL PUBLIC PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I, Formerly **MISS MERCY IKANI OJOCHIDE**, Now wish to be called as **MRS ATTAH MERCY OJOCHIDE**, All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

I, formerly **MISS CHRISTY OKI INCHIKI**, now wish to be known as **MRS CHRISTY OKI ABDULSALAM**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS ABIGAIL ISHAKU DOGO**, now wish to be known as **MRS ABIGAIL ISHAKU AYENAJEH**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **DR. ATUNDE EMMAUNEL OLUYINKA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **DR. OLOTUNDE EMMANUEL OLUYINKA**. VATH, Gwagwalada, PHCN, MDCNF and general public should take note.

I, formerly known and called **COMFORT ANYUABAGA MUSA** henceforth wish to be known as **MRS COMFORT ANYUABAGA MUSA**. Former documents remain valid.

IFESOWAPO PROGRESSIVE SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION, IBESE

This is to inform the general public that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Allied Matters Act of the 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. ALEBIOSU RAHMONI
2. MRS AJAYI ABIDEMI
3. MR. SINA OGUNGBE
4. MR. AHMED IDOWU
5. PRINCE FATAI ADEDEMOLO OMIDOKUN
6. BAMEKE AKINLADE
7. PASTOR SAMSON BALOGUN

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To foster unity, love & progress among the members
2. To promote brotherly relationship & social welfare of all members.

Any objection (s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission plot 420 Tigri crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed: Secretary

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original certificate of occupancy with file No. NGS12189 of plot no. 188 MPT 10 Tunduwada, Minna, belonging to Ibrahim A. Bagudu of Ministry of Land, Survey and Town Planning is missing. All effort to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found return to Ibrahim A. Bagudu or the nearest police station.

Signed: Alh. Aminu Isah Ibrahim
08034530612

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as **MISS TAIWO GRACE OLUYEMI** now **MRS GRACE EZEKIEL OLUYEMI**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **HADIZA ALIYU YUNUSA** now wish to be known as **HADIZA MUHAMMED AFEGBUA**. All former document remain valid. Kogi State University and general public to note.

I, formerly known as **HADIZA VICTORIA ARUNA** now wish to be known as **HADIZA VICTORIA ADETOKUN**. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank and general public to note.

I, formerly known as **ABDULAZEEZ ADEMOH** now wish to be called **ABDULAZEEZ OZOVEHE A'DAM**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **RUWAN EDAH** now wish to be called **RILWAN ABDULLAH**. General public and A.B.U Zaria management take note.

I, formerly known as **DUBANGARI ADAMU** now wish to be called and addressed as **MOHAMMED ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid. The FCDA Health Department and general public to take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

I Alhaji Sidi Aminu Sifawa of No. 85 Amadu Bello way Sokoto State, this is to inform the general public about the loss of original certificate of occupancy No.5 920 carrying the name of Mallam Ahmadu Yabo. All efforts made to trace the missing certificate proceed abortive.

Signed by

Alh. Sidi Aminu Sifawa

THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

OSHACH LIFE BUILDERS FOUNDATION

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the above named Association/Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Revd. Ofe-em Okoi
2. Revd. Engr. Etah I. Etah
3. Elder Ubi O. Egbe
4. Engr. Atta Obi Tangban
5. Elder Mrs. Any Ofe-em Okoi
6. Revd. Dr. Nneoyi Egbe

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To improve the living conditions of the poor and needy in the Church and society.
2. To give better life for all.
3. To do the Master's Will and finish it.
4. To develop people through formal and informal education.

Any objection can be made to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

Revd. Ofe-em Okoi

CHRIST POWER MIRACLE CHAPEL

This is to inform the general public is hereby notified that the above-named ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Evangelist (Dr.) Amos Omorifi Olaniyon
2. Pastor Sunday Oluwagbenga Olaniyon
3. Deaconess Elizabeth Ibukun
4. Pastor Samuel Sanyaolu
5. Pastor Elijah Oluwatobi Abiocun
6. Deaconess Deborah Oluwabukola Tosin

AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

1. To preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To set the captive free from the hand of the oppression.
3. To empower all children of God in order to demolish the kingdom of the devil.
4. To reach out to prisons, hospital and give services to the less privileged.
5. To establish christian education for spiritual and moral training of christian ministries.

