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Come visit me, Yar'adua begs

SEC boss Al-Faki quits

By Jibrin Abubakar &
Idris Ahmed, Abuja &
Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

DIRECTOR General of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Musa Al-Faki resigned yesterday, according to a statement from the commission's Head of Media Lanre Oloyi.

It said, "At its 38th Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 21st April, 2009, the Director General of the Securities and Exchange

The honourable minister of finance accepted his disengagement notice

Commission (SEC), Musa Al-Faki, informed the Board of his intention to disengage from the services of the Commission as Director-General with effect from 8th May, 2009.

By a letter dated 22nd April, 2009, and copied to the Chairman of the Board of the Commission, the Honourable Minister of Finance accepted his disengagement notice and conveyed the President's approval. In the letter, the Honourable Minister conveyed the appreciation of Mr. President and himself."



FROM left: King Alfred Diette-Spiff, Senator Felix Ibru and Admiral Mike Akhigbe, when a delegation of South South Elders and Leaders visited President Umaru Yar'adua at the State House, Abuja yesterday.

By AbdulFattah Olajide

NEARLY two years since he stopped state and zonal delegations from visiting him at the State House, President Umaru Yar'adua made a u-turn yesterday and urged zonal leaders and elders from various parts of the country to pay him a visit with a view to informing him

about the problems confronting their respective zones.

The President spoke when he hosted the South-South Elders and Leaders Forum at the State House.

He said the visit by zonal leaders would enable his administration to get a firsthand knowledge of the problems and challenges

confronting Nigerians in all parts of the country. He said, "I welcome visitations from leaders from all parts of the country so that we will know firsthand the problems of the peoples of this country. I recall that just about four weeks ago I received members of the Arewa Consultative Forum and I made a call for other leaders from parts of this country to visit us."

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News Briefs...

Modi Yabo dies at 62

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

A prominent politician in Sokoto State and Alhaji Muhammadu Modi Yabo died Wednesday at his residence in Sokoto at the age of 62. The deceased was a Permanent Secretary in the old Sokoto State and was also the state liaison officer in Lagos. Among those who attended his funeral service were Governor Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko, members of his cabinet, traditional rulers and Islamic scholars.

He is survived by one wife, seven children and many grand children. Among his children is the present commissioner for Women Affairs in the state, Hajiya Kulu Abubakar Nuhu.

Assembly condemns kidnap of Canadian

THE Kaduna State House of Assembly yesterday condemned the abduction of a Canadian lady, Mrs Julie Mulligan, by unknown persons. Mulligan, 45, was kidnapped in Kaduna on April 15 by some yet-to-be-apprehended assailants while on a Rotary International social service assignment in the country. Assemblyman Bashir Aliyu, Chairman, House Committee on Security, said in Kaduna that the incident was "very unfortunate and embarrassing." Aliyu, who is also the House Majority Leader, said: "The kidnap is quite unfortunate, it took place in spite of the security measures being put in place by the state government."

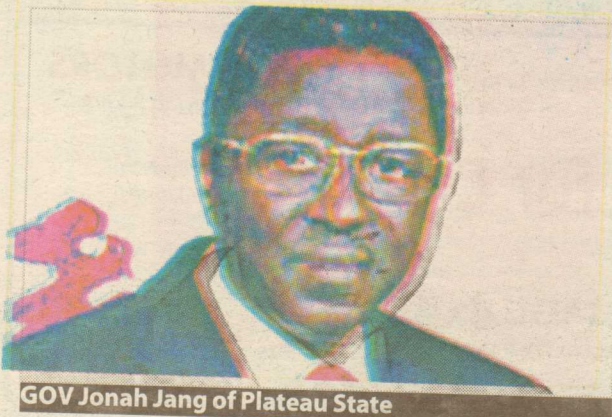


GOV Sambo of Kaduna State

3 Plateau SUBEB staff die in car accident

THREE staff of the Plateau State Universal Basic Education (SUBEB) lost their lives in an accident along Barkin Ladi-Mangu road yesterday.

The accident occurred at about 10 a.m. while the deceased were on their way to the headquarters of a local government in the area. A witness said the driver of the vehicle with registration number PL- 7A41, lost control and veered off the road, hitting a tree in the process. Rescue was difficult as the vehicle became badly damaged after hitting the tree. The corpses were later conveyed to a hospital morgue in Jos by sympathisers who had stopped to give a helping hand. Efforts to get the reaction of officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to comment on the incident was futile as at the time of filing this report. Staff of SUBEB from its headquarters in Jos, were involved in series of workshops the board had been holding in some of the Local Government Areas of the state. (NAN)



GOV Jonah Jang of Plateau State

Nigeria 4th worst in medical system -WHO

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

NIGERIA has the fourth worst medical system in the world, the World Health Organization (WHO) has said. The National President of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) Dr. Prosper Igboeli disclosed this yesterday, in Abeokuta.

His disclosure is coming on the heels of the charge by former Head of State, retired Gen. Ibrahim Babangida to the Federal Government to give the health sector more attention. The NMA President who made the disclosure at the opening of the 2009 Annual General Scientific conference and delegates meeting of the association in Abeokuta also lamented that government and professionals had neglected the care of the elderly and disabled.

Igboeli said the country's medical system continued to fail mainly due to ineffective implementation of health care policies, mal-distribution of health workers, limited funding and poor infrastructure, a development which according to him placed the country as the fourth worst medical system in the world. He said that the "gruesome report calls for a reflection on our role as doctors in the health sector. There is great need to restructure our primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care. It calls for better and increased participation of physicians in developing health care reforms that are practicable and in line with Millennium Goals (MDG)."

The NMA leader also berated



CHAIRMAN, South-South Economic Summit, Prof. Pat Utomi (left) with PDP Chieftain, Chief Tony Anenih at the 1st South-South Economic Summit in Calabar, Cross River State. Pic: NAN

the attention given to doctors in the country by many state governments, noting, "many doctors in the public health system face daunting working conditions, poverty-level wages and poor conditions of services, unresponsive management, insufficient social recognition and weak career development".

In his opening remarks, the former Head of State noted that providing more human resources

and equipment would go a long way in achieving the set goals of the crucial sector.

Babangida, who was the chairman of the occasion but was represented by the former military administrator of Lagos state, Raji Rasaki also used the occasion to task medical professionals to ensure that only qualified members are allowed to practice in order to guarantee high professionalism.

Man in court for killing lover

From Monday Osayande, Asaba

A 39 year old driver, Goodnews Atonmeta who allegedly stabbed his lover, Ngozi Esinre Eborka, to death has been remanded in prison custody.

Chief Magistrate, Patricia U. Nsolo who sent the accused to custody said yesterday that she lacked jurisdiction to hear the case and therefore ordered that the case file be sent to the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) for advice. The court heard that Mrs Eborka was killed with a broken bottle, an offence punishable under section 319 of the Criminal Code Cap 48 Volume 11 law of the defunct Bendel State as applicable to Delta state. No plea was taken when the charge was read to the accused while the police prosecutor, Corporal Adama Emmanuel, announced his appearance in the case.

The Magistrate adjourned the case to 26th May.

Faruk Lawan urges investor-friendly environment

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

CHAIRMAN of the House of Representatives Committee on Education, Alhaji Faruk Lawan has called on the Federal Government to intensify efforts at creating enabling and secure business environment to attract local and foreign investors into the country.

Responding to questions from newsmen in Kaduna at the first National Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility and Investment Security in Nigeria organised by PR Value Consulting in Partnership with *Business Day* newspaper, Lawan identified the poor security as the major factor scaring investors.

He said for President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to succeed in his bid to make the country one of the 20 top economies in the world by the year 2020, the security situation and the problem of power supply must be tackled.

"The number one responsibility of any government is to provide security for human lives and property and that is something that cannot be taken away from government. It is not for us to tell the investors to come and invest where the environment is not secure, I believe the responsibility is on us to create secure environment that would attract investment from outside", he said.

Lawan added that corruption and other vices exhibited by the people were scaring investors from investing in the country. He said the National Assembly would as matter of national importance enact laws to ensure that investors get returns for their investments.

"The major attraction for any investment is to know that the environment itself is secure and also the need for proper legislation to make the environment investor-friendly," he said.

S/Court to hear Andy Uba's appeal

THE Supreme Court yesterday adjourned hearing indefinitely on the appeal by Mr Andy Uba, the PDP candidate in the 2007 gubernatorial election in Anambra.

Justice Iyoger Kastina-Alu who presided said the adjournment was to enable the court to constitute a seven-man panel to hear the case since it is a constitutional matter.

He said a new date would be communicated to counsels.

At the previous hearing, counsel to Uba, Taiwo Ade told the court that the speedy resolution of the suit would determine whether election would hold or not in Anambra in 2010.

He reminded the court of its earlier order that granted an accelerated hearing of the appeal and pointed out that INEC had a time table for the elections in the state scheduled for early 2010.

This submission prompted the court presided over by Justice Dahiru Musdapha, which had hitherto adjourned hearing on the preliminary objections to the suit to September 21, 2009 to bring the matter forward.

At the resumed hearing, the Gov. Peter Obi filed a notice of prelimi-

nary objection through his counsel, Onyechi Ikpeazu (SAN).

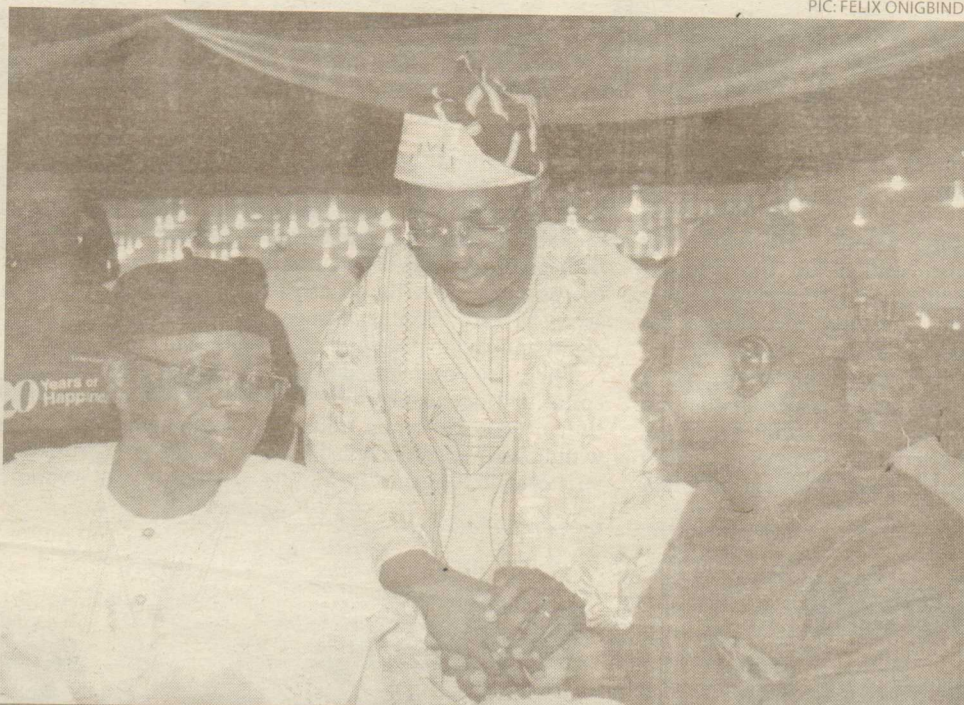
Obi contended that the examination of the relief sought in the appeal would clearly show that the appeal invited the Supreme Court to re-open an issue which it had conclusively settled.

"On this score, the appeal will amount to an abuse of court process and it is caught by the principles of res judicata and issue of estoppels," Ikpeazu told the court.

He also said that the said notice and grounds of appeal were filed at the registry of the Court of Appeal as against the registry of the Federal High Court.

Ikpeazu submitted that "the Court of Appeal cannot under whatever legal ingenuity crafted by counsel to the appellants or impertinence, refuse or fail to give effect to the judgment of the Supreme Court of January 29, 2008 in the case of Obi Vs INEC and Uba."

Uba is insisting that he be allowed to continue as governor, at the end of Obi's four-year tenure having occupied that office briefly following his 2007 gubernatorial election victory. (NAN)



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

FROM left: Chairman, Intercontinental Bank, Dr. Reymond Obieri, Group Chief Executive of the bank, Dr. Erastus Akingbola, and Deputy Senate President, Senator Ike Ekweremadu at the 20 years Customers' Forum held in Abuja.

Air mishaps: Airlines yet to pay victims

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

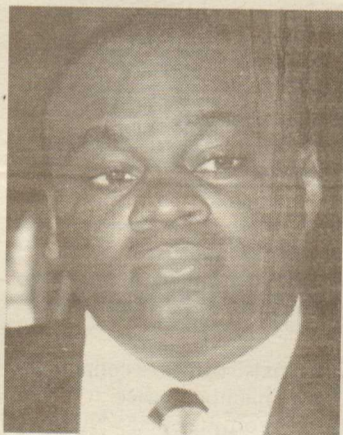
YEARS after the unfortunate air crashes involving Sosoliso and ADC airlines, families and relations of the victims are yet to be paid compensation by the airlines, Senate committee on Aviation was told yesterday.

The committee which convened a stake holders meeting comprising management of the affected airlines, ministry of aviation, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority, Attorney General of the Federation and the insurance companies heard that, Sosoliso airlines could not pay the \$100,000 USD as stipulated by law but offered to pay \$25,000 UDS to families of the affected victims.

Members of the committee however disagreed with the argument of Sosoliso airline that when the incident occurred the \$100,000 USD compensation per victim was not in place because the airline sold its ticket on the day of the incident with \$100,000 USD insurance on it.

On ADC crash, the committee heard that of the 91 passengers who lost their lives 76 families filed their claims but only 41 were given undisclosed amount of money as compensation by Ingraspa a Russian re-insurance company on behalf of ADC airline.

Vice chairman of the committee Senator Bala Mohammed (ANPP, Bauchi) and Senator Gbemi Sola Saraki (PDP, Kwara central) question the modalities of payment of compensation by the insurance company in which the victims were forced to signed



AVIATION Minister, Babatunde Omotola

a no-disclosure confidentiality agreement instead of paying the \$100,000 USD stipulated by law.

Chairman of the parents of 60 school children of Loyola Jesut college Isaac Olemini broke into tears saying, "we have lost our children who by now they will have been in universities around the world but here you are negotiating compensation as if we are selling our children like chickens? We are asking that the right things should be done in our country as is being done in other parts of the world"

The Sosoliso airline crashed in Port Harcourt on December 5 2005 carrying 105 passengers out of which 60 were school pupils of Loyola Jesut College Port Harcourt while the ADC airline crashed in Abuja in November 2006 killing 96 passengers including the then Sultan of Sokoto Alhaji Mohammedu Mac-cido, former Deputy Governor of Sokoto state and Senator Sule Yaro Gandi.

Ekiti re-run: 'INEC not sincere'

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) has accused the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) of not accrediting credible observers for Ekiti re-run gubernatorial election.

A statement from Lagos by AC's National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed criticised the commission for this saying it could be a signal to how the INEC will conduct the elections.

The party said INEC accredited only the groups that catch its fancy, rather than those widely acclaimed as credible.

"Apart from TMG (Transition Monitoring Group), we do not know any of the 24 groups accredited by INEC that can be counted upon to carry out an unbiased monitoring. We say this based on record of performance, not to cast aspersion on any group," AC said.

Also, the Chairman, Contact and Mobilization Committee of Conference of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP), Engr Buba Galadima yesterday asked the Action Congress (AC) not to trust Professor Maurice Iwu-led Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) on the conduct of Ekiti State re-run governorship election.

Reps to expand Okiro Panel mandate

By Tashikmah Hallah & Nasidi A Yahaya

THE House of Representatives committee on Justice said it will expand the Mike Okiro led special security panel on Halliburton bribe scandal to cover the investigation of Siemens and Wilbros scandals.

A German court in Munich had named some past Nigerian Ministers of Communications as well as a Senator as having received bribes of about 10 million Euros from the German engineering conglomerate. The court, in an Oct. 4 2007 ruling, listed Major General Tajudeen Olanrewaju, Dr. Bello Haliru Mohamed, Chief Cornelius Adebayo, Alhaji Haruna Elewi, and Senator Jibril Aminu among the alleged bribe recipients.

The court indicted Siemens for offering 77 bribes to cabinet min-

isters in Nigeria, Libya and Russia, to win lucrative contracts.

Also, Wilbros Group Inc (WGI) was accused of bribing Nigerian officials with \$6m to secure a major gas pipeline project, contrary to the United state Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

Jason Edward Steph, General Manager of WII's on-shore operations in Nigeria, pleaded guilty before Judge Sim Lake of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas in July 19, 2007.

He told the Judge that in late 2003 he, a senior executive in charge of WGI's international business, two consultants working for WII, and a certain Nigeria-based employees of a major German engineering and construction firm agreed to make a series of corrupt payments totalling more than \$6 million.

W/Bank questions Nigeria's growth strategy

By Francis Okeke

THE World Bank yesterday expressed doubts on the viability of methods being applied by the Federal Government to stimulate growth that will reduce unemployment in the country as the global economic meltdown lingers.

Lead economist on Poverty Reduction and Economic Management of World Bank, Mr. Volker Treichel disclosed this at a ministerial meeting of the National Employment Summit organised by the Ministry of Labour and Productivity in

Abuja. Treichel lamented that the inability of government to reduce unemployment even before the economic meltdown in a period of economic boom called for a change in strategy, saying that "the fact that unemployment is not falling at a time when the economy is growing fast is most alarming and disturbing and it calls into question Nigeria's growth strategy; it calls into question how Nigeria can establish a growth process whereby the employment intensity of the growth process can be enhanced.

Al-Bashir: Afro-Arabs reject arrest warrant

By Tashikmah Hallah & Nasidi A. Yahaya

AFRO-ARAB parliamentarians have condemned the international Criminal Court (ICC) over what it called its meddling in the internal affairs of Sudan.

The Parliamentarians in a communiqué issued at the end of their 12th in Abuja yesterday, rejected ICC's accusations against the Sudanese President Mr Omar

Hassan Al-Bashir.

They said the accusations "are biased and founded on political motivations aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of Sudan and exerting pressure on the country to accept all that contradicts its sovereignty and national interest".

They also condemned Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian territory saying unless it withdraws from all occupied Arab territories in Palestine the Middle

East may not know peace.

The communiqué called for the establishment of a "comprehensive, just and permanent peace that guarantees the Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories in Palestine, the Syrian Golan, Sheeba farms, and Lebanese Kafr Shuba."

It condemned Israel's attack on Gaza at the beginning of this year, saying "the Afro-Arab conference reaffirms its strong condemna-

tion of the heinous aggression launched by Israel on Gaza at the beginning of this year, condemns the organised state terrorism practiced by Israel and follows with deep concern the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in the sector due to the continuation of the Israel blockade".

The conference called for peaceful co-existence among the Afro-Arabian countries and development of the world.

Petroleum pipelines are decaying, says PPMC boss

By Hamisu Muhammad

MOST of the petroleum pipelines in the country have rotted, the Managing Director of the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC), Mr. Reginald Stanley has said.

Speaking yesterday at the 2005/2006 Annual General Meeting of the PPMC, Stanley said most of the Pipelines in the country are over 30 years old and that they need to be replaced.

He said vandals have been unleashing terror on pipelines adding that PPMC is considering a proposal to dig deep to bury the pipelines in order to make them safe from vandals.

According to him a new technology is required to protect the pipelines and make them more efficient.

Fire over the weekend gutted pipelines that transports refined products from Atlast Cove to Mosimi Depot in Lagos

Executive Director, Operation of the PPMC, Sebastian Oyegun said "the system is bleeding, and intervention in the area of security and more investment is seriously needed. As I speak now we have people at the site trying to put the fire off and currently are making efforts to see how we can get a chopper to over fly the place."

Senate orders FG to deploy troops to Benin border

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

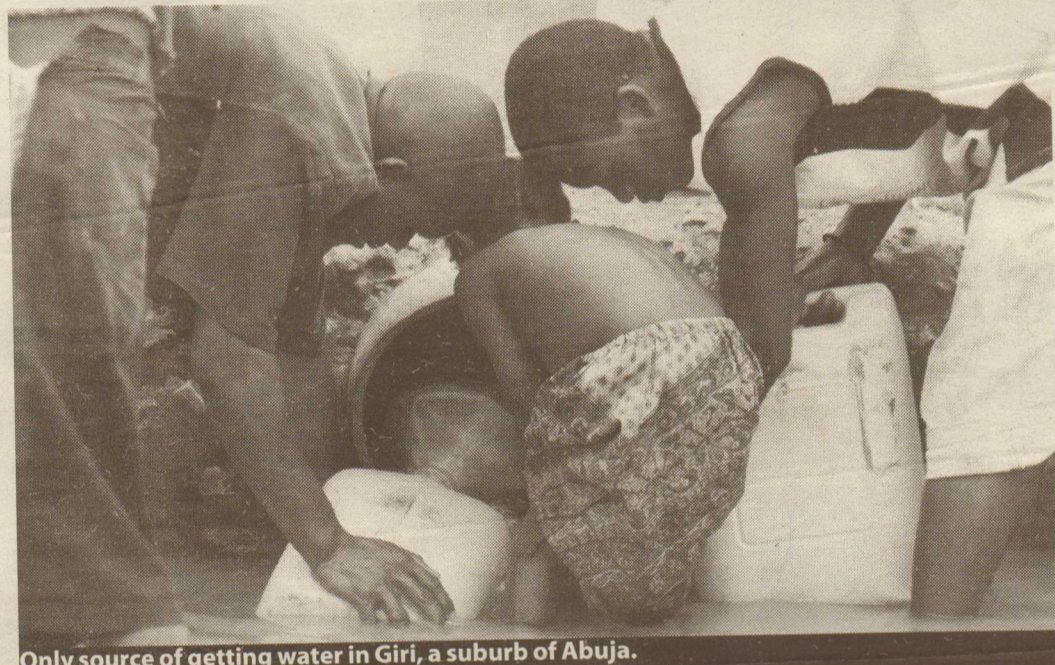
FOLLOWING recent attack on a Nigerian village in Kebbi State by communities from Benin Republic, the Senate yesterday asked the government to deploy security agencies including the army, immigration and customs to the border to forestall reoccurrence.