Any objection(s) to the registration of the church should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigri Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi St, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original house purchase receipt with No. NRC021 issued by FCTA (Adhoc Committee for sale of Federal Govt. Houses via ASO 0121103 cheque of 24/06/08 is missing. This receipt belongs to MR. C.O. Mbuko of Flat 44, Block 4 Phase 2, G/Lada Abuja. If found please return it to Mr. C.O. Mbuko or Nigeria Police Station G/Lada Abuja.

Inside Politics

Why AC wants Jigawa council polls stopped – AC Chairman

Alhaji Abubakar Hassan Fulata is the Jigawa State chairman of the Action Congress. In this interview, he speaks on why the AC is using legal option to stop the February 13 local government election in the state. Excerpt:

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

WHY did the Jigawa state chapter of the Action Congress (AC) drag the state Independent Electoral Commission (JSIEC) concerning the forthcoming local government election?

We sued JSIEC because we believe the commission will not do justice to not only AC but all other opposition political parties. We want the court to stop the conduct of the election because right from the preparations, we observed that the commission will neither be fair to AC nor to other opposition parties. This is because according to the Jigawa State electoral law, 30 days before the election, political parties have right to present their candidates to the electoral commission and 21 days before the election, political parties can withdraw their candidates. But contrary to the provision of this particular section of the act, the commission fixed the closing date for receiving forms 120 days before the conduct of the election. This is injustice not only to AC but to all opposition parties in the state. We also believe that the commission does this just to prevent other political parties from contesting the election so that all PDP candidates will return to power unchallenged. So that was why we rushed to court and asked it to stop the poll.

Why are you doubtful that election will not be fair and free?

We are very doubtful of a free and fair election because if you carefully analyses the two elections which the chairman of the electoral commission Dr. Alili Galadima conducted previously,

you will find that the first election was won by the All Nigerian Peoples Party (ANPP) because it was the ruling party then. And the second conducted under the PDP government was won by the PDP. It was in record that of all the 27 local governments of the state only a single councillor seat was won by the opposition ANPP during the last local government election conducted by the same chairman. Therefore if he is allowed to conduct this particular election, the PDP which happens to be the ruling party will win all the local governments.

It was based on these and the other issues I mentioned earlier that the AC decided to go to court to stop the conduct of the February, 13 election. I could remember vividly that, during the last local government election, All Nigerian Peoples Party (ANPP)'s candidates were disqualified from contesting 24 hours before the election. So that is why we rushed to court and we will continue following the matter until we get to the Supreme Court.

Are you saying that the JSIEC is not an independent body?

If go back to the history of local government election in Jigawa state, you will discover that of all the elections conducted by the commission, it is the ruling party that always emerges victorious. This is an indication that the chairman of the commission is only following the dictates of the ruling party. We are convinced that the commission is always working for the ruling party.

Out of the 24 candidates you have presented to the commission for screening, how many of them were cleared?

The commission only cleared five candidates and the remaining 19 were disqualified from contesting the election for reasons best known to the commission. In fact, we have to mount lots of pressure on the commission before it could clear the five candidates. Before it cleared them, AC was given the forms 24 hours before the closing date and we are only given one day to return the forms to the commission. The forms were given to AC on Saturday 17th November, 2009 and were asked to return them the following day. But we told the commission that was not possible for the candidates to fill the forms and return them to the commission the following day. Therefore the commission then gave the party three days deadline, but we still protested.

We returned five of the forms within five days and the remaining after three weeks. The commission however, rejected 19 candidates that we returned to it three weeks after the so called extension of deadline given by the JSIEC. The candidates were not screened by the commission and in fact they were disqualified from contesting the election.

If you fail in this litigation, what will be your next line of action?

We will appeal until we get to the Supreme Court. But I am sure the court in Jigawa state will be fair enough to solve the problem at its level.

The Justice Uwais electoral reform committee had suggests that electoral bodies be funded through direct line charge and that President and Governors should not be entirely responsible for appointing members of the board. What is your opinion



ALHAJI Abubakar Hassan Fulata, Jigawa AC Chairman.

on this?