The resolution came after adoption of a motion moved by Senator Umar Abubakar Argungu (PDP, Kebbi North) on behalf of 38 other senators which notified the Senate that communities from neighboring Benin Republic attacked and razed the Tugar-Kungi village eight kilometers inside Nigeria.

According to Senator Argungu, "The attack was carried out by 2000 people mobilized from five villages and master-minded from Madikali village in Benin Republic. The sordid attack razed the entire Tugar-Kungi village to the ground leaving behind a pitiful situation of 1,500 displaced victims most of them women and children..."

He said the incursion violates ECOWAS treaty and is in breach of Nigeria's sovereignty adding, "Senate acknowledges the total absence of any Police or Army Barracks at such locations to deter would-be cross border aggressors."

The sordid attack razed the entire Tugar-Kungi village to the ground



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE.

Only source of getting water in Giri, a suburb of Abuja.

Oyinlola decries fall in military professionalism

By Benjamin Auta, in Ada Osun State

THE Osun State Governor, Olanusoye Oyinlola has decried the falling standards of professionalism in the armed forces in recent years.

He made the remark while delivering a goodwill message at the opening of the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) annual conference holding in Osun State.

"If the truth must be told, certain factors have militated against the overall development of the entire armed forces. The intervention of the military in poli-

tics, patriotic as the development seems, has done untold damage to the growth and standards in our armed forces," he said.

He however stated that the administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo took several steps to depoliticize and promote professionalism as action were taken to educate the military to subordinate itself to civilian authority.

On the nation's peacekeeping role in Africa, Governor Oyinlola said that those who criticise such actions are ignorant of the situa-

tion as it is 'costlier to contain war than to maintain peace.'

He commended Nigerian soldiers involved in peacekeeping effort all over the world for their exceptional performance as only the Nigerian military is reputed to be the most active in United Nations peacekeeping department in the past few decades.

He called on participants to ponder on the challenges of internal security especially the problems of militants in the Niger Delta region.

N/Assembly sits on 72 audit reports

By Yunus Abdulhamid

SEVENTY two audit reports deliberated upon and submitted by the Public Accounts Committee to the Senate and House of Representatives since 1999 are yet to be debated, the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) has said.

This was contained in a communiqué issued at the end of a forum organized by the CSJ in Abuja in collaboration with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The communiqué jointly signed by Eze Onyekpere, Lead Director, CSJ and Francis Alimigbe.

Called for the need to generate interest in re-listing and passage of Audit bill that was not signed by former president Olusegun Obasanjo in the last legislative year.

It also noted that the process and outcome of work of the office of the Auditor General are still kept away from the public particularly the media which restricts scrutiny and transparency.

The forum said the provisions of the 1999 constitution for Auditing required amendments in some areas including financing for recurrent and capital expenditure that is not charged on the consolidated revenue fund.

It agreed that the Auditor General of the Federation should impress on the executive and legislative authorities that his office has no statutory provisions to rely upon in the discharge of its functions without constitutional provisions repealing Audit act of 1956.

El-Rufai vs NASS: Court to hear suit May 27

By Atika Balal

A Federal High Court in Abuja yesterday fixed May 27 to begin hearing in a case filed by former Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Nasir El-Rufai contesting a report by the Senate committee on FCT which asked him to account for billions of naira government money and also banned him from holding public office for ten years.

El-Rufai sued the Senate, FCT Minister and Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) for violating his human rights.

Counsel to the AGF, N.O Ibom asked for an adjournment to enable them study the case, saying they were unaware it had been assigned to a particular court.

While granting the applicant leave to file his response out of time, Justice Mohammed Garba Umar said fresh processes should be served on the AGF and the Ministry of Justice before the next adjourned date.



MEMBERS of the Deeper Life Bible Church Choir, during the service of songs for Mrs Abiodun Kumuyi, wife of the General Superintendent of the Church at the Worship Centre in Kado, Abuja yesterday. Photo: NAN

Why Yar'adua now welcomes visitors

By AbdulFattah Olajide

PRESIDENT Umaru Yar'adua's invitation to elders and community leaders from all over the country to pay him a visit at the State House is meant to tap from the experience of such elders, the president explained yesterday.

He told South South community leaders who visited him that he extended the general invitation "so that we can interact because

our leaders have been in government and led this country through crises. They have vast experience. I thank you very much for this visit and I appreciate and encourage it".

Yar'adua said the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs was established specifically to tackle developmental problems in the region.

He expressed the hope that stakeholders participating in the South South summit in Calabar would be able to fashion out a

developmental strategy for the Niger Delta, using the 15-year Niger Delta Development Masterplan as a platform.

Chief Edwin Clark, who led the South-South delegation, told the president that the South-South Elders and Leaders Forum were at the Villa to pledge loyalty to him.

He thanked Yar'adua for establishing the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs and appointing two of their sons as its ministers. "We

congratulate you for your understanding of the problems of the Niger Delta.

You have allowed the Niger Delta Development Commission to remain, and you have provided more funds for them to operate," Clark said.

Also on the delegation were Chief Alfred Diette-Spiff, Chief Chukwudubem Nwuche, Alabo Tonye Graham-Douglas, Sen. Stella Omu, Chief John Odigie Oyegun and Mrs. Bolere Ketebu.

Ribadu: Tribunal fixes April 30 for ruling

THE Code of Conduct Tribunal on Thursday in Kaduna fixed next Thursday for ruling on an application for preliminary objection by former EFCC Chairman Nuhu Ribadu, over his appearance before it.

The tribunal had earlier heard arguments on the motion by Ribadu's Counsel, Mr Femi Falana, represented by Mr Olushola Agbeyinka. Agbeyinka had argued that the court lacked jurisdiction to hear the case, since it was improperly composed.

He said by the provisions of the 1999 Constitution and the Code of Conduct Bureau Act, the tribunal needed to have three members before it could be deemed to be properly constituted.

Agbeyinka said in the current case, the composition of the tribunal was by only two persons.

On the second part of the preliminary objection, he said the charge was "incompetent, frivolous and vexatious".

Arguing the motion in support of the second objection, Agbeyinka said the charges against Ribadu were targeted at public officers, noting that Ribadu ceased to be a public officer in December 2008.

He insisted that there was no provision for ex-chairmen, "unless the Constitution is amended," adding that the tribunal could only exercise jurisdiction over public officers.

President thanks Al-Faki as he quits

By Jibrin Abubakar & Idris Ahmed, Abuja and Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

SECURITIES and Exchange Commission [SEC] director general Musa Al-Faki's quit notice was accepted by President Umaru Yar'adua yesterday with a letter thanking him "for the achievements and efforts during your tenure with the SEC." He also wished him success in his future endeavours.

The statement by SEC's Head of Media Lanre Oloiyi said "The Honourable Minister further directed that all disengagement formalities should be completed on or before the 8th of May, 2009 and that Musa Al-Faki should handover to the Executive Commissioner (Operations) until the appointment of a substantive Director-General."

Both Al-Faki and Nigeria Stock Exchange director general Mrs. Ndidi Okereke-Onyiuke have been under pressure for months to resign following the steep meltdown in the Nigerian stock market, which was partly blamed on weak regulation.

The stock market, which had a capitalisation of N12.6 trillion last year, has fallen to around N5 trillion today.

And in Lagos yesterday, NSE's management suspended three dealing member houses from operating on the floor of the market as a result of various irregularities.

The suspended houses are Capital Bancorp Limited, Hamilton Hammer and Company Limited and Arian Capital Management Limited.

Announcing the suspension

on the market's floor, NSE's General Manager, Market Operations and Information Technology Mr. Binos Yaro said Arian Capital Management Limited is suspended for irregularly acquiring a Dealing License.

Also, its Chairman was functioning as the Managing Director without being a qualified stockbroker, contrary to Article 154 of The Rules and Regulation of The Exchange.

Hamilton Hammer and Co Limited, he said, was suspended for transferring 80 per cent of its equity holding to another party without due approval from the Exchange, while Capital Bancorp Limited was suspended for creating confusion over the ownership of the Dealing License of the Exchange: Capital Bancorp Limited or Bancorp Securities

Limited.

Meanwhile, the market rebound strongly with a N143 billion gain to close the market with N4.838 trillion.

This was against the previous day's trading of N4.695 trillion.

All share index also grew by 625.92 points to close at 21,303.02 points against the previous day dealings of 20,677.10 point level

Accompanying Yaro to the trading floor were the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS), Dr. Onyewuchi Asinobi.

Mr. Farooq Oreagba, General Manager, Strategy and New Products Department and Mr. Funso Fatobi, Deputy General Manager, Private Placement and Emerging Market Department, made the announcement.

External thugs threatens Ekiti re-run — INEC

By Muideen Olaniyi

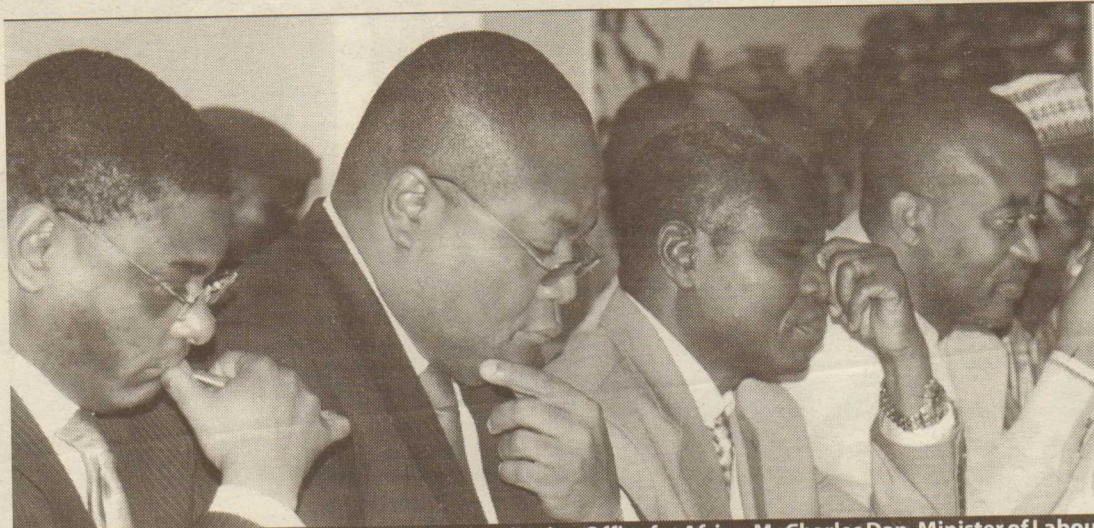
THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) said yesterday that external influences were the real threat to the Ekiti state governorship re-run election. INEC National Commissioner in charge of Information and Publicity, Barr. Philip Umeadi said yesterday in Abuja that there was no tension in Ekiti as the 13 political parties contesting the re-run had shown that they were committed to the success of the election.

"We are bothered about the idea of cross-border thugs. From all indications, the problem and tension associated with campaigns and preparations for the supplementary governor-

ship election in Ekiti State at the moment come from outside Ekiti State. We are pleading with outside influences to leave Ekiti State and its affairs to Ekiti people," Umeadi said.

Meanwhile, the Conference of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP) has challenged President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to use Saturday's governorship rerun election in Ekiti State as a test case.

In a statement in Abuja by its National Publicity Secretary, Mr Osita Okechukwu CNPP said it posed the challenge because "Nigerians are fatigued and no longer believe or trust President Yar'adua and his high profound statements and promises that are broken at will."



FROM left: Director, International Labour Organisation Office for Africa, Mr Charles Dan, Minister of Labour and Productivity, Prince Adetokumbo Kayode, Ghanaian Minister of Labour, Mr Stephen Kwao and his Liberian counterpart, Mr Samuel Woods at the Employment Summit in Abuja yesterday

Nightmare puts 13-year-old marriage asunder

A nightmare has put asunder a 13-year-old marriage in Ibadan. A private security guard, Mr Lateef Odunayo, had dragged his petty trader wife, Kudiratu, before an Ibadan Grade 'C' Customary Court on the grounds that she had attempted to kill him in his dream.

He told the court that in the dream, his wife wore a mask, pulled his legs forcefully with a view to flooring him and dealing with him. Odunayo said that because of the nightmare, he was no longer interested in the marriage which had produced two daughters. He said he had lost interest in the relationship.

Kudiratu however opposed the divorce and described Odunayo as a caring husband who had always met her financial needs. The Acting Court President, Mrs



GOV. Adebayo Alao-Akala

Ibijoke Adeleke-Gomes, went ahead to grant the divorce when Odunayo stood his ground. While awarding the custody of their two daughters to Odunayo, Adeleke-Gomes urged the estranged couple to maintain peace at all times. (NAN)

Benue unhappy with level of foreign investment

From Hir Joseph, Makurdi

BENUE State government has expressed disappointment that the drive by Governor Gabriel Suswam to woo foreign investment to the state has not yielded the expected results.

The state Commissioner for Information and Culture, Mr. Ntol Unongo who spoke to Daily Trust yesterday called for patience, saying the governor's foreign trips would surely turn the state into a haven of investment. She described widespread criticism

of the governor's foreign trips as misplaced, saying; "we need to be patient; these things will come up very soon". She acknowledged that the governor is not resting on the trips as a major aspect of the drive for foreign investment.

Unongo also blamed electricity crisis in the country as one of the factors responsible for the low investment drive. She said the agriculture sector of the state had attracted tremendous investment because of the governor's trips to the state of Iowa in the United States.

Plateau launches education fund for handicapped children

THE Plateau State government has launched a special education fund for handicapped children. Mrs Sarah Ochekepe, Chairperson, Plateau State Universal Basic Education Board, told newsmen yesterday in Jos that the fund would cater for the provision of instructional materials and learning aids for children with disabilities.

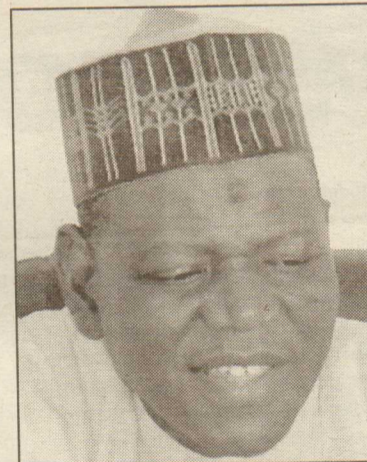
She said already, special classrooms to meet the learning needs of the students had been constructed in Jos North, Jos South and Shendam Local Government Areas. Ochekepe said other local government areas in the state would benefit from the fund under the second phase of the programme. She cautioned parents in some local government areas who were depriving their daughters of their education rights to desist from such act, stressing that girls should be given equal educational opportunities like boys.

"Currently, we have a 50-50 enrollment ratio between boys and girls, but in a few local government areas, cases abound of parents depriving their daughters the opportunity to go to school," she added. She said although some girls dropped out of school due to social problems. (NAN)

Jigawa fixes Hajj fare at N450,000

JIGAWA State government has fixed Hajj fare at N450,000 for intending pilgrims from the state. The Director General, Jigawa State Pilgrims Welfare Board, Alhaji Suleiman Usman, made this known yesterday in an interview with newsmen in Dutse.

He said the amount was fixed after series of consultations between the board and officials of the state government. Usman said N10,000 would be paid by each intending pilgrim for the processing of e-passports and documentation. The Director General said that besides the payments, anyone wishing to perform the Hajj must meet other conditions, which the board would strictly enforce. He said all intending Pilgrims must be muslims, physically-fit as well as being free from any criminal conviction, adding that they must also not be insane. Usman said if the Hajj fare for the year from the National Hajj Commission (NAHCOM) was lower



GOV Sule Lamido

than the amount collected, the board would refund the balance. The Director General, who said that intending pilgrims would be made to pay the difference if the fare was higher, added that the Hajj fares would soon be announced by the Federal Government. (NAN)

Ogun varsity gets acting V C

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

OGUN State Governor Gbenga Daniel yesterday approved the appointment of an Acting Vice Chancellor for the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye. He is Professor Olusoga Sofola, who until his appointment was a professor of physiology, College of Medicine, University of Lagos. The council of the university had at its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, asked the Vice chancellor, the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Prof. O.O Otolorin, the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Administration), Prof. E.O

Ajayi and Acting Registrar, Mr. Osinilu to proceed on leave with immediate effect. In a release signed by the Chief Press Secretary of the council, Adegbenro Adebajo yesterday the confirmation of Prof. Sofola was based on the list forwarded to the governor by the Council.

Adebajo hinted that the Acting Vice Chancellor brings to his office an impressive academic credential and rich administrative background garnered over the years in the university system. He had served as Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Research, at the University of Lagos between 2003 and 2007.

Man in court for killing lover

From Monday Osayande, Asaba

A 39 year old driver, Goodnews Atonmeta who allegedly stabbed his lover, Ngozi Esinre Eboraka, to death has been remanded in prison custody.

Chief Magistrate Patricia U. Nsolo who sent the accused to custody said yesterday that she lacked jurisdiction to hear the case and therefore ordered that the case file be sent to the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) for advice.

The court heard that Mrs Eboka was killed with a broken bottle, an offence punishable under section 319 of the Criminal Code Cap 48 Volume 11 law of the defunct Bendel State as applicable to Delta state.

No plea was taken when the charge was read to the accused while the police prosecutor, Corporal Adama Emmanuel, announced his appearance in the case.

The Magistrate adjourned the case to 26th May 2009.

Fashola threatens to prosecute erring Eyo masquerades

From Abdulhakeem F. Akinola, Lagos

AS residents of Lagos State prepare for Saturday's Eyo festival, the state government has threatened to prosecute any Eyo masquerade who breaks the rules guiding the festival. In order to ensure a hitch free festival, the state government has made the over 1,000 masquerades that will participate in the parade to sign an undertaking of good behaviour.

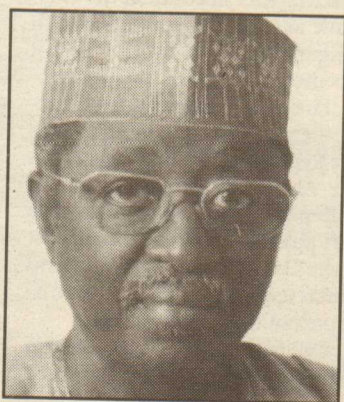
The government has also barred commercial buses from entering Lagos Island on Saturday, saying the decision was taken to forestall congestion of the venue of the festival.

While addressing journalists, Governor Babatunde Fashola charged Eyo masquerades to participate in the festival according to government's expectation, noting that his administration would not condone any act of lawlessness. "Any masquerade who does not abide by the rules would be guest of the Police", he warned. Fashola added that the departure from previous Eyo festivals was due to the concern of elders who noticed a decline in the standard of performance, introduction of unwholesomeness and reduced viewership.



GOVERNOR Fashola of Lagos State

Plateau to re-open state varsity



GOVERNOR Jang of Plateau State

THE Plateau Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr Edward Pwajok, has said that modalities are being worked out to re-open the state university in Bokokos. Pwajok made this known when he appeared before the state House of Assembly's standing Committee on Education. The Committee had invited him to explain why academic activities at the institution had been stopped by Governor Jonah Jang without recourse to the Act establishing the institution.

According to the Attorney-General, the university is still in existence as long as the enabling Act has not been repealed, but consultations are ongoing for its re-opening. Also testifying before the Committee, the Chairman of ALGON in Plateau, Nicholas Nshe, said that deductions from local councils for funding the university stopped in March, 2007.

NAFDAC bans shampoo that causes cancer

THE NAFDAC Coordinator in Zamfara State, Mr Bugu Peter yesterday in Gusau said the agency had banned the use of some brands of Shampoo that caused skin cancer. Peter stated this in an interview with newsmen. He said the brands of Shampoo contained "dioxine," a substance that caused skin cancer, warning that the products were in circulation in markets of the major cities. The coordinator advised the public to shun Shampoo products contain-

ing the substance as well as "any brand of Shampoo whose chemical contents are not clearly written."

According to him, the NAFDAC has already taken steps to withdraw the products, which, he said, have found their way into the markets. He urged the public to assist NAFDAC in its effort at safeguarding the health of the citizenry, by promptly alerting the agency on the presence of the products in shops and markets. (NAN)



COMMITTEE OF PROVOSTS, COLLEGES OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

A COMMUNIQUE PRESENTED AT THE END OF COP RETREAT HELD AT THE YANKARI GAME RESERVE, BAUCHI STATE BETWEEN 25TH - 26TH FEBRUARY, 2009.