I am in support of these recommendations because it is the only way the commissions would become independent. And this will enable them to work independently and to serve the political parties whether in government or not. But as long as state governors will continue to appoint SIEC chairmen, the commission will never do justice to other political parties that are not in government as far as the issue of local government election is concerned. The situation is the same at the federal level because as long as the federal government will remain the financier of INEC, the commission will only serve the interest of the party in government. Therefore,

the Justice Uwais recommendation is the best option of tackling electoral manipulation.

You worked as PA to Governor Sule Lamido for over 10 years but now you are challenging him on political matters, why?

Sule Lamido is my boss, but when I realised that he is not a true leader that could be trusted and supported. His political mission is contrary to that of late Mallam Aminu Kano, even though he has been claiming that he is Aminu Kano's disciple. I decided to separate from him and find my way because his political ideology is quite contrary to that of Mallam Aminu Kano.

Zamfara Reps back new ANPP Exco

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

SIX out of seven members of the House of Representatives from Zamfara State have thrown their weight behind the faction of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) led by Barrister Sirajo Usman Haske.

The leader of the caucus and Deputy Minority Whip of the House, Rep Bello Mohammed Mutawalle who announced the endorsement to newsmen in Abuja at the weekend said two out of the three senators from the state have also okayed the new leadership.

of the House of Representatives and two Senators from Zamfara state have endorsed the new leadership in the state", the lawmaker said.

He said the parallel executive committee was constituted to fill the leadership vacuum the party had been facing in the state, pointing out that "the former caretaker committee was put in place for three months, but almost a year now, the national headquarters of the party has not conducted congress in the state".

According to him, party chiefs in the state decided to form a

affairs of the party in the state pending a new congress when new executive council will be elected.

"It is disheartening that in spite of the daily influx of decampers from other parties, there is no leadership to receive and give them direction," he said.

“It is disheartening that in spite of the daily influx of decampers from other parties, there is no leadership to receive and give them direction.

PPA will accept Anambra polls if...

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

NATIONAL Secretary of the Progressive Peoples Party (PPA), Dahiru Musa Abdullahi yesterday said that PPA may accept the outcome of Saturday's gubernatorial election in Anambra which was won by Governor Peter Obi of All People's Grand Alliance (APGA) if irregularities in the election are found not to be too serious.

INEC's Resident Electoral Commissioner for the state Josiah Uwazuruonye announced that Governor Obi emerged victorious with a total of 97,843 votes followed by Action Congress's candidate, Chris Ngige with 60,240 votes and PDP's Professor Chukwuma Soludo coming third with 59,365 votes. PPA's candidate scored a distant 9000 votes.

According to Abdullahi, the PPA has begun consultations, carefully studying the election processes in order to determine whether it will admit failure in the election or not.

SPORT

Big guns get comfortable
Euro 2012 draw

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NFF: Amodu will go to World Cup

By Orkula Shaagee

EVEN as opposition has continued to swell against the choice of Coach Shaibu Amodu as a member of the Super Eagles technical crew, the Nigeria Football Federation said the soccer tactician would be part of the Eagles technical crew to the South Africa 2010 World Cup.

Amodu led the Eagles to a bronze medal finish at the just concluded African Cup of Nations in Angola, but Nigerians are not satisfied with his inputs in the team and voted instead for the hiring of a sound technical expatriate to tinker the team to the

Amodu is still the Chief Coach of the Super Eagles, while the Technical Adviser will become the overall boss

World Cup in June this year.

Revealing the NFF position at a media briefing in Abuja, the Federation's Executive Committee member and Chairman of its technical committee Taiwo Ogunjobi explained that this is because Amodu is still a member of the Eagles' technical crew.

According to Ogunjobi, the hiring of a foreign Technical

Adviser is not an outright demotion for Amodu, but to fill the position that has remained vacant since the recruitment of Amodu.

Ogunjobi, who was accompanied to the briefing by his Deputy, Dominic Iorfa, stated further that the NFF even stated clearly in the letter of employment to Amodu that he is the Chief Coach, which means somebody would be engaged at a later time to boss him.

"Amodu is still the Chief Coach of the Super Eagles, while the Technical Adviser will become the overall boss. So, Amodu as the Chief Coach will be there with the new Technical Adviser at the South Africa 2010 World Cup", Ogunjobi said.

He added that the decision to engage a Technical Adviser was taken in Angola by the NFF Executive Committee, after which the decision was communicated to the Eagles current technical crew led by Amodu at a meeting in Angola, stressing that it was the sole decision of the NFF Executive Committee without pressure from the Presidential Task Force as being speculated.

"The decision to recruit a Technical Adviser was taken in Angola, and the Super Eagles technical crew led by Amodu was told at a meeting held with them there; and I want to state here that there was no pressure from the PTF on the matter", he informed.

He dismissed fears that the ability of the Technical Committee to meet the deadline for the recruitment of a quality foreign Technical Adviser, "saying the deadline is realistic."



SHAIBU Amodu will be part of Super Eagles coaching crew to the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

Time short for Eagles' new coach, says Onigbinde

FORMER Super Eagles Chief Coach, Adegboye Onigbinde, said on Saturday that the time was short for a new coach to prepare the team for the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Onigbinde was reacting to the Nigeria Football Federation's (NFF) decision to re-deploy Coach Shaibu Amodu to the Super Eagles team B and

hire a foreign coach to replace him.

Onigbinde, however, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in a telephone interview that the federation's decision to hire a foreign was in the interest of the country.

He said that he believed that the NFF had taken everything into consideration before coming up with the decision.

"However, we must be con-

scious of the time left to prepare for the tournament.

"I hold the fears that the time is short and can adversely affect the team's performance in South Africa," he argued.

He also urged the federation to ensure that whoever was appointed to handle the team must come out with a programme that would guarantee Nigeria's success

in the World Cup.

The NFF directed the Amodu-led crew to begin camping for the Super Eagles team B preparatory to the 2011 African Cup of Nations.

"The Super Eagles team B will begin camping immediately to prepare for the 2011 African Cup of Nations and other international friendlies," Taiwo Ogunjobi, Chairman of the technical com-

mittee of NFF, said.

Ogunjobi said that the committee would resume its meeting on Tuesday to deliberate on who to choose from the five foreign coaches on the federation's list.

The coaches are Ratomir Dujkovic, Bruno Metsu, Guus Hiddink, Peter Taylor, Hassan Shehata and Louis Van Gaal.

NFF election: Lulu wants committees to do thorough job

PRESIDENT of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), Alhaji Sani Lulu, has charged the committees set up to organise elections in the federation to do a thorough job.

Lulu said that such a job would dispel the notion that elections in Africa were not credible.

Inaugurating the electoral and appeal committees in Abuja on Saturday, Lulu said: "Pessimists and cynics around the world believe that elections in Africa are a farce.

"Our desire is to do everything to guarantee thoroughly democratic, free and fair elections that will leave a legacy for coming generations and even those yet unborn.

"And from our small level, we can disprove this erroneous belief about elections in Africa and start a process through which the world will come to respect us for credible polls," he said.

The 10-man electoral body, at its inaugural meeting, elected Mr Abdulhakeem Mustapha as its Chairman and Dr Bolaji Ojo-Oba,

the NFF General Secretary, as its Secretary.

Members of the committee include Mrs Oluyomi Oluwasanmi, Mr Tunde Oloyede, Mr Austel Elumelu, Alhaji Mohammed Joji, Mr Teddy Isiadinuso and Chief Abel Ehigie. Others are Mr Abubakar Abdulkadir and Alhaji Ahmed Maude, the President of the Nigeria (Football) Referees Association, while Mr Felix Udoh and Alhaji Abdulkadir Yahaya were named as standby members.

The three-man appeal committee has Mr John Mafo, Mr Austin Ogbu and Dr Emmanuel Adanu as members, with Alhaji Aminu Aminu and Alhaji Abba Furo as standby members.

Lulu admonished the two committees to ensure free and fair elections because it was the first time in the history of Nigerian football that all nominations were based on geopolitical zones.

"You all emerged through a clean democratic process, and it

is our faith that you will justify the confidence reposed in you.

"NFF, the entire football fraternity and other Nigerians all expect the best from you," he said.

The NFF president recalled that the list of members of the electoral and appeal committees was approved by the federation's congress at its extraordinary general assembly in Abuja on Dec. 29, 2009.

"These persons were nominated by their different zones, which of course underscores our reverence for due, democratic process.

"Between now and the election, we have six months. By this we have been able to fulfil the provisions of the NFF statute.

"Already, we have drawn up a standard electoral code, and we are concluding plans for the standardisation of our statute in line with FIFA requirements.

"The code and the statute are the books that will guide you in conducting the elections," he said.