The Committee of Provosts, Colleges of Education in Nigeria [COP] is the body of all Provosts of Federal, State and Private Colleges of Education in Nigeria.

The Committee released the following Communique at the end of its maiden Retreat held between 25th - 26th February, 2009 at the Yankari Game Reserve, Bauchi State.

The Retreat notes with appreciations the active participation and support of the Executive Governors of Bauchi and Gombe States, the Honourable Ministers of Education, the Director Tertiary Education, Federal Ministry of Education, the Executive Secretary, National Commission for Colleges of Education [NCCCE], the Registrar/Chief Executive, Teachers' Registration Council of Nigeria [TRCN] and host of other Internationally acclaimed ICT firms in Nigeria at the Retreat.

Four [4] major papers were presented at the function viz;

- i. Teacher Education Policies and Reforms in Nigeria
- ii. Reforming Education: The Nigerian Experience
- iii. ICT in Teacher Education
- iv. Content Development and Learner Management [ICT]

At the end of the event, the Retreat notes and/or recommends as follows:

- > Appreciates the recent appointment of selected top level academics and administrators by Mr. President, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yardua [GCFR] to manage the affairs of the education sector, especially Teacher Education at both Ministerial and Council levels. This was indeed seen as a timely development.
- > The Retreat applauded the on going reforms effort of the Federal Government of Nigeria in the educational sector spearheaded by the Federal Ministry of Education. This was seen as a necessity in order to improve and/or provide quality education and service delivery as well as life long learning relevant to the dynamics of global change.
- > The Retreat noted with appreciation the current efforts of the Federal Government of Nigeria as part of the reforms to improve the products of the Nigerian educational system so that they become highly skilled and trained to compete globally through such initiatives as:
 - i. Education Tracking Assets for Progress [Ed. TAP]
 - ii. Innovation Enterprise Institutions [IEIs] and
 - iii. Vocational Enterprise Institution Establishment
- > Identified the pivotal role of a Teacher towards achieving the desired vision 20 - 20 - 20, the Seven Point Agenda and the Millenium Development Goals [MDG], hence the need for professional Teachers and the process of professionalisation now on going in Nigeria
- > It was agreed that while the initial Teacher Training Programme as provided by the various Teacher Training Institutions [Colleges of Education, Universities etc] was adequate, there was need for the provision of induction/internship training by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria [TRCN] and inservice training for Teachers through refresher courses, seminars, conferences, workshops and short term courses in sandwich programmes among others to improve their efficiencies.
- > There was need to streamline and harmonise the diversified proliferated courses and certification on Teacher Education in Nigeria such as TC II, TTC, NCE, PGDE, ANTC etc so that uniformity of purpose and quality control is facilitated.
- > The dearth of Technology input into Teacher Training was noted as a major retardant to propel Nigeria's Educational System to the next level, the conference therefore re-emphasised on the need for total integration of ICT into curricular administration for teaching and the digitalisation of our learning sources as against the current practice.
- > E - Learning was seen as a good option to overcome the limitation of the current conservative school system in terms of accessibility, enrolment and resource limitations. It also has the advantages of universalisation, commercialisation and simplification of teaching and learning, but is constrained presently by the absence of some basic infrastructure such as epileptic electricity supply, poverty and low computer literacy level of the citizenry.
- > The Conference finally appreciates the individual and collective efforts of all those who supported the maiden gathering to make it a reality.

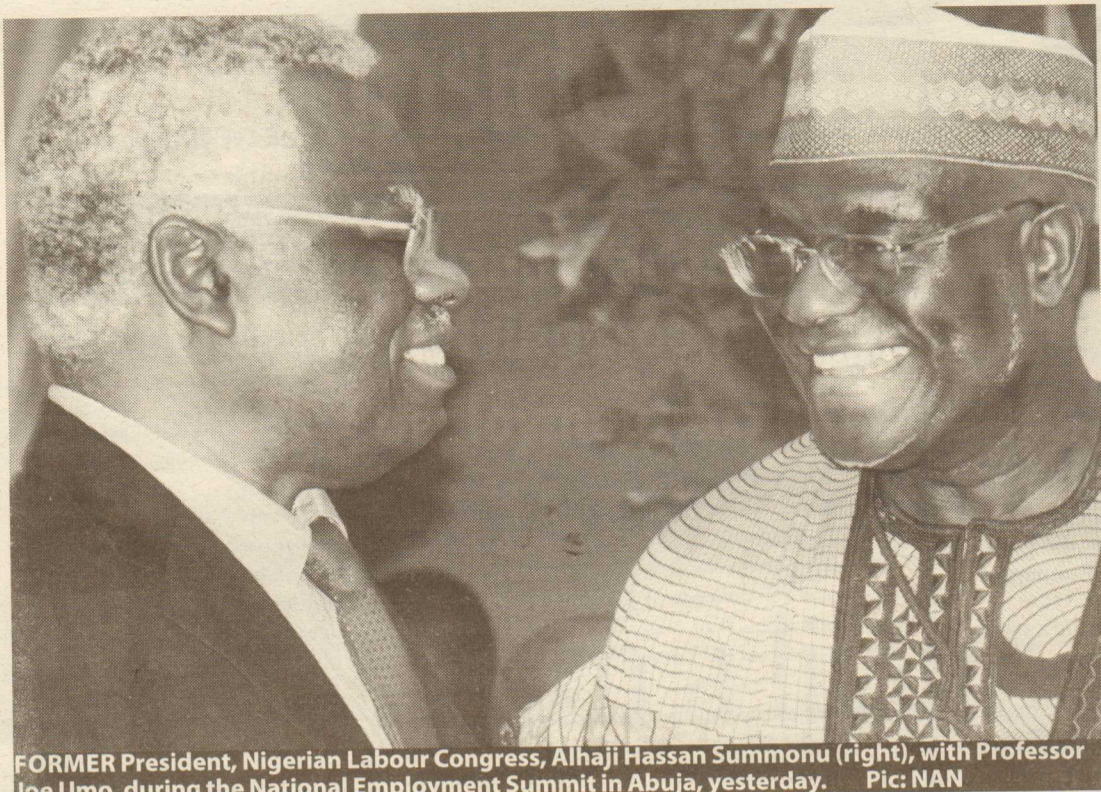
NOTICE FOR THE 56th COP REGULAR MEETING

This is to inform all COP members that the 56th COP General Meeting has been scheduled to hold as follows:

Arrival:	Monday, 4th May, 2009
Committees Meeting:	Tuesday, 5th May, 2009
General Meeting:	Wednesday, 6th May, 2009
Departure:	Thursday, 7th May 2009
Venue:	College of Education, Agbor, Delta State

Please be punctual as crucial issues will be discussed. Journey mercies.

Dr. Shettima A. Saidu [FCSN, FICCON]
Chairman



FORMER President, Nigerian Labour Congress, Alhaji Hassan Summonu (right), with Professor Joe Umo, during the National Employment Summit in Abuja, yesterday. Pic: NAN

BAOBAB trains female journalists

BY Jamila Nuhu Musa

A non-governmental organisation, BAOBAB for Women's Human Right IS training female journalists in Nigeria to enable them get enhanced representation in the media in order to project their cause.

The Executive Director, Sindi Medar-Gould, said that the four-day Leadership Training of Facilitators for Female Journalists will build

the self esteem and confidence of women in the media for them to take up leadership challenges.

Medar-Gould said one of the major challenges of Nigeria's leadership, has been the systematic exclusion of women in decision making. "In most, if not all communities across Nigeria, men are perceived as dominant and women as subordinate at work, in politics and in law enforcement institutions", she said.

She acknowledged the significance of women's access to social justice in Nigeria and said that BAOBAB in conjunction with another NGO, WLP, recognises the media as a force to be reckoned with in the modern world as their role as agent of change cannot be overemphasized.

He said BAOBAB as the African Hub, has run leadership training for diverse sectors of women nationally and internationally.

Ogun Assembly observes session without suspended members

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

AFTER exactly 50 days (March 3rd - April 22nd) of staying away from legislative activities, Ogun State House of Assembly came alive Wednesday, as a plenary session was held.

The sitting was however observed without the two suspended members, Titi Oseni (the former Speaker) and Barr. Omotunde Solaja, representing Abeokuta South 11 and Ikenne state constituencies.

On Tuesday, the state Commissioner of Police, Hasim Argungun declared in Abuja before the National Assembly that the removal of the former Speaker last year was among factors responsible for the crisis between the legislature and the executive arms in the state. The House had been enmeshed

in the crisis with the Daniel-led executive over what some of the aggrieved members described as "usurping the constitutional roles of the House and non-implementation of some crucial bills"

The development had led to the threat by the House of Representatives to take over the legislative functions if the House failed to sit within 14 days which elapsed last week Thursday. The state's elders' intervention prevented what would have been a last resort as the aggrieved lawmakers tagged the G-15 supported the planned take over by the federal lawmakers.

Council seals 5 coys over fake drugs

From Hassan A Karofi, Kano

THE Pharmaceutical Council of Nigeria has sealed five companies' depots in Kano and warned that it would take legal measures to ensure compliance of regulation governing drug manufacturing in the state.

The companies affected include Orange Drugs, Emzor Pharmaceuticals, Chi Pharmaceuticals, Evans and Palma Organics. The action followed an inspection of pharmaceutical companies in the state by the council's inspection committee headed by the Director, pharmaceutical services, Ministry of Health, Alhaji Tijjani Nasidi. The committee said the companies were sealed as a result of their refusal to register and the lukewarm attitude towards ethical practices.

Tijjani added that the measure became necessary as a result of frequent cases of fake drug circulation across the state. He said government would not fold

its arms and watch citizens being cheated and warned that henceforth, any pharmaceutical company that does not expose itself to the scrutiny of the PCN would be shut, adding that the mobile court on drugs was still on and would soon start operation.



KANO Gov. Ibrahim Shekarau

Police smash kidnap syndicate in Oyo

From Yemi Bamidele, Ibadan

TWENTY five year old Funsho Otuyale alias Abu Martins, who is the leader of a kidnapers syndicate operating in Ibadan has been arrested by the Oyo State Police Command. With him in the police net is one Henry Adekunle, a gang member.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Baba Bolanta disclosed this in Ibadan on Wednesday while parading the suspects before journalists. The police boss added that a serious manhunt had already been mounted by the Command for two other members of the syndicate named as Chidi and Taoheed, now on the run.

Bolanta said the suspects had kidnapped a three-year-old son of one Dr. Iyabo Bassir after dispossessing the woman of some valuables and later demanded a ransom of N20 million for the release of the boy.

Dr. Iyabo Bassir, the mother of the kidnapped boy, according to the commissioner had on March 29 this year reported to the command that a gang of three armed men stormed her residence at about 10 p.m. and took her valuables including N38,000 and \$138 together with her Mercedes Benz 230 V.Boot. Acting on the report, the police set out for members of the syndicate who had taken the child and abandoned the car at Ile-Ido. The commissioner told newsmen that Funso Otuyale, Henry Adekunle and one Taoheed who participated in the kidnap passed the night under Ogunmakin Bridge along Abeokuta Road, but later took the child to Obajana and Lokoja in Kogi State from where they called

the mother, Dr. Iyabo Bassir and demanded for ransom.

The police, in collaboration with the State Security Services (SSS) then started work on their arrest. The commissioner explained that the kidnapers demanded that the ransom be paid through Western Union Transfer. It was at that stage that the police encouraged the mother, Dr. Iyabo Bassir to play along with them. N300,000 was eventually raised and paid into one Abu Martins' account at the GTB Bank as earlier negotiated with the gang on the condition that it was merely a part of the ransom.

The gang leader, Funso Otuyale then went to a computer analyst to procure an identity card as one Abu Martins and a cement dealer in Obajana sequel to the part payment of the ransom just as the Oyo State police command contacted their Kogi State counterpart of the development.

On 16th April, 2009 Funso Otuyale alias Abu Martins went to draw money from the said account at the Lokoja Branch of the bank and he was arrested.



POLICE IG Okiro



GOVERNOR Gbenga David



FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
HEALTH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT II
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARIAT
(WORLD BANK ASSISTED PROJECT)

Ref: FCT/HSDP II/PU/151 & 152

Date: 24th /04/2009

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE.
CREDIT NO. 3653 UNI.

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (IFEOI).

PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES:
CONSULTANCY SERVICES OF THE FCT HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERY ASSESSMENT SURVEY, FCT 5 YEAR (2009 - 2014) STRATEGIC HEALTH CARE PLAN, CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE FOR THE 6 AREA COUNCIL'S HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN THE FCT ON THE STATE OF THE ART BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENTS IN THE 6 PHCs CONSTRUCTED BY THE PROJECT AND CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE ON THE ICD 10TH EDITION OF DISEASES CLASSIFICATIONS AND CODING SYSTEM FOR THE FCT HEALTH CARE WORKERS.

1. This invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the UN Development Business Issue No. 608 of June 16, 2003.

2. The Federal Government of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of FCT Health Systems Development Project II, and intend to apply part of the proceeds of this credit payment under the contract for the Consultancy Services of:

- (i) FCT HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERY ASSESSMENT SURVEY.
- (ii) FCT 5 YEAR (2009 - 2014) STRATEGIC HEALTH CARE PLAN.
- (iii) CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE FOR THE 6 AREA COUNCIL'S HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN THE FCT ON THE STATE OF THE ART BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENTS IN THE 6 PHCs CONSTRUCTED BY THE PROJECT.
- (iv) CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE ON THE ICD 10TH EDITION OF DISEASES CLASSIFICATIONS AND CODING SYSTEM FOR THE FCT HEALTH CARE WORKERS.

3. The FCT Health Systems Development Project II, now invites sealed Expression of Interest (EOI) from eligible Consultancy Firms to indicate their interest in providing the Consultancy Services as already stated in 2 (i - iv) above. Interested Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (Brochures, Core Business of the Firm, Technical and Managerial Organisation of the Firm, Description of Similar Assignments in the last 5 years, Experience In Similar Conditions, Availability of Appropriate Skills Among the Key Personnel and Adequacy of the Technical Approach and the Methodology to the Assignment). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualification.

S/N	LOT	DESCRIPTIONS
1	LOT 1	FCT HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERY ASSESSMENT SURVEY.
2	LOT 2	FCT 5 YEAR (2009 - 2014) STRATEGIC HEALTH CARE PLAN.
3	LOT 3	CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE FOR THE 6 AREA COUNCIL'S HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN THE FCT ON THE STATE OF THE ART BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT IN THE 6 PHCs CONSTRUCTED BY THE PROJECT.
4	LOT 4	CONSULTANCY TRAINING SERVICE ON THE ICD 10 TH EDITION OF DISEASES CLASSIFICATIONS AND CODING SYSTEM FOR THE FCT HEALTH CARE WORKERS.

4. A Consultancy Firm will be selected through the Consultant Qualification Procedures (CQ) as specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Consultancy under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by the World Bank Borrowers, May, 2004 as revised in October, 2006, and is opened to Bidders/Firms from eligible source countries as defined in the guidelines.

5. Interested eligible Bidders/Firms may obtain further information from the office of the Project Manager, FCT Health Systems Development II, First Floor, Hamdala Plaza, No. 23, Jimmy Carter Street, Asokoro, Abuja, during the hours of 0900hrs to 1600hrs. Tel: 09-3146449.

6. This Specific Procurement Notice of Invitation For Expression of Interest (EOI) shall remain valid for 14 days while the submitted EOI shall also remain valid within the EOI validity period of 14 days from the EOI Opening Date and shall be delivered to the office of the Project Manager, FCT Health Systems Development Project II, First Floor, Hamdala Plaza, No. 23, Jimmy Carter Street, Asokoro, Abuja on or before the 7th of May, 2009 by 12:00noon at which time the EOI Opening and Evaluation exercise will commence accordingly.

Signed:

Jamilu Isa Yanklwashe, AMNIM, PNM.
Project Manager
FCT Health Systems Development Project II
World Bank Assisted Project
Health and Human Services Secretariat
Federal Capital Territory Administration
First Floor, Hamdala Plaza, No. 23, Jimmy Carter Street,
Asokoro, Abuja. Tel: 09-3146449



JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC & NON-ACADEMIC STAFF UNIONS (JAC)

A. D. Rufa'i College for Legal & Islamic Studies
P.M.B. 004, Misau Chapter-Bauchi State

COMMUNIQUÉ

JOINT CONGRESS RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC STAFF UNIONS OF A.D. RUFAl COLLEGE FOR LEGAL AND ISLAMIC STUDIES MISAU ON THE LEADERSHIP OF

DR. YAHYA IBRAHEEM YERO

The joint Congress of the Academic and Non academic staff unions of A.D. Rufa'i College for Legal and Islamic Studies Misau have on 8th April, 2009 met and amongst other things considered the interest shown by the provost Dr. Yahya Ibraheem Yero to continue for another four years after the expiration of his present tenure come 30th June, 2009. The Congress unanimously expressed their total dissatisfaction on the way the provost has been handling the affairs of the College without regard to human relation and could not carry along his closest subordinates with genuine humility.

The Congress further observed that, while the caring government of Malam Isah Yuguda has put its full attention and effort in renovating and upgrading the college infrastructure the Provost has already created a state of chaos in the rank and file of the College staff and other relevant important bodies thereby causing industrial disharmony which resulted into problematic atmosphere for teaching, learning and general administration of the college. The Chairman of the joint congress comrade Sarkin Daji Saleh while expressing the views of the members

commended the government of Mal. Isah Yuguda for the quality upgradation work presently going on in the college and for the implementation of new Salary package (CONTISS) for state tertiary institutions which would eventually improve the output of the tertiary institutions in great measure.

The Chairman further urged the members to remain calm. However, he called on the state government particularly the Board responsible for steering the affairs of the college to consider fully the resolution of the unions representing the entire staff in the interest of peace and tranquility, which is vital in an atmosphere of learning and research like ours.

The two Congresses therefore wish to use this medium to express and declare their vote of no confidence against the provost.

Long live ASU/NASU/CLIS Misau.
Long live A.D.R CLIS Misau!!
Long live Bauchi State Government!!!

Signed:

S. Daji Saleh, Chairman
Ahmad Fema, Secretary
Usman M. Sani, P.R.O.



FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC, OFFA

P. M. B. 420, OFFA, KWARA STATE. www.fedpoffa.edu.ng

RE: INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE VACANT POSTS OF REGISTRAR, BURSAR AND PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANTS

EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

1. EXTENSION OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

The Federal Polytechnic Offa, advertised for the vacant posts of Polytechnic Registrar, Bursar and Principal Accountants in the Daily Trust of Tuesday, March 17, 2009 and Nigerian Compass of Wednesday March 18th 2009.

The Polytechnic wish to inform interested candidates for the posts advertised and the public that the submission of applications for the advertised posts has been extended by 2 weeks. The new closing date for the submission of advertisement is **Wednesday, April 29, 2009**. Interested candidates for the various posts can submit applications on or before the new date.

Other requirements for each post as contained in the advertisement in the Daily Trust of Tuesday, March 17, 2009 and Nigerian Compass of Wednesday, March 18th 2009 remain.

2. METHOD OF APPLICATION

a. Post of Registrar

Applicants for the post of Registrar are required to forward their applications and Curriculum Vitae with photocopies of their credentials under confidential cover to:

THE RECTOR
The Federal Polytechnic,
P. M. B. 420,
Offa, Kwara State.

Applicants are also advised to request their referees to forward references on them under confidential cover to the Rector.

b. Posts of Bursar and Principal Accountants

Applicants for the posts of Bursar and Principal Accountants are to forward their applications and Curriculum Vitae with photocopies of their credentials under confidential cover to:

THE AG. REGISTRAR,
The Federal Polytechnic,
P. M. B. 420,
Offa, Kwara State.

Applicants are advised to request their referees to forward references on them under confidential cover to the Ag. Registrar.

Signed

ALH. M. A. NAFIU
AG. REGISTRAR



MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE COUNCIL OF NIGERIA
FEDERAL STATUTORY BODY ESTABLISHED BY ACT 11, 2003

INVITES

All Medical Laboratory Scientists, Technicians,
Assistants and members of the public

To the

**2009 Worldwide Biomedical Laboratory
Science Day Celebration**

THEME

**Cancer: Find the Cause Today;
Find the Cure Tomorrow**

Under the distinguished chairmanship of

Dr. Oni Idigbe

(Former Director General, Nigerian Institute
of Medical Research, Yaba, Lagos)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS SPEAKER;

Prof. E. E. U. Akang

Dept. of Pathology
University College Hospital Ibadan

Date:

Monday 27th April, - Wednesday 29th April, 2009.

DAY ONE

27th April, 2009

Activity 1 - Cancer Awareness Walk
(8 Harvey Road , Yaba To Tejuosho Market, Lagos)

Time: - 8.00 A.M. Prompt

Activity 2 - Free Cancer Screening

Venue: - Fed. Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital , Yaba

Time: - 9.00 A.M.

DAY TWO

29th April, 2009

Activity - Official Opening Ceremony

Venue: - Nigerian Institute Medical Research, Yaba

Time: - 10.00 A.M. Prompt

The Programme attracts no fees. However, the two (2) Credit Units
is registrable for CPD points toward recertification for Medical
Laboratory Scientists.

LADY E. U. OKONKWO

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

&

SECRETARY TO GOVERNING COUNCIL



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

FEDERAL SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, PHASE III,
SHEHU SHAGARI WAY,
MAITAMA - ABUJA

The Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Sam
O. Egwu, invites members of the National
Assembly Committees on Education, State
Commissioners for Education, Development
Partners, Chief Executives of Education's
Parastatals, Heads of Tertiary Institutions,
Members of the National Open Distance
Education Network (NODEN), Open Distance
Learning Providers, Service Providers, Media,
NGOs, CBOs, FBOs and All Education
Stakeholders to a **2-Day Advocacy Workshop on
Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in Nigeria.**

Theme: "The Role of ODL in Achieving
Vision 20-2020".

Date: 28th - 29th April, 2009.

Venue: National Open University of
Nigeria, Abuja office, 5, Dar-e
Salaam Street, Wuse II, Abuja.

Time: 10:00am prompt.

Please note that this Workshop is crucial and
compliments the on-going drive towards
repositioning the Education Sector with its 4-
Point Agenda of:

- Access and Equity
- Standards and Quality assurance
- Technical and Vocational Education and
Training.
- Funding and Resource Utilization.

Registration commences from 8:00am - 8:30am.

Guests are to be seated by 9:30am.

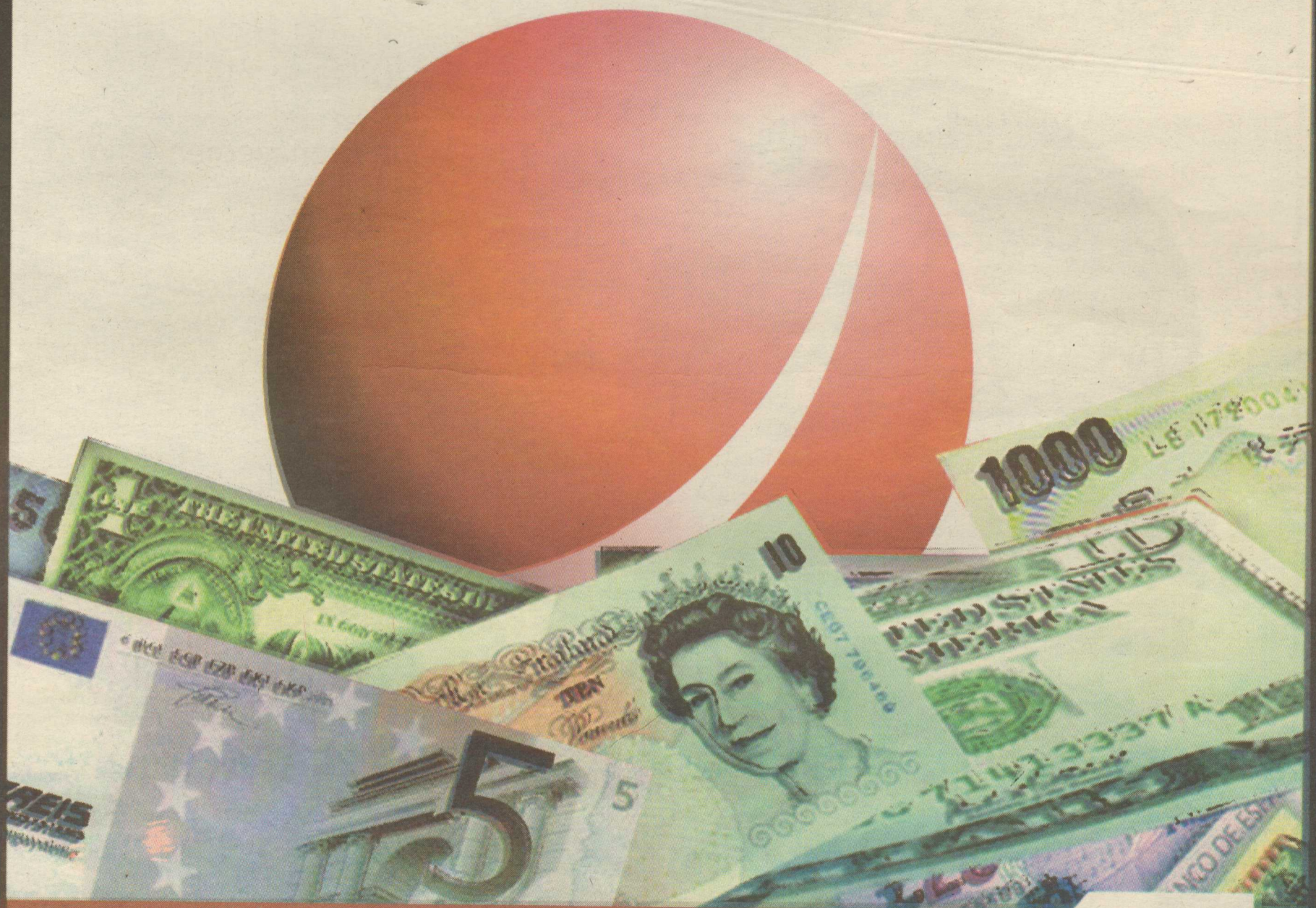
For further enquiries, you may please contact e-
mail: adukeare@yahoo.com or
petroluniv@yahoo.com; or call 0805-535-8317 &
0803-311-9298.

Signed:
Permanent Secretary

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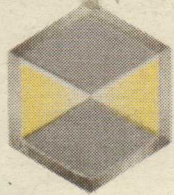
KABO AIR LIMITED

heartily rejoice and congratulate
you on your recent well deserve
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**Executive Director, Corporate
and Investment Banking**
by the Board of **Unity Bank Plc**

ADEKUNLE ABDULRAZAQ OYINLOYE

Executive Director, Corporate and Investment Banking
Unity Bank Plc

Signed: MANAGEMENT



Intercontinental Bank Plc



The Board, Management and Entire Staff of

Intercontinental Bank Plc

Heartily rejoice and congratulates
Alhaji Nu'uman Barau Dambatta, OON, mni

On his turbanning ceremony

as **Ajiyan Kazaure**

on Saturday 11th April, 2009

by His Royal Highness, Emir of Kazaure

Alhaji Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON

Your turbaning as **Ajiyan Kazaure** is a clear testimony to selfless service, dedication to duty and development of entire people of Kazaure, Jigawa State and Nigeria in general.

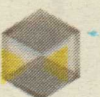
Intercontinental Bank is proud to be associated with you.

*May Almighty Allah (S.W.T) continued to guide, protect and crown all your effort with resounding glory.
Ameen.*

ALHAJI NU'UMAN BARAU DAMBATT, OON, mni
Ajiyan Kazaure

Signed:

MANAGEMENT



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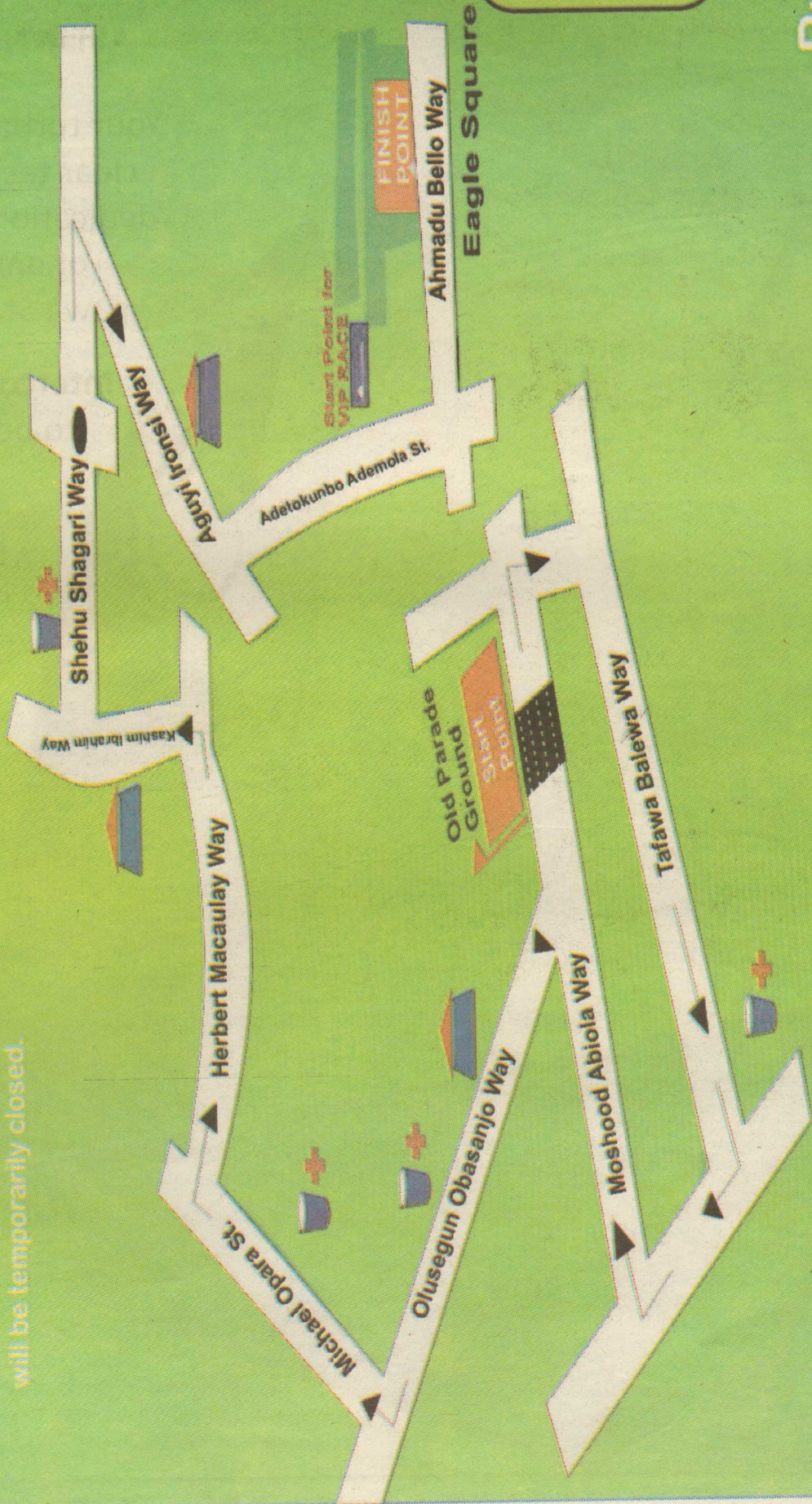


If you are not with the force, please take an alternative route

On Saturday, April 25, between 7.00 am and 11.00 am the following marathon routes will be temporarily closed.



Race against crime



WATER
 MEDICAL
 FUN SPOT

LEGEND
 Start Point: VIP Race (1 Kilometre)
 Start Point: 21Kilometre Race
 Finish Point for All: Eagle Square
 21 km Race: Old Parade Ground Moshood Abiola Way, Area 8 Garki
 VIP Race: Federal Secretariat Entrance by Ahmadu Bello Way

Rule your world **glo**



By Yejide Ojeifo

Rerun polls: Memo to Ekiti people

Allow me to add my voice, in the form of admonition, to Ekiti people and the political personalities that are warming up to engage one another in the polls, just perhaps they would become more reasonable in their desperate scramble for political power and allow the will of the people to triumph. From the political developments and engagements in the state since the Court of Appeal, Ilorin, ordered rerun election in the affected wards in the 10 local government areas, it is clear that some entrenched political interests outside the state, acting in concert with some elements in the state, want to take over the reins of power in Ekiti by stealth. They have deployed all stratagems, chief of which is despicable propaganda to misrepresent the political reality on ground in the state. The good thing, however, is that media propaganda is an elite thing, which has a short pace.

Besides, it is indeed gratifying that only a minute fraction of the masses of Ekiti, those whose votes are needed to win the rerun poll, read newspapers. I am sure that those that read will always wonder whether the Ekiti that has become the butt of propaganda in the media is the same enclave wherein they live. They are thus quick to see the welter of propaganda for what they are - wicked acts of misinformation.

The celebration of impeached former Governor Ayo Fayose as a political factor that can swing the pendulum of victory in favour or against any of the candidates in the rerun election is patently incorrect. Fayose bungled a rare opportunity to write his name in gold in the political annals of the state while in the saddle. After conflicting with his party's leadership, occasioned by his maladministration, which led to his impeachment, Fayose had the opportunity of winning the sympathy of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) controlled Federal Government by professing support for the party, even if the profession amounts to nothing. Rather, he chose to support the opposition. National Chairman of the PDP, Prince Vincent Ogbulafor put it succinctly when he said that Fayose has committed political suicide by opting to work for the opposition party.

Perhaps, this is why the opposition has provoked frenzy in the state. It has continuously hyped the propaganda in the media that the PDP wants to rig the election and I shudder at this proposition. This is a spurious pre-election rigging mantra to rationalize and validate its expected defeat at the polls so that gullible Nigerians would say the opposition said so before the election. It is understandable, for instance, why former Governor of Lagos State, Bola Tinubu is overtly interested in the Ekiti rerun. As AC leader, he wants to expand the territory of the party in the Southwest. But Ekiti people are more than well informed to know the negative implications of AC's victory on Saturday. But the PDP, which is said to enjoy solid support in the wards where the rerun election will take place, has the strong backing of the Federal Government.

President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, who was present at the launch of the party campaign for the rerun poll, had said that the party's candidate, Engineer Olusegun Oni, would win a fresh four-year term. For a president, who does not engage in idle talks, I believe him. This is one of the reasons why PDP will win squarely. Yar'adua's presence at the launch was quite significant. It has reassured the Ekiti people of the PDP-controlled Federal Government's commitment to their development. He is also said to realize that the party cannot afford to lose Ekiti State in the emerging political calculations for the 2011 presidential election. It is against these backdrops that I see the rerun election. It is more of a grudge fight between Tinubu's AC and Yar'adua's PDP. There is no doubt that this is clearly a mismatch. The PDP is at a great advantage because it has not lost any of the rerun governorship elections so far held in Cross River, Adamawa, Kogi, Sokoto and Bayelsa states.

Mrs. Ojeifo writes from Abuja.

Your Letters

The many presidential U-turns

The spate of reversals of policies and programmes by the Yar'adua administration shows that it takes decisions hastily and when pressured, wrongly or rightly, it reverses itself. There was the fuel increase reversal; fuel subsidy stay reversal, etc.

Let me take few recent ones: When President Yar'adua announced the cancellation of the State Independent Electoral Commission (SIEC) it was applauded as the right thing to do. But because President Yar'adua refused to leave the appointment of INEC officials to National Judicial Council, it was easy for state governors to force him to reverse himself (on abolition of the SIEC) within few

days, through the Council of State meeting. How sad!

Then he cancelled orderlies for judges, House of Reps members, etc. This was easily countered and he reversed himself.

The president should be bold enough to take decisions and stand by them.

Ndubuisi Nwaorah, 245 Zik Avenue, Awka, Anambra State.

Trust's new look nice

Permit me a space to congratulate the management and staff of Media Trust (publishers of *Daily*, *Weekly*, *Sunday Trust* and *Aminiya* newspapers) for improving on the outlook and contents of the paper.

The paper is proving once again that they are out to make not only an imprint in the newspaper industry but also to ensure

that they satisfy the need of their teeming audience.

May I once again congratulate and pray Almighty to help you and protect you. Keep it up!

Kabiru Danladi Lawanti, Area 11, Garki, Abuja. kblondon2003@yahoo.com

...No, it's awkward

Allow me a space to advise the management of our highly esteemed newspaper (Daily Trust) to kindly take a quick decision to reverse its decision to re-design the pages of the paper.

The new look is quite bizarre, awkward, and weird. The old look is more charming, fascinating than the one appeared on today edition. I'm quite sure millions of your readers share my position.

I look forward to your decision. Warm regards!

Mukhtar Adam, Abuja. mukhadams@gmail.com

Text us on 08059 100 257

Yar'adua and 2011

WE saw, we heard and read in the papers, specifically *Daily Trust*, that President Yar'adua has urged political office holders to stop 2011 campaigns as it will distract their abilities. Of course it will. But we are watching to see how serious Mr President is.

ABUBAKARA. A. Dogo, Zurmi, Zamfara State, 08069418920

Stopping corruption

NIGERIAN leaders are corrupt, why should we expect anything different from the followers? If the leaders change, the followers will have no option than to walk the same path.

AHMADU Gombe, 07068286484

Call to PDP

I enjoin the PDP in Nigeria being the largest in Africa to live up to

expectation as enshrined in their constitution. We the masses are yet to reap the dividend of democracy. This calls for the speedy implementation of the 7 point agenda.

MATTHEW Garba Maiduguri, 08077111572

On GSM companies

FG agency in charge of communication should do something about the method used by MTN and other telecom companies in defrauding ordinary Nigerians on their billing procedures, NCC and communication ministry, take note.

MANSUR Sani, Wuse II Abuja, 08089930139

We are living in fears

APART from water scarcity, Mayanci community in Zamfara State, another terrible issue is environmental hazard caused by the activities of a Chinese company.

Please Zamfara government come to our aid.

YUSHAU Hassan Mayanci, 07082390778

Two party state?

NIGERIA is heading towards a two party state unless something is done. This prophecy may come to pass looking at the government's blueprint and the teeming up of the opposition parties.

NICHOLAS Kafanchan, Kaduna, 08053029768

Review 7-point agenda

I point simply the best of seven. Not that the seven point is bad but better concentrate on achieving one, then others will follow. If electricity is available all others will come easily - electricity first and then credible elections.

ALHAJI Isah Marafa, Dallatun Bungudu, Sokoto, 08036530035

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way,
Behind CHIDA Hotel Utako District, Abuja
09-6726241, 6715364

Piracy in Somali Waters

Dramatic increase in cases of piracy in the waters around the coast of Somalia are once again turning attention to the country that has been without a functioning central government since the overthrow of its last authoritarian ruler Mohammed Siad Barre in 1991. Activities of pirates around the coast of Somalia in the Indian Ocean and well into the Gulf of Aden have hit the headlines with the recent capture of an American merchant vessel that was eventually freed with the killing of at least 3 of the Somali pirates. And for the first time a Somali pirate has been captured and taken to the United States of America for trial. The involvement of a US ship and the heroic escape of the crew and the ship's captain suddenly focused attention on a problem that has steadily gotten worse over the past several years.

Aside from grabbing international headline, the cases of piracy in Somali waters and areas around it are certainly a cause of concern because of the threat they pose to one of the world's busiest shipping routes and covering an area of over 2 million square kilometres. At least 20,000 ships are said to pass through this shipping route every year, a situation that is a delight to the Somali pirates that have turned it into a multimillion dollars niche business owing to the ransom of roughly \$3 Million that they usually extract in every case of successful take over of ships. Even at this moment at least 16 ships are said to be held by the pirates.

Daily Trust believes that the solution to the increased cases of piracy and its threat to international shipping routes in Somali waters cannot be found in isolation of a solution to the challenge of lack of central authority in that country. This means that the international community will have to find a way of helping the Somali people to establish a working central government that will have the task of re-establishing sovereignty over a country that is now so used to being lawless and anarchic. The recent case of an emerging new government could be the starting point of such effort. It should also be the responsibility of the countries in the region to find a common approach to the problem as they all stand to lose if their coastal waters become unsafe for merchant vessels to pass through. What is however obvious is that those countries may not have the maritime muscle needed to patrol the vast waters and keep the pirates in check.

What may be needed is a kind of a unified command of the disparate navies of the United States, China, India and a number of European countries that are keeping a vigil or providing escort services to their merchant vessels as they navigate the troubled waters around the coast of Somalia. Being under a single command of possibly the United Nations may help the weak regional countries acquire the teeth needed to discourage piracy as the first choice of many unemployed Somali youths. Anything less could suggest that in spite of the claim to be otherwise, the rest of the world is probably not keen to see Somalia wean itself off addiction to the rule of guns.

To us in Nigeria the rising cases of piracy in the waters of Somalia should be a wake-up call to what could arise if criminal activities like the burgeoning activities of pirates in our country's coastal waters are allowed to prosper. Nigerian authorities should take the necessary measures to curtail the activities of elements masquerading as activists especially around the Niger Delta area. Already the United States is concerned with increased cases of piracy in the entire Gulf of Guinea, prompting it to send a naval warship to train countries of the Gulf on ways of tackling the menace. If the US considers growing piracy in the Gulf of Guinea including off the coast of Nigeria an issue of strategic concern, Nigeria cannot afford to pretend otherwise.

KABIRU YUSUF: Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
ISIAQ AJIBOLA: Managing Director/Chief Operating Officer
MANNIR DAN ALI: Executive Director/ Editor-in-Chief
ALI M. AKOSHILE: General Manager, Business & Strategy
MAHMUD JEGA: Editor, Daily Trust
SHEHU O. MOHAMMED: Asst. General Manager, Finance
GARBA ALIYU ABUBAKAR: Asst. General Manager (IT)
ABDULKADIR ALIYU: Head, Advert

Is Soludo really the issue?

Any time now we expect Prof. Chukwuma Soludo, Central Bank Governor, to know whether he is retaining his post or not. Clearly he does not want to go. The pressure being mounted on his behalf (some say by him) on media houses, pressure groups, tribal and township unions and even so-called civil society groups is alarming; so is the vehemence with which his supporters attack all those who differ with them on his merits and demerits.