Lulu, however, charged the committees on their allegiance, saying it should be to the NFF general congress and not to any other body or individual.

"You should remain steadfast, strong and unwavering, and be committed to the ideals of a hitch-free poll. You must remember that there is no small election.

"It is from this perspective and standpoint that we must develop our attitude and approach to the coming elections.

"We must be ready to adopt transparency and due diligence as our watchword," he said.

Responding on behalf of other members, Ehigie assured the NFF executive committee of a good job.

"At the end of the day, you will give us a pat on the back for a job well done," he said.

The NFF executive committee and chairmanship elections are to hold on August 28, while the inauguration of the new body will hold on August 29.

Drogba haunts Arsenal as Chelsea go top

DIDIER Drogba scored twice as Chelsea landed a crushing blow to Arsenal's title hopes with a 2-0 win at Stamford Bridge that put the Blues back on top of the Premier League.

The Ivory Coast striker stood at the back post to rifle John Terry's near-post flick-on into the roof of the net after an eighth minute corner. Midway through the first half Drogba exploited hesitant defending by the visitors and smashed a ferocious finish past Manuel Almunia to effectively end the tie.

The brace took Drogba's personal haul against the Gunners to 12 in as many games as his side pulled two points clear of second-placed Manchester United and 10 ahead of Arsenal, whose championship bid has now taken a double-blow after the 3-1 home defeat to United.

Arsenal dominated possession and forced good stops from Petr Cech when first Cesc Fabregas's free-kick headed for the bottom right and secondly when the Spaniard's header across goal almost found Nicklas Bendtner.

But Chelsea were never really in danger and held on comfortably to effectively turn the Premier League into a two-horse title race with United.

Boca woes continue

BOCA Juniors went three goals down within 18 minutes as they lost 4-2 at Newell's Old Boys in the Argentine Clausura championship on Saturday night.

Boca, whose coach Alfio Basile resigned less than two weeks before the tournament started, picked up four points from their opening two matches but their aging defence has now shipped seven goals in three games.

Strikers Martin Palermo and Lucas Viatri pulled two goals back before 10-man Newell's, who had defender Agustin Alayes sent off with 23 minutes to go, scored through former Monaco midfielder Lucas Bernardi in stoppage time.

Boca have sought to strengthen their rearguard and signed Brazilian Luiz Alberto from Fluminense after Paraguay's Julio Cesar Caceres went the other way to Atletico Mineiro. But the defender has not yet made his debut. Argentinos Juniors came from two down to crush Lanus 6-3 in with two goals by striker Nicolas Pavlovich.

Velez Sarsfield, winners of last year's Clausura in July, were top with seven points from three matches after their 2-1 home win over Gimnasia-La Plata.

Big guns get comfortable Euro 2012 draws

EUROPEAN champions Spain were handed an easy-looking path to the Euro 2012 finals in Poland and Ukraine in Sunday's qualifying draw, although coach Vicente Del Bosque said afterwards he was taking nothing for granted.

Spain, who won Euro 2008 with a record of superb performances, are ranked number one in the world and were grouped with Czech Republic, Scotland, Lithuania and Liechtenstein.

They were the last of the 51 teams drawn at the ceremony at Warsaw's Palace of Culture and Science and Del Bosque was cautious about the challenge ahead.

"We face a strong test and will have to be at our best in every match so we do not want to make any mistakes; we are taking nothing for granted," he told reporters immediately after the draw.

World champions Italy face two World Cup finalists in Serbia and Slovenia, as well as Northern Ireland, Estonia and Faroe Islands in Group C, while France, the 2006 World Cup runners-up, should be too strong for Romania, Bosnia, Belarus, Albania and Luxembourg in Group D.

"Italy's group is balanced, with Serbia and Slovenia—two teams who will play in the World Cup," Italy coach Marcello Lippi, who was not present at the draw, was quoted as saying by Italian news agency ANSA.

"There's an advantage in being in a group of six. Of the other groups, England's is the most difficult."

Germany, runners-up to Spain in the Euro 2008 final, face neighbours Austria as well as Turkey in what should be a straightforward group for them.



ENGLAND'S manager Fabio Capello said he was looking forward to playing Switzerland at the Euro 2012.

Group A also includes Belgium, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, whom Germany beat home and away in their World Cup qualifying group. Azerbaijan are coached by former German international and manager Berti Vogts.