One such obviously sponsored piece recently is by a group calling itself the Constitutional Democracy Initiative (CDI) which even promised to raise 5 million signatures for the reappointment of Soludo as CBN Governor. In a barely literate diatribe at a so-called world press conference, the CDI accused some people of plotting an "economic coup" by discrediting Soludo and destroying the Nigerian economy, making it clear that without him the nation will run into what they termed "an economic grave", whatever that means. Is the job of CBN Governor reduced to that of a tribal chief, to be decided through a popularity contest? Are the fortunes of Nigeria tied to just one person? Is the economy so fragile?

In their press release, a jumble of grammatical gibberish with little respect for the rules of grammar, spelling, punctuation, facts or logic, the CDI accused the those against Soludo's second-term of raising N200 million to mobilise against his reappointment. These people according to CDI, have gotten the whole nation against the poor chap. These enemies of their man, it added: "have penetrated the labour unions, they have penetrated the opposition voices and parties, they have penetrated the socio cultural association (sic), They (sic) have recruited a known insurance imposter (Jimoh Ibrahim) who have (sic) started throwing all kinds of infantile tantrums that reveals (sic) the shallowness of his intellectual make up ..., They (sic) have gotten the Arewa consultative forum, they have gotten the Nigeria Labour Congress, ... Mr. Jimoh Ibrahim ... has started suffering from the diahriah (sic) of

Sanusi Abubakar

sanusiabubakar@dailytrust.com



CBN Gov Chukwuma Soludo

the mouth..." And on, and on they continued. The thing is, if truly all these people and groups are against Soludo, or they have been bought over, whose interest is the chap serving in the CBN?

However, he presides over a financial system that serves mainly the interest of the ruling elites both foreign and local, and some of these people have benefited greatly from his policies and programmes. The economy itself, as well as the financial sector which serves it, ensures that this elite benefit the most from our collective labour and resources. This we all know. So, why are people expecting that Soludo, and other operators of the system, to do anything for the common man besides paying lip-service?

Nkrumah and other independence heroes were right all along. Their approach, that of seeking political power first, is still the solution. We should stop praying that the government would do this, or that. No. Our duty is to ensure that those who take decisions on our behalf are our genuine representatives, that the economy becomes a people's economy, serving our own interests also. The electoral system is important. But even if the election is somehow free and fair, that will not be enough. In our case it just gave us some civilians who are no democrats. Once they win or "capture" power, they expect us all go home, to continue complaining or sulking until the next electoral charade.

The actually existing democracy we have is bourgeois. It is

“Personally I don't care very much whether Soludo goes or stays. He talks too much, and claims a lot of things that go against hard evidence, and his miracles are, to say the least, pure hype and exaggerations

Personally I don't care very much whether Soludo goes or stays. He talks too much, and claims a lot of things that go against hard evidence, and his miracles are, to say the least, pure hype and exaggerations. Surely the Nigerian ruling elites have more competent hands.

without doubt an advance on previous systems. At least it concedes that the people are the source of legitimacy. It also gives us the political space to organise into forces for resistance or even for a possible alternative government. Yet, its limitations are also remarkable. Mere voting is not enough. We must ensure that our voices are heard, that policies and programmes are not just shoved down our throats, and that all official acts are consistent with the fundamental principles and values on which our nation is based. Even INEC, CBN and such bodies that are legally independent must be subject to popular forces and aspirations. Real changes must be fought for. They are not handed down on a platter of gold. Soludo or not, the ruling class must be made to start serving all of us, and not just the super-rich.

“Mere voting is not enough. We must ensure that our voices are heard... Even INEC, CBN and such bodies that are legally independent must be subject to popular forces and aspirations

Launching of Qur'anic Audio CD

The Executive Governor of Kano State, Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau cordially invites the general public to the formal launching of Qur'anic Audio CD Album recited by Goni Tahir Goni Idris and recorded in Cairo.

Special Guest of Honour:

ALHAJI UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA, GCFR
President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Guests of Honour:

HON. DIMEJI BANKOLE
Honourable Speaker, House of Rep.

GEN. IBRAHIM BADAMASI BABANGIDA
Former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

SEN. (DR) ALI MODU SHERIFF
Executive Governor, Borno State

DR. MUA'ZU ALIYU BABANGIDA, OON
(Talban Minna)
Chief Servant, Niger State

Chairman of the Occasion:

KHALIFA SHEIKH ISYAKA RABI

Chief Launcher:

ALHAJI KABIRU SANI YAKASAI
Chairman SKY Engineering Constr. Company

Deputy Chief Launcher:

ALHAJI ALIKO DANGOTE
President, Dangote Group

Chief Host:

MALAM (DR) IBRAHIM SHEKARAU
Executive Governor, Kano State

Royal Fathers of the Day:

His Eminence

ALH. MUHAMMAD SA'AD ABUBAKAR III
Sultan of Sokoto

His Royal Highness

ALH. ABUBAKAR KYARI IBN UMAR GARBAI
Shehu of Borno

Royal Host:

His Royal Highness

ALHAJI ADO BAYERO
Emir of Kano

DATE:

Saturday 25th April, 2009

TIME:

10:00AM

VENUE:

Kofar Mata Indoor Stadium, Kano

SIGNED:

ALHAJI TAJUDDEEN AMINU DANTATA
Chairman Organising Committee



AREWA TRADITIONAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS' RETREAT



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- i. Traditional Institutions and the Nigerian Constitution
- ii. Traditional Institutions and Strategic Political relationships
- iii. Traditional Institutions, Democratic Mobilisation and Development
- iv. Traditional Institutions, Religious and Ethno Cultural Relationships
- v. Traditional Institutions, Conflict Mediation and Resolution
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- iii. HRH Alh (Dr) Ado Bayero – Emir of Kano
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- vii. HRH Alh (Dr) Ibrahim Sulu Gambari – Emir of Ilorin

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- National Officials, State Chairmen and Secretaries of Christian Association of Nigeria in the Northern States
- National Officials, State Chairmen and Secretaries of Ja'amatul Nasri Islam
- Grand Khadis in the 19 Northern States
- Honourable Commissioners for Local Governments and Chieftaincy Affairs in the 19 Arewa States
- Chairmen, Committee on Chieftaincy Affairs in the 19 Northern States Houses of Assembly.
- All Special Advisers on Chieftaincy Affairs to the Executive Governors of the 19 Arewa States
- All Directors of Chieftaincy Affairs in the 19 Arewa States
- All ALGON Chairmen in the 19 Arewa States

Dates: 27th to 30th April, 2009

Venue: The Banquet hall, Arewa House, Kaduna

Monday 27th April 2009

OPENING CEREMONY:

- Special Guest of Honor
His Excellency,
Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'adua GCFR
President, Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces
Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Chief Host:
Arch. Namadi Sambo FNIA
Executive Governor, Kaduna State.
- Guests of Honor:
Senator David Mark GCON
President of the Senate
- His Excellency,
Dr. Muazu Babangida Aliyu
Chief Servant, Niger State and
Chairman, Northern Governors Forum.
- Sen. Umaru Dahiru Umaru
Chairman, Northern Senators Forum
- All State Governors from the
19 Northern States
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**APPLICATION LIST OPENS:
Wednesday, April 22, 2009**

**APPLICATION LIST CLOSES:
Thursday, April 30, 2009**

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS:

As at its last audited accounts, the Company had no outstanding long-term debentures, mortgages, loans, charges or similar indebtedness or material contingent liabilities, other than in the ordinary course of business.

SUMMARY OF THE OFFER:

ISSUER: Eterna Plc (Eterna or the Company)
ISSUING HOUSES: Radix Capital Partners Limited (Radix) and Meristem Securities Limited (Meristem)
SHARE CAPITAL: ₦800,000,000 made up of 1,600,000,000 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each
Authorised: ₦390,000,000 made up of 780,000,000 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each
Issued and fully paid: 287,000,000 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each
Now being offered for subscription: 287,000,000 ordinary shares of 50 kobo each
PURPOSE: The Offer is being undertaken to enable Eterna Plc procure and upgrade existing storage facilities, upgrade lubricant plants, expand and retail outlets. The Offer will also provide the Company with additional working capital to support its enlarged operations and strengthen its competitive positioning in the industry.

USE OF PROCEEDS: After the deduction of the costs and expenses of the Offer, which is estimated at ₦406,303,750 (representing 4.72% of gross proceeds), the net proceeds of ₦81,147,250.00 will be utilised as detailed below:

	₦000	%
Refinancing of Acquisition of Bank Farm in Apapa	524	0.64
Retail Network Acquisition/Expansion	704	0.87
Acquisition/Development of Aviation Facilities in Abuja	300	0.37
Development of LPG and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Benue, Akwa Ibom	500	0.61
Investments in Mid/Upstream Operations, Amakpe Refinery	750	0.91
Working Capital Enhancement	730	0.89
	8,198	100.00

UNITS OF SALE: Minimum of 1,000 Ordinary Shares and in multiples of 100 thereafter

MARKET CAPITALISATION AT OFFER PRICE (PRE-OFFER): ₦8,970,030,000.00

MARKET CAPITALISATION AT OFFER PRICE (POST-OFFER): ₦17,573,850,000.00, inclusive of the Rights Issue

UNDERWRITING: This Offer is 80% underwritten by the Underwriters on a Firm Basis, in accordance with the requirement of SEC

QUOTATION: An application has been made to the Governing Council of The Nigerian Stock Exchange for the admission of the 287,000,000 ordinary shares now being offered for subscription to its Daily Official List.

STATUS: The new ordinary shares to be issued shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the issued ordinary shares of the Company.

FORECAST OFFER STATISTICS (Extracted from the Reporting Accountants Report)

Year Ended 31 st December	2009	2010	2011
	₦000	₦000	₦000
Turnover	29,100,441	41,016,621	52,942,115
Cost of Sales	27,406,244	38,850,927	50,188,273
Gross Margin	1,694,197	2,165,694	2,753,842
Interest Income	153,601	134,723	155,389
Depreciation	557,892	625,505	567,401
Profit Before Taxation	578,105	840,152	1,277,422
Estimated Taxation	184,994	268,849	408,775
Profit After Taxation	393,111	571,303	868,647
Proposed Dividend	-	250,000	800,000
Retained Earnings	393,111	321,303	68,647
Shares Outstanding	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
Forecast EPS (kobo)	25	36	54
Forecast Earnings yield at the Offer Price (%)	2.17%	3.13%	4.70%
Forecast DPS(kobo)	-	16	50
Forecast Dividend yield at the Offer Price (%)	-	1.39%	4.35%
Forecast Price/Earnings ratio at the Offer Price (Times)	46	32	21

Forecast earnings and dividend per share for the year ending December 31 2009, 2010 and 2011 are based on 1,600,000,000 issued ordinary shares of 50 kobo each that will be in issue upon completion of offer.

DIRECTORS, SECRETARY AND OTHER PARTIES

DIRECTORS:
Mr. Tajudeen Fola Adeola; *noni*, OFR (Chairman)
3a, Succomb Avenue, Ikoyi
Lagos

Mr. Ibrahim Boyi (Managing Director/CEO)
5a, Succomb Avenue
Ikoyi
Lagos

Mr. Ibrahim Dikko (Deputy Managing Director)
5a, Succomb Avenue
Ikoyi
Lagos

Chief (Dr.) Michael Ade Ojo
339, Donsodu Road
Lagos

Alhaji Ali El-Nafaty
2nd Avenue, 4th Street
Block A, Flat 1, Games Village
FCT Abuja

Admiral Adetoye Sode (Retd.), CON
6A Okadipo Diya Close, Osborne Scheme
Ikoyi
Lagos

Mr. Mahmud Tukur
Karike Towers
9, Wheat Road, Apapa
Lagos

COMPANY SECRETARY
Mr. Adolphus Akwumakwubie
5a, Succomb Avenue
Ikoyi
Lagos

JOINT ISSUING HOUSES
Radix Capital Partners Limited
AIICO House, 3rd Floor
PC 12, Afribank Street
Victoria Island
Lagos

Meristem Securities Limited
124, Norman Williams Street
South West, Ikoyi
Lagos

SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY
S.O. Ephraim-Oluwanuga & Co.
35, Oyo Road
Cocoa Cola Area
Ibadan

UNDERWRITERS
Meristem Securities Limited
124, Norman Williams Street
South West, Ikoyi,
Lagos

RECEIVING BANKS
Afribank Nigeria Plc
Afribank Plaza,
51/55, Broad Street
Lagos

MATERIAL CONTRACT
The following contracts have been entered into and may be material to this Offer:

A Blending and Marketing Agreement dated 8th November 2006, was entered between Castrol Limited on the first part and Eterna Plc on the second part. Castrol Limited has agreed to appoint Eterna Plc as a blender, packager and distributor of Castrol marine lubricants on a non-exclusive basis.

SOLICITORS TO THE OFFER

Dapo Akinosun & Co.
9th Floor, Forrester Towers
27/29, Adesanya Alakija
Victoria Island
Lagos

REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS
S.I.A.C. (Chartered Accountants)
18B, Temple Road
Ikoyi
Lagos

AUDITORS
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
252B, Muri Okunola Street
Victoria Island
Lagos

REGISTRARS TO THE OFFER
Meristem Registrars Limited
308, Herbert Macaulay Road
Yaba
Lagos

STOCKBROKERS TO THE OFFER
APT Securities Limited
Church House (3rd Floor)
29, Marina
Lagos

Camry Securities Limited
Wesley House Annex
21/22, Marina
Lagos

Century Securities Limited
Bookshop House (2nd Floor)
50/52 Broad Street
Lagos

Cordros Capital Limited
16, Amadi Okunola Street,
Off Bishop Okunola Street
Victoria Island
Lagos

Crossworld Securities Limited
3rd Floor, Bull Plaza
38/39, Marina
Lagos

Crownwealth Assets Management Limited
Safaricom Centre
18, Keffi Street
South-West Ikoyi
Lagos

Equally Capital Solutions Limited
3, Donsodu Street
Marina
Lagos

F & C Securities Limited
13, Ribadu Road, Off Awolowo Road
Ikoyi
Lagos

Final Finance Services Limited
2nd Floor, Unity Bank Towers
Plot 705, Herbert Macaulay Way
Central Business District,
Abuja

GTI Capital Limited
Stock Exchange House
(20th Floor), 2/4, Customs Street
Lagos

Integrated Trust and Investment Limited
2nd Floor
61, Marina
Lagos

Meristem Securities Limited
124, Norman Williams Street
South West, Ikoyi
Lagos

Monument Securities & Finance Limited
21, Boye Street, Onikan
Lagos

Pilot Securities Limited
4th Floor, Wing B, Shagrirat Crescent House
Central Business District, Abuja

Security Swaps Limited
1st Floor, Okoi Arikpo House
3, Idowu Taylor Street
Victoria Island
Lagos

Tiddo Securities Limited
1st Floor, Left Wing
Labour/NSRF House
Central Area
Abuja

Yieldo Securities Limited
3, Donsodu Street
Marina
Lagos

A Vending Agreement dated 08 April 2009, under the terms of which the Issuing Houses have agreed to offer 287,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 50 kobo each at ₦11.50 per share and Rights Issue of 533,000,000 Ordinary Shares of ₦9.95 per share in Eterna Plc.

A Bridging Finance Agreement between Eterna Plc and Meristem Securities Limited and Radix Capital Partners Limited to the tune of ₦2.5 billion and ₦2 billion, respectively.

An Underwriting Agreement dated 08 April 2009, under which Meristem Securities Limited and Radix Capital Partners Limited have agreed to fully underwrite 80% of the Offer on a firm commitment basis.

Other than as stated above, the Company has not entered into any material contracts except in the ordinary course of business.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ISSUER AND ITS ADVISERS

As at the date of this Prospectus, Chief (Dr.) Michael Ade Ojo, CON, a Director of Eterna Plc is also a Director of Meristem Securities Limited, one of the Joint Issuing Houses to the Offer.

CLAIMS AND LITIGATION

The Company in its ordinary course of business is currently involved in three (3) suits. Two of these suits are instituted against the Company with a total estimated claim of ₦5,270,000.00. The third suit is instituted by Eterna and the claim is for the sum of ₦6,753,768.50. The Solicitors are of the opinion that the contingent liability that may arise from the cases pending against the Company is not material to the Company or the Issue.

COSTS AND EXPENSES

The costs, charges and expenses of and incidental to the Offer, including fees payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission, The Nigerian Stock Exchange, the Central Securities Clearing System, professional parties, brokerage commission and printing and distribution expenses are estimated at ₦406,303,750 or 4.72% of the gross proceeds and are payable by Eterna Plc.

CONSENTS

The underlisted parties have given and have not withdrawn their written consents to the issue of the Prospectus with their names, reports and opinions (where applicable) being included in the form and context in which they appear:

The Directors of Eterna: Mr. Tajudeen Fola Adeola; *noni*, OFR (Chairman)
Mr. Ibrahim Boyi (Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer)
Mr. Ibrahim Dikko (Deputy Managing Director)
Chief (Dr.) Michael Ade Ojo
Alhaji Ali El-Nafaty
Admiral Adetoye Sode (Retd.), CON
Mr. Mahmud Tukur

Company Secretary: Mr. Adolphus Akwumakwubie

Issuing Houses: Radix Capital Partners Limited
Meristem Securities Limited

Stockbrokers to the Offer: APT Securities Limited
Camry Securities Limited
Century Securities Limited
Cordros Capital Limited
Crossworld Securities Limited
Crownwealth Assets Management Limited
Equity Capital Solutions Limited
F & C Securities Limited
Final Finance Services Limited
GTI Capital Limited
Integrated Trust and Investment Limited
Meristem Securities Limited
Monument Securities & Finance Limited
Pilot Securities Limited
Security Swaps Limited
Tiddo Securities Limited

Auditors: PriceWaterhouseCoopers

Reporting Accountants: SIAO

Solicitors to the Offer: Dapo Akinosun & Co.

Solicitors to the Company: S.O. Ephraim-Oluwanuga & Co.

Registrars to the Offer: Meristem Registrars Limited

Receiving Banks: Afribank Nigeria Plc
First Bank of Nigeria Plc
Sterling Bank Plc

Underwriters: Radix Capital Partners Limited
Meristem Securities Limited

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Copies of the following documents may be inspected at the offices of Radix Capital Partners Limited, AIICO House, 3rd Floor PC 12, Afribank Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, and Meristem Securities Limited, 124, Norman Williams Street, Ikoyi, Lagos during normal business hours on any weekday (except public holidays), throughout the duration of the Public Offer:

- Certificate of Incorporation of the Company;
- A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, duly certified by the Corporate Affairs Commission;
- The Prospectus issued in respect of the Public Offer;
- Shareholders Resolution dated 5th June 2008 authorising the Offer;
- Board Resolution dated 3rd of March, 2009 recommending the Offer;
- The Certificate of registration of increase in share capital obtained from the Corporate Affairs Commission;
- The audited accounts of the Company for each of the four years ended, 31st December 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and for the period ended 31st July, 2008;
- The Report of Messrs SIAO (Reporting Accountants) on the audited accounts of the Company for each of the four years ended, 31st December 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and for the period ended 31st July, 2008;
- The Memorandum of Messrs SIAO (Reporting Accountants) on the Profit Forecast of the Company for the three years ending 31st December, 2009, 2010 and 2011;
- The list of Claims and Litigation referred to above;
- The Material Contracts referred to above;
- The written Consents referred to above.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND ALLOTMENT

The general investing public is hereby invited to apply for the ordinary shares through any of the Receiving Agents listed in the Prospectus and Abridged Particulars of the Prospectus.

- Applications must be made through ETERNA PLC and either of the joint issuing Houses. Please adhere to the following instructions as applications which do not comply will be rejected:
An application must be made on the Official Application Form.
Subscriptions for the shares will commence from Wednesday, 22 April 2009, to Thursday, 30 April 2009. Applications must be made for a minimum of 1,000 shares and 100 shares thereafter. The number of shares for which application is made and the full payment due in respect thereof by cheque or bank draft should be entered in the boxes provided.
Every applicant or joint applicants (as may be applicable) must write his or her full names, address and occupation on the Application Form. An application from a corporation must bear its seal and completed under the hand(s) of a duly authorised official(s) who should state his (their) designation(s).
Each applicant should forward his/her Application Form with the cash, cheque, certified cheque, bank draft or evidence of money transfer for the full amount of the purchase price to Radix Capital Partners Limited, AIICO House, 3rd Floor, PC 12, Afribank Street, Victoria Island, Lagos or Meristem Securities Limited, 124 Norman Williams Street, Ikoyi, Lagos. All cheques must be crossed and marked "ETERNA Offer". All cheques and drafts will be presented upon receipt and all applications in respect of which cheques are returned unpaid will be rejected.

1.2 Allotment
ETERNA PLC reserves the right to reject any application found to be irregular. All irregular applications will be rejected in full.

1.3 Application Monies
The issuing House will retain all application monies in a separate interest yielding bank account pending the allotment of the shares. If any application is not accepted, or is accepted for fewer shares than the number applied for, the full amount or the balance of the amount paid (as the case may be) will be returned by registered mail within one week of allotment.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL RECEIVING AGENTS

All Receiving Agents whom subscriptions are made for this Offer are required to submit photocopies of the payment instruments with a corresponding schedule containing the particulars of subscribers not later than two weeks from close of the Offer to the Joint Issuing Houses. PLEASE NOTE THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS DIRECTIVE WILL RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF SUCH SUBSCRIPTION (S).

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICES OF MERISTEM SECURITIES LIMITED, RADIX CAPITAL PARTNERS LIMITED AND STOCKBROKERS NATIONWIDE AND CAN ALSO BE DOWNLOADED FROM www.eterna.com

DULY COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLY TO THE RECEIVING AGENTS LISTED IN THE PROSPECTUS AND ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS

ISSUING HOUSES:

Lead Issuing House



Issuing House



This advertisement is published in compliance with the Listing Requirements of The Nigerian Stock Exchange



Rc124136

ETERNA PLC

Rights Issue of
533,000,000,000
Ordinary Shares of 50 kobo each
at ₦9.95 per share

On the basis of 41 (forty one) new Ordinary Shares for every
60 (Sixty) Ordinary Shares held as at the close of business on 16th March 2009

Payable in Full on Acceptance

**ACCEPTANCE LIST OPENS:
Wednesday, April 22, 2009**

**ACCEPTANCE LIST CLOSES:
Thursday, April 30, 2009**

The rights being offered are tradable on the floor of The Nigerian Stock Exchange for the duration of the Issue

If you are in doubt about the action to be taken, you should consult your Stockbroker, Accountant, Banker, Solicitor or any other professional adviser for guidance immediately

ACCEPTANCE/RENUNCIATION

Copies of the Rights Circular have been mailed directly to all qualified shareholders. Acceptance/Renunciation of Rights must be made on the Official Acceptance/Renunciation Forms and in accordance with the instructions set out on the Forms. Care must be taken to follow these instructions as applications which do not comply will be rejected.

The completed Acceptance/Renunciation Forms must be lodged together with payments with any of the Receiving Agents listed in the Rights Circular, not later than Tuesday, 30 April, 2009. Shareholders are advised that Forms not received by this date may be rejected.

TRADING IN RIGHTS

The rights will be tradable between Wednesday, April 22, 2009 and Thursday, April 30, 2009 at the price to be determined at The Nigerian Stock Exchange.

Shareholders who wish to renounce their rights partially or in full, may trade their renounced rights on the floor of The Nigerian Stock Exchange between these dates. Shareholders who wish to acquire additional shares over and above their provisional allotment may purchase renounced rights and/or apply for additional shares by completing the appropriate section of the Acceptance/Renunciation Form. Shareholders are advised to contact their stockbrokers for assistance.

ALLOTMENT

Ordinary Shares not taken up by Thursday, 30 April, 2009, will be allotted on a basis to be determined by the Directors and cleared by the Securities & Exchange Commission, to existing shareholders who would have applied for additional shares over and above their provisional allotment under the terms of the Issue.

Any shareholder who has not received a copy of the Rights Circular is advised to contact:

Registrar
Meristem Registrars Limited
305, Herbert Macaulay Road
Yaba, Lagos

ISSUING HOUSES:

Lead Issuing House



RADIX CAPITAL PARTNERS LIMITED
AllCO House, 3rd floor
PC 12, Afribank Street
Victoria Island
Lagos

Issuing House



MERISTEM SECURITIES LIMITED
124, Norman Williams Street
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Lekki: 01-7748000, 01-7749585, 01-7742080

Email: kia@danagroup.com

Lagos: 0805 535 9999 / 0803 534 9999 / 0803 676 8888
Ikeja: 0805 999 8190
Lekki: 0702 931 0211 / 0803 288 8882
Surulere: 01-7276083-4
Abuja: 0807 709 3404 / 0802 776 9999 / 09-314 9694
Aba: 0803 571 7804 / 0702 965 6788
Abakaliki: 0806 835 5717 / 0807 903 1913 / 0807 903 2667
Akure: 0705 611 1334

Asaba: 0803 738 5553 / 0706 070 3754
Benin (1): 0805 857 8789 / 0805 531 5145 / 052-450 479
Benin (2): 0705 563 6183 / 0705 563 6185
Calabar: 0803 363 1210 / 0805 814 0271
Enugu: 0803 635 4641 / 0807 513 1813 / 0807 061 4504 / 042-325 618
Ibadan: 0703 404 7494 / 0807 979 5335
Ilorin: 0802 307 5692

Trade-in: 0702 877 7398, 01-732 9999

Kaduna: 0803 680 5245 / 0805 320 2667 / 062-243 522-24
Kano: 0802 776 3333 / 0805 676 2222 / 064-897 753
Katsina: 0803 712 7232
Oshogbo: 0807 979 5337 / 0705 611 1336
Port Harcourt: 0803 676 3333 / 0805 676 3333
Uyo: 0803 644 2483 / 0802 304 1192
Warri: 0806 588 7771 / 0803 357 8540



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SALARIES

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CONTRACTORS

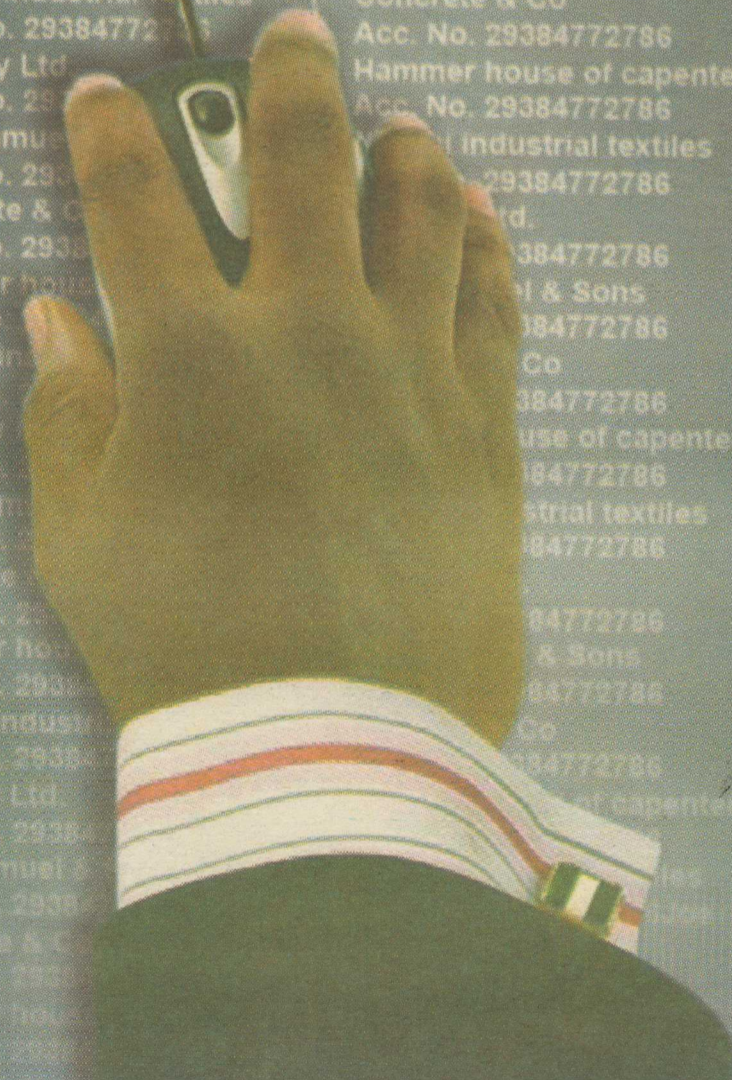
Joe Boy Ltd. Acc. No. 29384772786 Dele Samuel & Sons Acc. No. 29384772786 Concrete & Co Acc. No. 29384772786 Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786 Joe Boy Ltd. Acc. No. 29384772786 Dele Samuel & Sons Acc. No. 29384772786 Concrete & Co Acc. No. 29384772786 Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786 Joe Boy Ltd. Acc. No. 29384772786 Dele Samuel & Sons Acc. No. 29384772786 Concrete & Co Acc. No. 29384772786 Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786

SUPPLIERS

Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786 Joe Boy Ltd. Acc. No. 29384772786 Dele Samuel & Sons Acc. No. 29384772786 Concrete & Co Acc. No. 29384772786 Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786 Joe Boy Ltd. Acc. No. 29384772786 Dele Samuel & Sons Acc. No. 29384772786 Concrete & Co Acc. No. 29384772786 Hammer house of carpenter Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi industrial textiles Acc. No. 29384772786

DIRECT CREDIT

Oladele Samuel Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi Mordi Acc. No. 29384772786 Henry Henry Acc. No. 29384772786 Kunle Kelechi Acc. No. 29384772786 Bogie Bogie Acc. No. 29384772786 Oladele Samuel Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi Mordi Acc. No. 29384772786 Henry Henry Acc. No. 29384772786 Kunle Kelechi Acc. No. 29384772786 Bogie Bogie Acc. No. 29384772786 Oladele Samuel Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi Mordi Acc. No. 29384772786 Henry Henry Acc. No. 29384772786 Kunle Kelechi Acc. No. 29384772786 Bogie Bogie Acc. No. 29384772786 Oladele Samuel Acc. No. 29384772786 Nkechi Mordi Acc. No. 29384772786 Henry Henry Acc. No. 29384772786 Kunle Kelechi Acc. No. 29384772786 Bogie Bogie Acc. No. 29384772786



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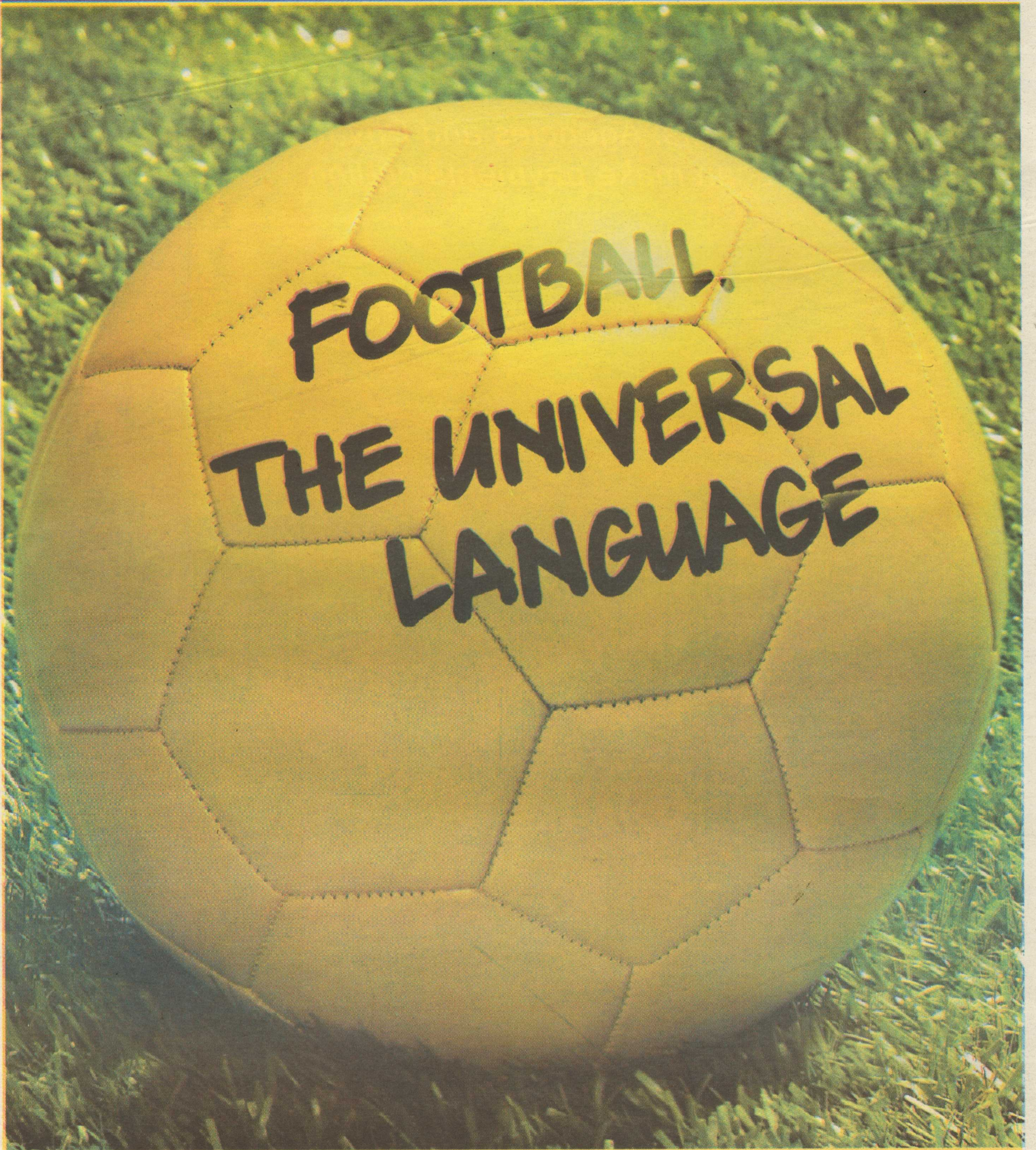
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NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OWNERS (NARTO)

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31, Kofo Abayomi Avenue,
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Fax: 01-4724475

Tel: 09-6711332

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NATIONAL SECRETARIAT ANNEX
Plot 178 Aminu Kano Crescent
Off Ahmadu Bello Way
By 1st Forty Hotel Wuse II, Abuja
Mobile: 08033005849, 08055247881, 08043366670

TEXT OF A PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OWNERS (NARTO) IN REACTION TO INCESSANT ALLEGATIONS OF SABOTAGE AGAINST THE NIGERIAN RAILWAYS BY ROAD TRANSPORTERS, ABUJA 14TH APRIL, 2009.

Our attention has been drawn to the statements credited to two important Nigerian personalities in the present political dispensation and published on Page 5 of "SATURDAY VANGUARD" Newspapers of 7th March, 2009, and on Page 6 of the "DAILY TRUST" Newspapers of Thursday, 2nd April, 2009, respectively.

The publication in the Saturday Vanguard has the headline, **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SET FOR SHOWDOWN WITH TRANSPORTERS AGAINST RESUSCITATION OF RAILWAYS**. The full story goes as follows:-

ENUGU:- The Federal Government is set for a showdown with transporters working against the resuscitation of the rail transport system.

The Minister of Transport, Alhaji Ibrahim Bio, gave the hint on Thursday at the Eastern District Headquarters of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) in Enugu.

No reasonable transport operator will wish the railway dead: but if he does, we are ready to take the battle to him, Bio warned while fielding questions from journalists.

He argued that an efficient rail system would prolong the lives of articulated vehicles in Nigeria and reduce the rate of accidents involving them.

The average life span of a new truck is two years because it is not designed with the mindset of Nigeria's topography, especially the roads, the Minister said. Bio said the present administration was prepared to make trains move across the country effectively to reduce the stress on the roads.

The Minister noted that rail remained the cheapest and safest mode of transportation, adding that it also touched the lives of rural dwellers.

He urged more cooperation between the government and corporate organizations in resuscitating the rail transport system for the good of all. "Any nation that neglects the development of the rail transport system endangers its economic growth and development" he said.

With due respect to the Hon. Minister, we want to believe that he must have been poorly briefed, otherwise, government position regarding the comatose situation of the Nigerian railways is reflected in the official document titled "TRANSPORT STATISTICS" which explicitly states as follows, and I quote:-

"In Nigeria, rail transport accounts less than a half per cent to the gross domestic products of the transport sector. Although rail has always contributed a tiny proportion of value-added in transportation, its share of value-added continues to decline because road transport (freight and passenger) has virtually taken over all the traffic previously conveyed by rail. The relegated status of the Nigerian Railways is a classic illustration of transportation policy which has sidelined an important and cheap means of transport to foster the growth of privately-owned long haulage transport services.

This policy has engendered the following:

- (i) it has made the Nigeria Railway Corporation (NRC) a lame duck with total reliance on the Government for subvention.
- (ii) A disorganized, unregulated private sector-owned road transport system providing freight and Passenger services.

The effects of these are:

- (i) traffic congestion on urban roads.
- (ii) increasing rate of fatal road accidents emanating from bad roads, poorly-maintained vehicles and careless driving.
- (iii) worsening environmental pollution.

The sharp devaluation of the Naira has also aggravated the situation as an increasing number of private car owners are joining the pool of frustrated travelers and commuters. (unquote).

The foregoing clearly shows how the Minister is completely off the track by making such contradictory policy statement. Such allusion is premature without recourse to the established tradition, whereby on assuming office, a new Minister convenes meeting of all stakeholders in the transport sector at which he becomes better informed about all relevant issues and problems to enable him chart a course for the way forward. It behoves on us as well to remind the Hon. Minister that his mandate is not limited to maritime and railways alone but also extends to road transport, at least in so far as policy matters are concerned. Hence, the need for him to carry all stakeholders along without any bias against a particular mode.

The publication in the Daily Trust of Thursday, 2nd April, 2009, came out with the heading:- "TRANSPORTERS SABOTAGE RAILWAY MARK". The full story goes interalia:-

Transporters who directly benefit from the collapse of the nation's railway system are the ones sabotaging every government's effort to revive the sector. Senate President, Senator David Mark has said. He was speaking on Tuesday while

declaring open a public hearing by the Senate Committee on Transport.

"Some people who are beneficiaries of the collapse of the Railway system are sabotaging its resuscitation and legislation will not make it work but are just a back up to it. We have to tell ourselves the truth and we must change our attitude first. The same problem applies to the air transport sector" the senate president lamented.

Prior to this development, the same allegations have been made over the years by people we regard as poseurs whose motives are simply to secure consultancy contracts from the authorities on how to "revitalize the Nigerian Railways", just to feather their own nests at the expense of innocent and genuine Nigerian Transporters.

That explains why we initially chose to regard the issue as inconsequential, particularly as no body has yet been able and courageous to come up with any iota of evidence that can give credence to such blackmail and malicious allegations.

However, since the issue is now being re-echoed by people in high places within the structure of government, it has equally become necessary for this Association (NARTO) being the umbrella organization of all commercial vehicle owners in the country to react appropriately through this medium, in order to set the records straight.

We concede the fact that at inception, the Nigerian Railways had the singular advantage of unfettered monopoly of the transport market for a reasonable length of time. This further encouraged the introduction of "RAILWAYS MOTOR SERVICE" essentially as complementary, in the face of massive road development.

Thus making Nigerian Railways the pacesetter in road transportation in the country.

When the roads began to take shape, foreigners represented mostly by Syrians, Lebanese and Europeans grabbed the opportunity to compete with the railways.

Later in the 1930s, Nigerians began to follow suit as second generation transporters, primarily as "LICENCE BUYING AGENTS" to the defunct Regional Marketing Boards who generated freight for evacuation to the Nigerian Ports by both rail and road.

We should also not be oblivious of the fact that subsequent abolition of the regional marketing boards and gradual disappearance of the age long pyramids of cotton, groundnuts, soyabeans and other economic commodities from the North, as well as Cocoa, Palm Kernel and Coal from the South, which substantially formed the freight traffic largely contributed to the decline of railway performance.

To worsen the situation, government never considered the desirability for railway connectivity to the busiest principal port of Tinian Island (Apapa) Lagos which is the gateway for Nigeria's imports and exports and from which cargo traffic is derived. Does that glaring omission also forms part of Transporters sabotage against railways?

The precarious situation was further aggravated by government policy direction, which placed priority on massive road development between 1960s and 70s. In other words, it was quite clear that during the period, government's focus on transport has been almost exclusively on road development without adequate attention paid on improving the railway system. This situation was rather unfortunate, because we believe that a holistic approach to transportation system is required with balanced transport infrastructure and backed-up by an effective national transport policy which seems to be practically non-existent in Nigeria.

Other factors that bedeviled the Nigerian railways includes financial leakages that surfaced as far back as the late 1950s compounded by corruption which is the last stroke that finally broke the Camel's back in the 1980s. Most importantly, the prolonged government's neglect of the Nigerian Railways for more than 3 decades is among the major factors that completely grounded the system.

Otherwise by this 21st Century, Nigeria should have been ranked among the top 10 or 20 largest railways in the world, a position which can be attained without necessarily compromising the road sector or any of the other modes of transport for that matter.

We can draw lesson from China which maintains about twenty principal domestic railway routes with a total network length of 78,000 kilometers. It is the busiest railway network in the world, moving 24% of global rail traffic with just 6% of the world's tracks. Furthermore, China's network of electronic railways is the third largest (by mileage) in the world, after Russia and Germany. The same China also has a road network of 3.5 million kilometers. The sum total is that 98.96% and 88.24% of all the towns and villages in the country can be reached by road without any detrimental effect to the rail system.

The Indian railway system is also another good example. It is the 4th largest railway network in the world, having a total network length of 63,140 kilometers, while the country has a huge network of over 3.3 million kilometers of roadways. The vast network accounts for 80% of passenger traffic and about 65% of freight movement.

Against this background, it becomes obvious that from the time of our independence to date, the Nigerian Railways had remained static. The Borno railway extension in the 60s and the Ajaokuta-Itakpe railway extension which began in the 80s and yet to be commissioned stand out as the only progress recorded in over 100 years of railway existence in Nigeria. Ridiculously, Nigeria has a road network of 195,000 kilometers against a little over 4000 kilometers of rail network.

At this juncture, the question is, how does the Nigerian Transporter come into play in this glaring circumstances of railway failure in Nigeria? Why did the system defied all expert interventions by the Indians and presently the Chinese? Is it the Road Transporters or the endemic corruption that has eaten deep into our National life? We make bold to say that all those who blamed Nigerian Transporters for the failure of the Nigerian Railways are doing so either out of ignorance or mischief. We are therefore using this opportunity to formally deny such allegations which are baseless and untenable. To buttress the point, at no time in the political history of Nigeria was a Transporter ever appointed as a Minister or even an aide to a serving Minister of Transport who may possibly have used his position to influence the decision making process in government to scuttle the development of Nigerian railways.