Azerbaijan were the first team drawn, and were then grouped with Armenia—the exact scenario UEFA had wanted to avoid.

Political tensions between the two ex-Soviet states meant that UEFA's executive committee had ruled they would not be allowed to be in the same group.

Under a pre-arranged agreement, Armenia were moved into Group B where they will face Russia, Slovakia, Ireland, Macedonia

and Andorra. The two countries had refused to play each other in the qualifiers for Euro 2008 after being drawn together.

England will renew their old rivalry with Wales whom they have met 99 times. Their last meetings were in the qualifiers for the 2006 World Cup finals when England won both games. England also face World Cup finalists Switzerland in Group G, group along with Bulgaria and Montenegro.

England coach Fabio Capello's first match in charge of England was a 2-1 win over Switzerland in February 2008 and he said he was looking forward to playing them again.

"We have improved as a team since that first match," he said.

"Although it will be tough it will be good to play them again."

France, runners-up in the 2006 World Cup final, face a challenge from Romania, Bosnia, Belarus, Albania and Luxembourg.

France and Romania met in the World Cup qualifiers with both matches ending in draws.

The qualifying competition starts in September and concludes with final-place playoffs in November 2011.

The nine group winners and best runners-up automatically qualify for the finals, along with the co-hosts.

The remaining eight runners-up face each other in the playoffs with the four winners completing the 16-team line-up in the finals.

THE MONDAY COLUMN

Mahmud Jega

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On telling the truth

Two high profile cases of telling the truth in a controversial manner that happened in this country late last month and mid last week set me thinking at the weekend about the delicate art of telling the truth in Nigerian politics and government.

The first, widely reported case was former President Olusegun Obasanjo's remarks at the Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja last month, where he in effect asked ailing President Umaru Yar'adua to quit the presidency. Even though Obasanjo essentially told the truth, almost all the reactions to his remarks from all quarters in Nigeria were hostile, and not because many people support Yar'adua's intransigent refusal to transmit a vacation letter to the National Assembly. There must be a good reason for that. Which should have warned—and this is the second case—Professor Dora Akunyili, who set out last week to also tell her cabinet colleagues the truth about the current messy situation in the presidency.

Akunyili's memo was much more polite than Obasanjo's caustic remarks, but may ultimately prove to be just as unsuccessful. Thinking about these two episodes, I thought of what an elder told me in Kaduna recently, that there are three conditions for telling the truth: the person who tells the truth, the time he says it, and the manner in which he says it. At least two of the three conditions had problems for Mrs Akunyili's truth telling last week.

Problem number one is the person. The Minister of Information is one of the most thankless jobs in Nigerian politics and governance. Almost all the people who held this position in the last 40 years came out of it with a personal image problem of their own. I am thinking now of Chief Ayo Ogunlade, Prince Tony Momoh, Chief Alex Akinyele, Mr. Uche Chukwumerije, Dr. Walter Ofonagoro, Professor Jerry Gana, Mr. Frank Nweke Jnr and, more lately, Akunyili. The few who got away rather lightly, such as Malam Garba Wushishi, Colonel Anthony Ukpo, Chief Ikeobasi Muokelu, Chief John Nwodo and Mr. John Odeh, either served briefly or kept a low profile. In short, Nigerians do not expect to hear the truth from that quarter.

In Akunyili's case, the belief is that she shouldn't have been sent to that Ministry in the first place, given her strong antecedents at NAFDAC. But having agreed to go there, she began to promote the "Rebranding Campaign" which somewhat lowered her esteem with the public. There was some evidence that Mrs Akunyili had been in an embarrassing position since this saga of the President's health began, and she gladly seized upon the opportunity afforded at Christmas by the Farouk Mutallab affair to abandon the Yar'adua sickness episode. Sometime last month, she even proceeded on leave, until Jonathan recalled her.

Still, if the truth needed to be told from the ranks of the federal Cabinet, there were some ministers who were probably in a better position to lead the way. Best placed, I think, were the Secretary to the Government Mahmud Yaya Ahmed and the Head of Service Steven Oronsanye, but both men were probably thinking of Ambassador Babagana Kingibe's experience in 2008, so they kept mum.