In 1994, Alh. Umaru Baba, a Transporter, was appointed Minister of State (Petroleum) in Abacha's regime on personal merit. But his portfolio in no way relates to transport.

And also at no time did Transporters who are members of this great Association, individually or collectively lobbied any Minister past or present or any other influential government functionary past and present to kill any plan or programme towards the resuscitation of the Nigerian railways.

We are therefore constrained to ask the following pertinent questions:-

1. Who killed Nigerian Airways?
2. The Nigerian National Shipping Line?
3. The NITEL?
4. The National Freight Company?
5. The National Supply Company?
6. The Manufacturing Industries?
7. The Federal mass Transit Scheme?
8. The Power Sector? (PHCN)
9. The Textile Industry among others?
10. IS IT THE NIGERIAN TRANSPORTERS?

In the circumstance therefore, we call on His Excellency, Senator David Mark, the Senate President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to initiate measures through the Senate Committee on Transport, for a full scale inquiry to unravel the mystery behind the allegations of sabotaging government efforts at resuscitating the Nigerian Railways. Including the 500 Million dollars railway contract to the Chinese during Abacha regime in the 90s and also the 8.3 billion dollars second railway contract to the Chinese by the previous administration without appreciable result to date and to make the inquiry public. We believe that is the only way to solve the riddle.

Finally, we wish to state categorically that, we are not averse to the resuscitation of the Nigerian Railways or any other mode of transport in Nigeria. We also seize this opportunity to commend the Hon. Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Hassan Lawal, for his recent visitation to the site of the Abuja-Lokoja road dualisation project, which prompted contractors to resume work. We hope that the same attention will be extended to Kaduna-Birnin Gwari - Tegina - Makera-Mokwa - Jebba - Ilorin highway, Gombe - Yola road, Shagamu - Ore - Benin road and other bad roads in the South East and South-South, equally begging for similar attention before it is late in the rainy season.

NARTO also commends the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mallam Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR and the Inspector General of Police, Mr. Mike Okiro, for the improved security situation on the Nigerian roads resulting in reduced incidence of vehicle hijacking and highway robberies to the barest minimum.

We therefore remain committed to the success of the seven point agenda of Mr President which includes transformation of the country's transport infrastructure.

Thank you,

ALH. LAWAL ISA
National Operations Coordinator

INTERNATIONAL

Donors pledge over \$250m for Somalia

INTERNATIONAL donors pledged more than \$250 million yesterday to help Somalia strengthen its security forces and try to stop the rampant pirate attacks that have plagued one of the world's most important waterways. The hefty sum included funding for equipment and material that significantly exceeded the request made by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, EU Development Commissioner Louis Michel said.

The U.N.-sponsored international donors' conference originally aimed to raise at least euro128 million (\$166 million) to finance African Union peacekeepers already in the Horn of

Africa nation as well as Somalia's fledgling police and security forces. Stabilizing Somalia was the focus of yesterday's meeting — but squashing the persistent piracy jeopardizing international shipping also topped the agenda.

"Piracy is a symptom of anarchy and insecurity on the ground," Ban told the delegates. "More security on the ground will make less piracy on the seas."

"The situation continues to be very difficult, but with this financial help ... I sincerely hope we will be able to control the situation there," Ban said at a joint news conference with Jose Manuel Barroso, president of the European Union's executive body.



UNITED Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, right, shares a word with Somalia's Foreign Minister Mohamed A. Omaar, left, during a Somalia donors conference at the EU headquarters in Brussels, yesterday.

S/Africa ruling party leads

SOUTH Africa's governing party led in preliminary results yesterday from a parliamentary election expected to propel Jacob Zuma to the presidency in a remarkable feat for a man once embroiled in sex and corruption scandals.

Though a victory is expected for the African National Congress, the party is less sure of whether it can hold onto its two-thirds majority in what has become South Africa's most contested election since the country's first multiracial vote in 1994.

Parliament elects South Africa's president by a simple majority, putting Zuma in line for the post when the new assembly votes in May.

The ANC views Zuma as the first leader who can energize voters since the legendary Nelson Mandela. But critics say Zuma is too beholden to unions and leftists, and will not be able to fulfill promises of creating jobs and a stronger social safety net amid the global recession.

Preliminary results from the 6.45 million ballots counted so far yesterday showed the ANC leading with just over 65 percent. A record 23 million South Africans registered to vote. A 77 percent turnout has been recorded at those polling stations where counting has finished. Polling officials estimated a final turnout of about 80 percent. Final results

are expected late yesterday or possibly today.

The largely white opposition Democratic Alliance, according to the preliminary count, had about 18 percent. It was expected to take South Africa's richest province, the Western Cape, from the ANC.

The Congress of the People — formed by a breakaway faction of the ANC last year — was trailing with just over 8 percent in preliminary results, despite expectations at one point that it would post a serious challenge to the ruling party.

Turnout was heavy, and some stations had temporary ballot shortages or struggled because

ballot boxes filled so quickly.

The ANC has swept every poll since the first post-apartheid election in 1994. In 2004, the ANC won 69.9 percent of the vote. But the party needs to keep its two-thirds majority to enact major budgetary plans or legislation unchallenged, or to change the constitution.

The Democratic Alliance looked set to win the Western Cape — the heart of South Africa's wine, fruit and tourism industries. Opposition leader Helen Zille, who has won praises as the mayor of Cape Town, had courted mixed race voters, who account for more than half the population in the province but only a small

minority nationwide. Her strategy apparently paid off.

The ANC has never had a solid base in the province, and won it in the last elections by a narrow majority thanks to the collapse of the New National Party, which had traditionally enjoyed strong local support. But since 2004, the local ANC has been consumed by infighting and power struggles. Zille had said her key target was to win the Western Cape and break the ANC's stranglehold on power.

The opposition tried to paint Zuma as corrupt, antidemocratic and intent on plotting with communists to destroy the hard-won economic gains since apartheid ended.

Rioting as Madagascar armed forces dispel protests

ARMED forces in Madagascar fired tear gas to disperse demonstrators loyal to the island nation's ousted president yesterday, as looters rampaged through the streets of the capital. Radio Madagascar said numerous casualties were being taken to the Antananarivo's main hospital. There was no immediate confirmation of the report nor official word about injuries or deaths.

An AP reporter saw roaming gangs erecting barricades and burning cars in the capital, with the worst unrest concentrated near a downtown square that has become the focal point for protests. Supporters of ousted President Marc Ravalomanana had defied a ban on demonstrations



MARC Ravalomanana

issued by Madagascar's military-backed leader Andry Rajoelina following repeated clashes. Ravalomanana was toppled by the military in March after months of street protests, but still enjoys diplomatic recognition from the rest of the world.

18 Somalis in court for pirate trials

By Charles Onunaiju with agency reports

SHABBILY dressed and solemn, 18 Somali men nabbed at sea and hauled ashore by European navies crowded into a Mombasa courthouse yesterday to face piracy charges that could put them behind bars for life.

Kenya appeared to be ramping up prosecutions amid talk of establishing an international piracy tribunal in the country that borders Somalia, the lawless epicentre of a flourishing pirate industry off the Horn of Africa.

The hearings came as a U.S. court this week brought its first piracy charges in over a century, charging a skinny Somali teenager with attacking the American cargo ship, the Maersk Alabama.

At the hearing in Mombasa, 11 Somali men wore faded sarongs,

old jackets and cheap sandals. Two had no shoes. All had solemn expressions.

It was the first court appearance for the men tracked down by French commandos and seized April 14 in a pre-dawn raid as they ate breakfast in their skiffs in waters off Somalia. The pirate suspects had been marched off a French frigate Wednesday and handed over to authorities in the Kenyan port city of Mombasa.

The French had also handed over the pirates' captured equipment: two skiffs, three grappling hooks, four rusty assault rifles, two bags of bullets and a ladder.

Magistrate Catherine Mwangi adjourned their case until a bail hearing May 27. They will remain in a Mombasa jail until then. She also demanded that officials give the men fresh clothing for their bail hearing.

"I'm giving you an order that these people be dressed properly," Mwangi told court officials. Next door, seven other suspected pirates listened to witnesses testify against them.

German sailors had captured the men in late March after they reportedly attacked a German naval supply ship.

Kenya is also holding another trial currently involving pirate suspects handed over by Britain.

In other efforts to stamp out piracy in Somalia, which has not had an effective central government since 1991, donors at a conference in Brussels pledged over \$250 million yesterday to improve the country's internal security.

Experts believe the underlying causes of piracy — unemployment, few options and insecurity on land — drive young men into a life of seafaring crime.

THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES,P. M. B. 1221,
EFFURUN, NIGERIA**APPOINTMENT OF UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIAN**

The Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (FUPRE), Delta State, Nigeria was established in March, 2007 under a Federal Government of Nigeria initiative to build a specialized University to produce unique high level manpower and relevant expertise for the Oil and Gas sector in Nigeria and worldwide.

FUPRE is the first of its kind in Africa and it is destined to be one of the best in terms of excellence and relevance.

FUPRE's vision is to be the premier international institution-of-choice with state-of-the-art facilities to provide the petroleum and allied sectors, world-class education, training, research, consultancy and extension services. FUPRE will achieve her goals by ensuring that the best practices and traditions of Universities globally, especially the specialized ones, are used as benchmarks.

FUPRE offers a remuneration package which is in consonance with what obtains in Federal Government of Nigeria owned Universities and additional incentive packages that may be designed by Council to attract and retain the interest and commitment of staff.

Successful applicants are expected to reside in the immediate environment of the University.

THE POSITION

The University Librarian as a Principal Officer shall be in-charge of the University Library and its constituent units. He shall be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the operations of the University's library.

For this key management position, the University seeks candidates who are innovative, versatile and proactive with vision, good managerial ability, integrity and transparency in private and public life and who should be able to provide the Management of the University with appropriate advice and support for all of the institution's library transactions. The right candidate should have the ability to generate ideas that would facilitate the development of the University's library.

QUALIFICATION

Candidates must possess a good honours degree from a recognized University as well as a Masters Degree in Library Science (MLS), with adequate Research Publications. The possession of a Ph.D. will be an added advantage. Applicants must also be computer literate.

EXPERIENCE

Candidates must have had at least fifteen (15) years of post-qualification, full-time, cognate experience in the University or a similar system, the last five of which must be as a Deputy Librarian.

SALARY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The remuneration and other conditions of service are as applicable to the post of University Librarian of any Federal University in Nigeria and as may be determined from time to time by the Federal Government of Nigeria/University Governing Council as appropriate. In accordance with the Universities Miscellaneous Provisions Decree No. 11 of 1993 (as amended), the successful candidates shall hold office for five (5) years in the first instance. The appointment may however be renewed for another five years and no more. Fringe benefits include a pension scheme in consonance with the contributory pension scheme and appropriate allowances as may be approved from time to time by the Government/University Council.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Candidates should submit their applications together with 35 copies of their Curriculum Vitae stating: Date of Birth, Marital Status, Full Qualifications, Experience, State of Origin, Hobbies, Names and Addresses of three (3) Referees and photocopies of their credentials and as much supporting documents as will assist the University in the comprehensive assessment of their qualifications, exposure, experience, capabilities and competence.

All applications are to be submitted under confidential cover with the envelope marked "POST OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN, FUPRE" and should be addressed to:

The Registrar & Secretary to Council,
The Federal University of Petroleum Resources,
P. M. B. 1221,
EFFURUN,
Delta State, Nigeria

to reach her not later than six (6) weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement. Applicants should inform their three referees to forward their **CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS** to the above address within the same deadline.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Dr. (Mrs.) L. O. ONWUKA
Registrar & Secretary to Council

THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES,P. M. B. 1221,
EFFURUN, NIGERIA**APPOINTMENT OF
BURSAR**

The Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (FUPRE), Delta State, Nigeria was established in March, 2007 under a Federal Government of Nigeria initiative to build a specialized University to produce unique high level manpower and relevant expertise for the Oil and Gas sector in Nigeria and worldwide.

FUPRE is the first of its kind in Africa and it is destined to be one of the best in terms of excellence and relevance.

FUPRE's vision is to be the premier international institution-of-choice with state-of-the-art facilities to provide the petroleum and allied sectors, world-class education, training, research, consultancy and extension services. FUPRE will achieve her goals by ensuring that the best practices and traditions of Universities globally, especially the specialized ones, are used as benchmarks.

FUPRE offers a remuneration package which is in consonance with what obtains in Federal Government of Nigeria owned Universities and additional incentive packages that may be designed by Council to attract and retain the interest and commitment of staff.

THE POSITION

The Bursar is a Principal Officer and the Chief Finance Officer of the University. He is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the University.

For this key management position, the University seeks candidates with vision, good managerial ability, integrity and transparency in private and public life who should be able to provide the Management of the University with appropriate advice and support for all of the institution's financial transactions. The right candidate should have the ability to generate ideas that would boost internally generated revenue.

QUALIFICATION

Candidates must possess a good honours degree in Accountancy or a related discipline from a recognized University as well as professionally recognized accountancy qualifications i.e. ACA, ACCA, ACMA, CMA, CPA from any of the following bodies:

- i) Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria
- ii) Institute of Chartered Accountants of England & Wales
- iii) Institute of Cost and Management Accountants
- iv) Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- v) Association of National Accountants of Nigeria

while the possession of any relevant postgraduate qualification will be an added advantage.

Applicants must also be computer literate and have a good working knowledge of accounting packages.

EXPERIENCE

Candidates are required to have at least 15 years post-qualification, full-time, cognate experience, a considerable part of which must have been in the University or a similar system, the last five of which must be in top management position, preferably at Deputy Bursar's level.

SALARY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The remuneration and other conditions of service are as applicable to the post of a Bursar of any Federal University in Nigeria and as may be determined from time to time by the Federal Government of Nigeria/University Governing Council as appropriate. In accordance with the Universities Miscellaneous Provisions Decree No. 11 of 1993 (as amended), the successful candidates shall hold office for five (5) years in the first instance. The appointment may however be renewed for another five years and no more. Fringe benefits include a pension scheme in consonance with the contributory pension scheme and appropriate allowances as may be approved from time to time by the Government/University Council.

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The Registrar & Secretary to Council,
The Federal University of Petroleum Resources,
P. M. B. 1221,
EFFURUN,
Delta State, Nigeria

to reach her not later than six (6) weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement. Applicants should inform their three referees to forward their **CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS** to the above address within the same deadline.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Dr. (Mrs.) L. O. ONWUKA
Registrar & Secretary to Council

Congratulations!

The Management and staff of **Lantis Management Consulting Limited** felicitate with **Maj. General Alwali Kazir (Rtd)** and **Dr. Yerima Lawan Ngama**, on the occasion of their turbaning as *Madakin Bade* and *Mutawallen Bade* respectively, on Saturday, 11th April, 2009, by *His Royal Highness, Alh. Mai Abubakar Umar Suleiman, Emir of Bade.*

Maintain the tempo!



Maj. General
Alwali Kazir (RTD), CFR
Madakin Bade



Dr. Yerima Lawan Ngama,
Mutawallen Bade
Executive Director, First Bank of Nigeria Plc

Signed:
Management



Office Address: Suite A41, Banex Plaza Vina, Plot 751 Aminu Kano Crescent, Wuse II, Abuja.
Email: lantewa@yahoo.com Tel: 0805 9091402, 0803 7003649



PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON DEREGULATION OF THE DOWNSTREAM PETROLEUM SECTOR

Room 211, Block A, NNPC Towers, Herbert Macaulay Way
Central Business District, Abuja

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SELECTION OF PROCESS AUDITOR

1. The Federal Government of Nigeria intends to carry a **PROCESS REVIEW AND VERIFICATION OF NNPC DEDUCTIONS AND OTHER OIL MARKETING COMPANIES CLAIMS FOR PETROLEUM SUBSIDIES**.
2. The **COMMITTEE ON THE DEREGULATION OF THE DOWN STREAM PETROLEUM SECTOR** now invites proposals to provide the following consulting services: More details on the services are provided in the Terms of Reference.

RFP is hereby requested from reputable Firms (The term "**Firm**" would be used interchangeably with "**Consultant**" wherever it appears in this document). The Firm shall have a proven track record of process auditing in complex and challenging engagements. The Firm must demonstrate an in-depth understanding of process auditing and should have sufficient technical exposure to petroleum products marketing and subsidies to guarantee a competent and professional approach to the work. Excellent analytical and communication skills are essential. The Firm must also demonstrate the ability to detect challenges in the subsidy implementation process, proffer a range of practical solutions thereto, and summarize the relevant information in a concise and easily understandable manner. Finally, to avoid any possible conflicts of interest, it is necessary to preclude any consultants that have previously been directly or indirectly engaged, contracted or otherwise involved in any previous review of the petroleum subsidies and deductions. Full and frank disclosure of any such engagements must be declared on application.

3. A firm will be selected under Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS). Procedures for selection are described in the RFP.
4. In addition to the Letter of Invitation, the RFP includes the following documents:
 - Section 1: Instructions to Firms (ITF)
 - Section 2: Special Instructions to Firms (SIF)
 - Section 3: General Conditions of Contract (GCC),
 - Section 4: Special Conditions of Contract (SCC),
 - Section 5: Proposal & Contract Forms

■ Section 6: Terms of Reference (TOR)

5. A Pre-Bid meeting will be held on **Monday, APRIL 27, 2009 at 12noon** at the office of the Client: The **OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE, AHMADU BELLO WAY, CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, ABUJA**.
6. Firms which had responded to the initial advertisements for Expression of Interest are advised to collect the letters and bids they had earlier submitted. They are also advised to collect the Request for Proposal and attend the pre-bid meeting as contained in this advertisement. This advertisement is in furtherance to the earlier advertisement for Expression of Interest placed in **THE GUARDIAN, LEADERSHIP, THISDAY** and **DAILY TRUST** newspapers of Monday, March 30, 2009. Also note that this advertisement is posted on the following websites: **www.fmf.gov.ng, www.nnpcgroup.com and www.bpp.gov.ng**.
7. Upon receipt, please acknowledge by sending an electronic mail to any of the following e-mail addresses: **mudoh@fmf.gov.ng, olu.akani@nnpcgroup.com**, stating that:
 - (a) You have received the Letter of Invitation and the RFP; and
 - (b) Whether you will submit a proposal alone or in association with any other Firm or Firms.
8. Request for Proposal is obtainable upon the payment of a non-refundable tender fee of **N250, 000.00 (Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira)** only to the Federal Government of Nigeria.
9. More information on the conditions of contract for the selection of Consultants/Firms under Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) can be downloaded from **www.bpp.gov.ng**.
10. Please note that the closing date for the Request for Proposal shall be **12 noon, Thursday April 30, 2009**. The bids will be opened immediately and bidders and members of the public as well as Civil Society who wish to witness the bid opening ceremony are cordially invited.



The Board, Management and staff of
Travelex Global & Financial Services Limited

Cordially Invites

THE RELEVANT PUBLIC

to the

OFFICIAL RE-LAUNCH OF CASH PASSPORT



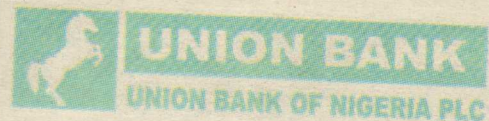
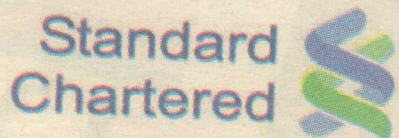
Under the distinguished Chairmanship of
ALHAJI SULEIMAN BARAU
Deputy Governor Operations, Central Bank of Nigeria

Special Guest of Honour
SENATOR NKECHI NWORGU
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions

DATE: Wednesday, 29th April 2009 **TIME:** 9:00 am

VENUE: Banquet Hall, Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Ikeja, Lagos

Partner Banks



REGRETS ONLY

Stella Uzoebo: Tel: +2341-2714522, 08034004443, 08035351904, 08037257556

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Inside today's Sunday Trust

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Living
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Breaking News:

MTN plan new Nigeria network

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

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New visit to OBJ: AC
disowns Atiku

News: Page 3



You can eat healthy
on a budget
Special Report: Page 24



Laila A

I have come to our work
called zonal working
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Can Bruce
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DATELINE IN HERE

TRUST IS A BU

TRUST

Watch Out on Sunday

OCEANIC BANK
INTERNATIONAL PLC

Global
Leaders
Forum



Theme: Food Security & Poverty Alleviation

GUEST SPEAKERS

Venue:
Oriental Hotel, 3 Lekki Road
(Opposite Mobil House),
Victoria Island, Lagos

Date:
Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Time:
9.00am

For further information please contact:
Anthony Chiejina (01-2712621)
Tope Akingbola (01-2712639)



Professor Wole Soyinka
1986 Nobel Laureate in Literature



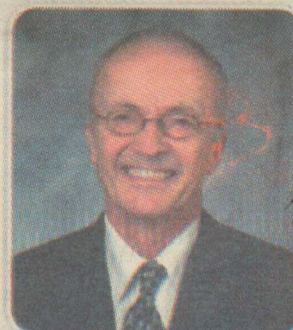
Dr. Betty Williams
1976 Nobel Peace Prize Winner



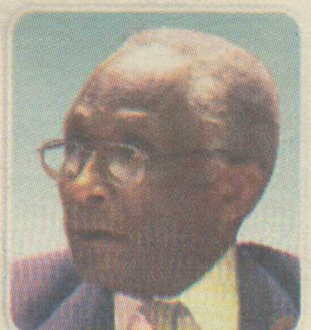
Professor Derek Walcott
1992 Nobel Laureate in Literature



Professor Eric Maskin
2007 Nobel Laureate in Economics



Professor Finn Kydland
2004 Nobel Laureate in Economics



Dr. Noel Brown
President, Friends of the United Nations



Host: Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru OFR
GMD/CEO Oceanic Bank International Plc.