The next in line to tell the truth were the elderly and senior ministers, namely Dr. Rilwanu Lukman, Chief Ufot Ekaette, Dr. Shettima Mustapha, and maybe General Godwin Abbe and Dr. Sam Egwu. Apparently none of them felt comfortable enough to do so.

The second condition for truth telling, namely the timing, was the only one that was right in this episode. The FEC

as well as the President have been boxed into a corner with the demand by every important segment of the Nigerian population, and foreign powers as well, for a temporary transfer of presidential powers to the Vice President.

Yet, even if the time is right for telling the truth, there is a way to tell the truth if you really want to achieve results. Springing a memo on your cabinet colleagues without prior consultation cannot be one of them. Every minister already knew that their stance on this matter was a dishonourable one from the point of view of constitutional obligations, morality in public policy, due process and rule of law, and the demands of national security and sustaining the democratic order. They know only too well that their stance has cast them in the public eye as cowardly and self-seeking. They know that it is honourable to make a break from that stance.

Yet, they unanimously agreed to elevate real *politik* above all that. That is, this man appointed us; he can sack us; he is unwilling to hand over even temporarily, and he will view anything other than support for that position as disloyalty. Besides, this man refused to listen to the Senate, to three former Heads of State and three former Chief Justices, to Wole Soyinka, newspaper editorials, Niger Delta groups, Ohanaeze Ndigbo, Arewa Consultative Forum, Northern governors and even the National Governors Forum, so why should he listen to FEC?

Despite all the problems of condition and circumstances and method though, *Antie Dora's* memo has the ring of truth, much like *Baba Obasanjo's* caustic remarks. Especially what she said about not swearing in Federal perm secs months after they were appointed, Jonathan having to usurp the C-in-C's duties and direct soldiers into Jos, as well as growing apprehension by the US, UK and EU, not to mention apprehension in Nigeria.

No one knows for sure why Yar'adua is reluctant to hand over power temporarily to the Vice President. The only thing that is known for sure is that, whatever his

reason is, it is not a good reason. If the men and women around Yar'adua have convinced him that Jonathan does not deserve to exercise presidential powers, it is in order to ask them why they ever thought that Malam Umaru Yar'adua deserved to exercise the same powers. Both men were selected by the same megalomaniac using the same despicable methods for the same vainglorious reasons and in the same sorry circumstances. The longer this stalemate persists, the more and more people will be convinced that vesting them with presidential powers in the first place was a huge and costly mistake.

Quite likely, the Yar'adua men fear that Jonathan may not be loyal to him personally or to his legacy. That is very true, of course, and they have only themselves to blame if and when that happens. The Yar'adua men encouraged the president to rebel against Obasanjo who, despite his overbearing ways, was solely responsible for plucking Yar'adua from relative gubernatorial obscurity and ramming him down everyone's throat to the presidency. Compared to that, Jonathan has few IOUs to the Yar'adua men, who for the most part kept him out of the real power circles these last three years.

Maybe that is the essential truth that needs to be sorted out. Unless that is done, many people who are not qualified to tell the truth, such as me, will continue to tell it, at the wrong time, and in the wrong way.

SPORTS REPORT



MIGUEL Angel Jimenez

Jimenez beats Westwood in playoff in Dubai

Miguel Angel Jimenez has defeated Lee Westwood in a sudden death playoff to win the Dubai Desert Classic.

Westwood missed a 5-foot par putt on the third playoff hole Sunday, and Jimenez then

calmly sank a 4-footer for the win.

Both players went into the final day with a share of the lead and shot an even-par 72 in the final round.

Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand was also tied for the overnight lead but shot a 73 to finish third.



CESC Fabregas

Arsenal to hand Fabregas £30m deal

Arsenal are set to make captain Cesc Fabregas the highest-paid player in the club's history by offering him a contract worth £30 million, according to *The Mirror*.

It is claimed that the Gunners want to tie down the Catalan midfielder on a five-year deal worth £120,000 a week, despite the 22-year-old having three years left on his current terms.

It is said that Arsene Wenger and the board at Ashburton Grove are eager to ensure that Fabregas does not get swayed by Spanish giants Barcelona and Real Madrid.

The young playmaker has not ruled out a potential move to Barca, and has maintained that he would like to return to play for the Champions League winners someday.

“They were selected by the same megalomaniac using the same despicable methods for the same vainglorious reasons and in the same sorry circumstances”