Strictly by
INVITATION



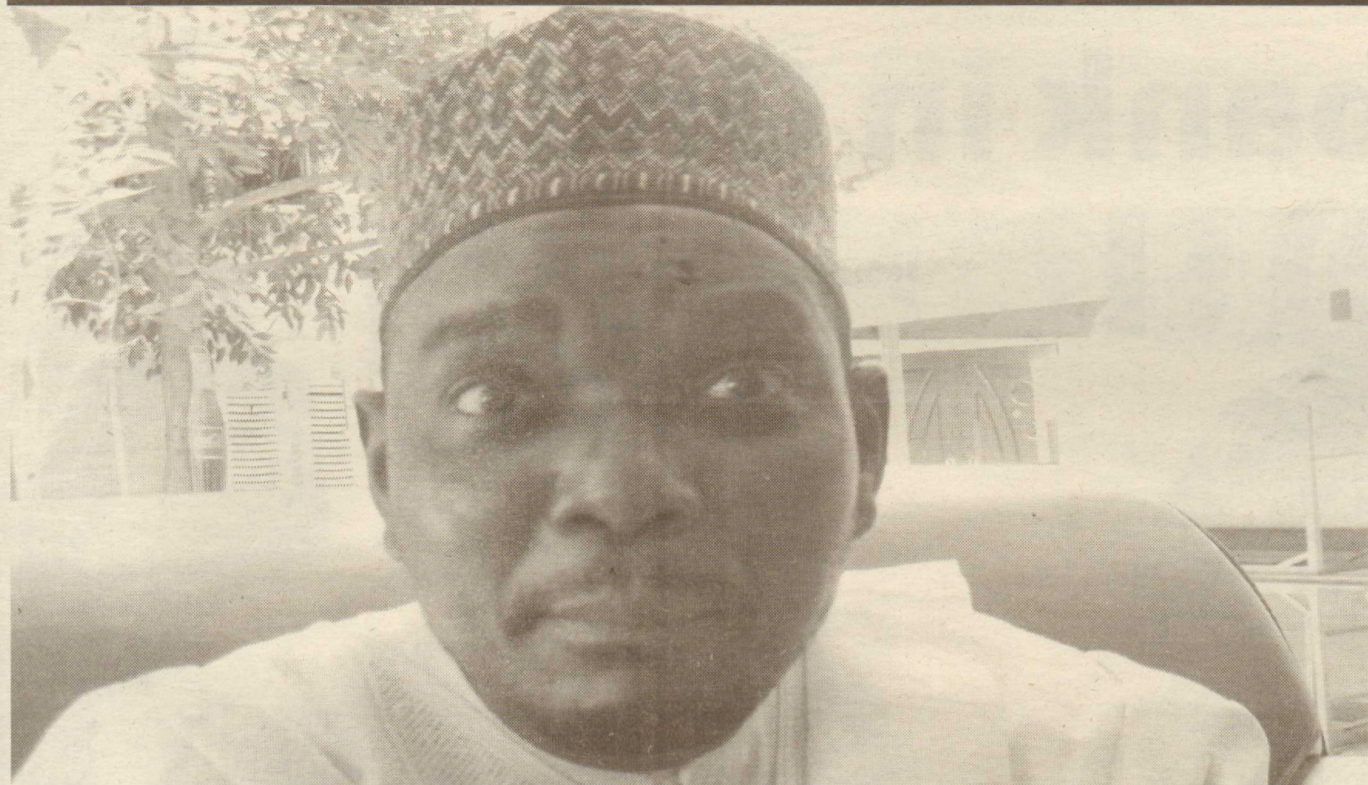
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BUSINESS

NSE suspends 36
brokers
Page 36



CHAIRMAN of Shareholders Trustees Association of Nigeria Malam Otunba Mukhtar Mukhtar

'Manipulation is real problem with NSE'

By Jibrin Abubakar

MANIPULATION is the real problem with the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE). Chairman of Shareholders Trustees Association of Nigeria Malam Otunba Mukhtar Mukhtar who spoke to newsmen yesterday in Abuja said the recent drop in the value of AP shares were as a result of the initial upward manipulation.

When contacted, spokesman of the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC)

Lanre Oloye said he had no comment on the issue and that the position of the SEC had since been made known on the AP/ Nova share manipulation saga.

Mr. Femi Otedola has a 51 per cent stake in AP.

Mukhtar said he had opposed to Otedola's takeover of AP from its inception.

He said: "Mr. Otedola couldn't have been able to turn around AP. And because of the former president's dictatorship, he supported Otedola, others were emasculated. Now everyone is paying the price."

He said the sole responsibility of the shareholders association was to educate and protect investors and that was why he had decided to come to the media.

Asked if Alhaji Aliko Dangote and Otedola disagreement was as a result of the recent foray of Mr. Otedola into mainstream Dangote's business, he said he was not speaking for Dangote.

"Apart from the fact that we are from the same state, I don't have any business with him," he said.

BRIEFS

Akunyili okays Nigeria's trade mission to T/Tobago

By Jibrin Abubakar

NIGERIANS travelling to Trinidad and Tobago on the aegis of Trinidad and Tobago Economic and Cultural Exchange Forum has been urged to rebrand and repackage Nigerian products to meet international and acceptable standard, a statement from Mrs. Oluseyi Abegunde said. Minister of information and communication Mrs Dora Akunyili made this remark when the Exchange Forum visited her in Abuja last week, adding that she supports Nigeria's full participation at the Trade and Cultural Expo coming up in July. Speaking earlier, chairman steering committee of the Forum Malam Sani Dawop said Nigerian products, arts and films are in high demand, adding that it is a rare chance to showcase the country's potential in line with government's rebranding effort. About 60 companies are to participate worldwide in the trade and cultural expo in the Caribbean country.

'N40bn needed to fix power'

By Hamisu Muhammad

N40 billion is needed for Nigeria to have sufficient power supply in the next 20 years, an energy economist estimated yesterday. Speaking at a two-day International Conference of Nigerian Association of Energy Economists, NAAEE, with the theme: "Energy Industry Restructuring: Interactions Between Business, Economics and Policy". The president, NAAEE, Prof. Akin Iwayemi said, "The projected amount of investment to meet domestic power system expansion in 2030 is estimated at about \$262 billion," he said. He said, "This amount is enormous given the antecedent of the industry. Though the financial requirement is daunting, it is achievable." According to Iwayemi, the mobilization of the financial resources to support a dramatic scaling up of energy infrastructure capacity must factor in the risks associated with investment to strengthen the refining and pipeline and distribution network and power supply system.

Airport inaugurates SAC

From Nahimah Ajikanle Nurudeen, Lagos

AS part of efforts to ensure safety in the nation's airport, the Managers of Murtala Muhammed International Airport have inaugurated a Safety Awareness Council (SAC) to enhance safety at the airport. The council members consisting of representatives of all agencies with different backgrounds but working at the international airport are expected to meet regularly to rub minds on safety issues that will move the airport forward.

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

DATE	CURRENCY	BUYING (NGN)	CENTRAL (NGN)	SELLING (NGN)
21/04/2009	CFA	0.2694	0.2794	0.2894
	DANISH KRONER	25.1522	25.239	25.3257
	EURO	187.4544	188.1008	188.7471
	POUNDS STERLING	210.772	211.4988	212.2255
	RIYAL	38.6693	38.8027	38.936
	SDR	214.7743	215.5149	216.2554
	SWISS FRANC	123.8978	124.325	124.7522
	US DOLLAR	145.01	145.51	146.01
	YEN	1.477	1.4821	1.4872

Business/Finance

Unity Bank to establish micro bank in Ondo

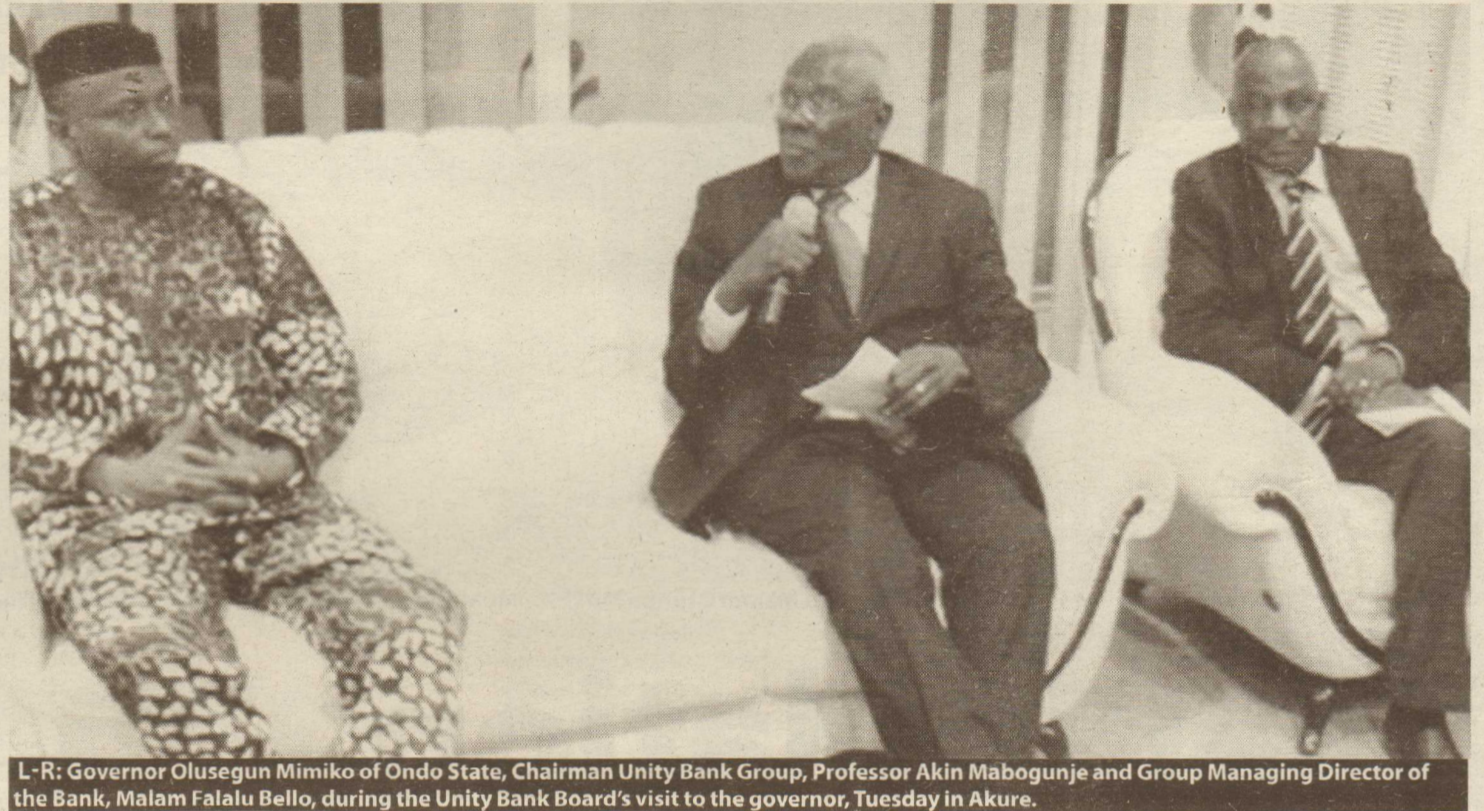
By Abubakar Buba

IN partnership with the Ondo State government, the Unity Bank Plc would soon establish a micro-finance institution that would disburse collateral-free loans to the low-income earners of the grassroots to increase financial empowerment and boost rural economic growth.

Chairman of the bank, Professor Akin Mabogunje, who made this known in Akure yesterday, said the institution that is being designed to take into consideration local peculiarities and economic indices would have offices in all the 18 local councils of the state.

He spoke while leading the bank's management team on a courtesy call on the state governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko where he solicited for government assistance in helping to organize would-be beneficiaries of the scheme into co-operative societies for easy fund disbursement.

Mabogunje, who was accompanied on the visit by Alhaji Falalu Bello, the bank's Managing Director said the proposed institution would be a departure from the conventional banking operations which he said has not impacted positively on the economy of the grassroots.



L-R: Governor Olusegun Mimiko of Ondo State, Chairman Unity Bank Group, Professor Akin Mabogunje and Group Managing Director of the Bank, Malam Falalu Bello, during the Unity Bank Board's visit to the governor, Tuesday in Akure.

He said the bank decided to go into the scheme to establish its preference for retail banking saying "we are a first class retail bank in Nigeria and we hope, through this initiative, to reach the farmers, traders and artisans and meet their financial needs".

With 216 branches nation-

wide, Mabogunje said the bank achieved a global feat during the last consolidation exercise when it became the first bank in the world to have been created out of a merger of not less than nine banking institutions.

Although he said the bank had initial challenges of consolidation

mainly because of the circumstances of the merger, the Chairman said a course that would make the bank one of the leading five in the country is already being charted with a focus on assisting institutions of state in the task of infrastructural development "not only in roads but water and elec-

tricity".

While responding, Mimiko said the state was ready to partner with the bank in the new initiative which he added was necessary "because we need an organic linkage with credit facilities to increase capacity and not consumption".

Unethical practises: NSE suspends three broking firms

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

THE Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) yesterday suspended three dealing member houses from operating on the floor of the market as a result of various irregularities.

How long the suspension will last was however not disclosed by the NSE's management.

The affected houses suspended are Capital Bancorp Limited; Hamilton Hammer and Company Limited and Arian Capital Management Limited.

Announcing the suspension on the floor of the market yesterday, NSE general manager, Market Operations and Information Technology, Mr Binos Yaroe said Arian Capital Management Limited is suspended for irregularly acquiring a Dealing License. Also, its Chairman was functioning as the Managing Director without being a qualified stockbroker, contrary to Article 154 of The Rules and Regulation of The

Exchange.

Accompanying Yaroe to the trading floor were the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS), Dr. Onyewuchi Asinobi; Mr. Farooq Oreagba, General Manager, Strategy and New Products Department and Mr. Funso Fatobi, Deputy General Manager, Private Placement and Emerging Market Department, made the announcement.

Hamilton Hammer and Co Limited, he said was suspended for transferring 80 per cent of its equity holding to another party without due approval from the Exchange.

Capital Bancorp Limited was suspended for creating confusion over the ownership of the Dealing License of the Exchange: Capital Bancorp Limited or Bancorp Securities Limited.

Meanwhile, the market rebound strongly with N143

billion gain to close the market with N4.838 trillion. This was against the previous day trading of N4.695 trillion.

All share index also grew by 625.92 points to close at 21,303.02 points against the previous day dealings of 20,677,10 point level



NSE DG, Ndidi Okereke

Odua Group divests from Wema bank

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) has granted approval to Odua Group to divest its 2,700,000,000 ordinary shares in Wema Bank Plc to a core investor, SW8 Investment Ltd.

The shares being divested represent 26.50 per cent of the current issued and fully paid share capital of the bank.

According to SEC's Head Media Lanre Oloyi, the approval was granted April 1.

An agreement was reached in August 2008 between the Commission, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Nigerian Deposit Insurance Company (NDIC), Wema Bank and Odua Group that the Board and Management of Wema Bank shall under the supervision of SEC disposed of the warehouse shares of Wema Bank about (2.7 billion shares) in a transparent manner in order to improve the bank's liquidity position and correct the irregularities in earlier

sale of the shares.

Before consolidation, the O'dua Group had held majority shares in Wema Bank, but had to divest after regulators had ruled that no state government should hold more than 10 per cent in any of the banks in the country in a bid to shore up corporate governance.

The diversion has led to jittery in the market as investors traded 102.835 million of the bank's shares valued at with N252.974 million exchanged in 21 deals. This represent 58 per cent of the total 250.7 million shares traded in the banking sub-sector of the market

The SW8 is believed to consist of influential, experience and professional individuals from the South West

The bank was last year engulfed with leadership problem until CBN intervened and subsequent appointment of the current acting director, Mr. Mahmoud Lai Alabi

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DIGEST

Girl, 13, battling rare disease that will turn her into a statue

SEANIE Nammoock could be any normal teenager. But the schoolgirl is battling a devastating genetic condition that is slowly paralysing her. The 13-year-old, from West London, is suffering from fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva (FOP), a condition that is turning her muscle and tendon into bone.

Already, her arms have become locked into a bent position at her waist, rendering them immobile like a statue, and it is possible other areas of her body may be affected in future.

The teenager has grown extra bone over her shoulders so she can no longer reach up for things, brush or wash her own hair or dress without assistance. The slightest knock or bump causes painful flare-ups that trigger the irreversible bone growth which locks her joints into place, and she cannot have any infections or biopsies as this too may cause unwanted bone to form.

Seanie, who also suffers stiffness in her neck and back, jokes:

'I've got more bone in my neck than a giraffe.' But the debilitating condition has not hampered her hobbies or social life. A keen cook, she loves to shop and spend time with her best friends, Daniela Scavia and Jessica Samuel, both 13. 'My friends are brilliant, they do my hair for me sometimes and help me get my coat on and anything I can't do really,' she said.

Maria Granaghan, Seanie's mother said: 'Her friends are all great. They all look out for each other and just go on with being girls and enjoying themselves.'

Seanie was diagnosed with FOP last year after she was admitted to hospital following a minor trampoline accident. 'She had fallen on her back and it had caused a sore lump to form,' said her mother, Maria Granaghan.

'It was huge, hard red and hot to the touch, so I took her to the hospital to get it checked out.' Unfamiliar with the symptoms, doctors at St Mary's Hospital told her not to worry, and sent her home - but when the lump didn't

clear and Seanie began complaining of severe pain, her mother rushed her to the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

MRI scans and further testing revealed the diagnosis. 'It was a horrible shock,' said Mrs Granaghan, who has two other daughters, Sarah, 27, and Sinead, 17. 'To be told your daughter has one of the worst medical problems on the planet and that there is no cure is every mother's nightmare. The drip she was on before she was diagnosed is probably what caused her left arm to lock. That's why it's so important that these kids get diagnosed early.' But the brave schoolgirl took the diagnosis in her stride: 'I just said "Oh well I'll have to just get on with it."

Only about 600 people in the world have been diagnosed with FOP, for which there is no cure. But three years ago US researchers discovered the gene that causes FOP, and a compound that halts bone growth is already being tested in the UK.

Culled from dailymail.co.uk.



FROZEN: Seanie Nammoock with her mother Maria Granaghan



THE eight seasick fish were later culled and their brains examined to try to determine the exact cause of their sickness. Photo: P4

Fish get seasick, scientist 'proves'

It has long been wondered whether fish get seasick but now a German scientist has claimed he has proved that in fact they do.

Dr Reinhold Hilbig, a zoologist from Stuttgart, studied the effects of weightlessness in water as part of research into how humans are affected in space.

Forty-nine fish in a mini aquarium were sent up in a plane that went into a steep dive, simulating the loss of gravity astronauts encounter in space flight.

He said eight of the fish began turning around and around in circles.

'They completely lost their sense of balance, behaving like humans who get seasick,' said Dr Hilbig.

'The fish lost their orientation, they became completely confused and looked as if they were about to vomit. In the wild such a "seasick" fish would become prey for others because they are incapable of fleeing from danger.'

The eight seasick fish were later culled and their brains examined to try to determine the exact cause of their sickness.

'It would seem the loss of eye contact with water movement and vibrations plays a large part in their disorientation,' Dr Hilbig said.

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

Breaking the animal kingdom's colour code



PERUVIAN poison frog (*Dendrobates reticulatus*). 'The brighter the animal, the more it can afford a bright and distinctive livery to copyright its appearance,' said Dr Van Winkle. Sculptor: Frank.

RESEARCH spearheaded by the University of York has used computer models to explain the evolution of the distinctive colouring of many species of wildlife.

Charles Darwin was fascinated by the colours of animals - he once wrote to his colleague

Alfred Russel Wallace asking why certain animals were 'so beautifully and artistically coloured'.

It is a question that has intrigued biologists ever since. Now research spearheaded at the University of York (in collaboration with researchers from the

University of Glasgow, and Carleton University in Canada) has used computer models to trace the evolution of this extravagant colouring.

Researchers in the York Centre for Complex Systems Analysis (YCCSA) sought to explain why many animals that have an anti-predatory defence, such as a sting or poison, tend to be brightly coloured.

Mimicry is common in nature. Defenceless species frequently evolve to look like a nasty species, so that potential predators cannot distinguish between the two - a good meal or an unpleasant experience.

Such mimicry is good for the defenceless species which predators can mistake for a daunting adversary but is bad for nasty species which might be mistaken as a good meal.

The YCCSA research suggests that nasty prey may have evolved bright colours to avoid this kind of mimicry. Bright colours are harder for defenceless prey to mimic because they have a survival cost of increased detectability by predators.

Culled from sciencedaily.com



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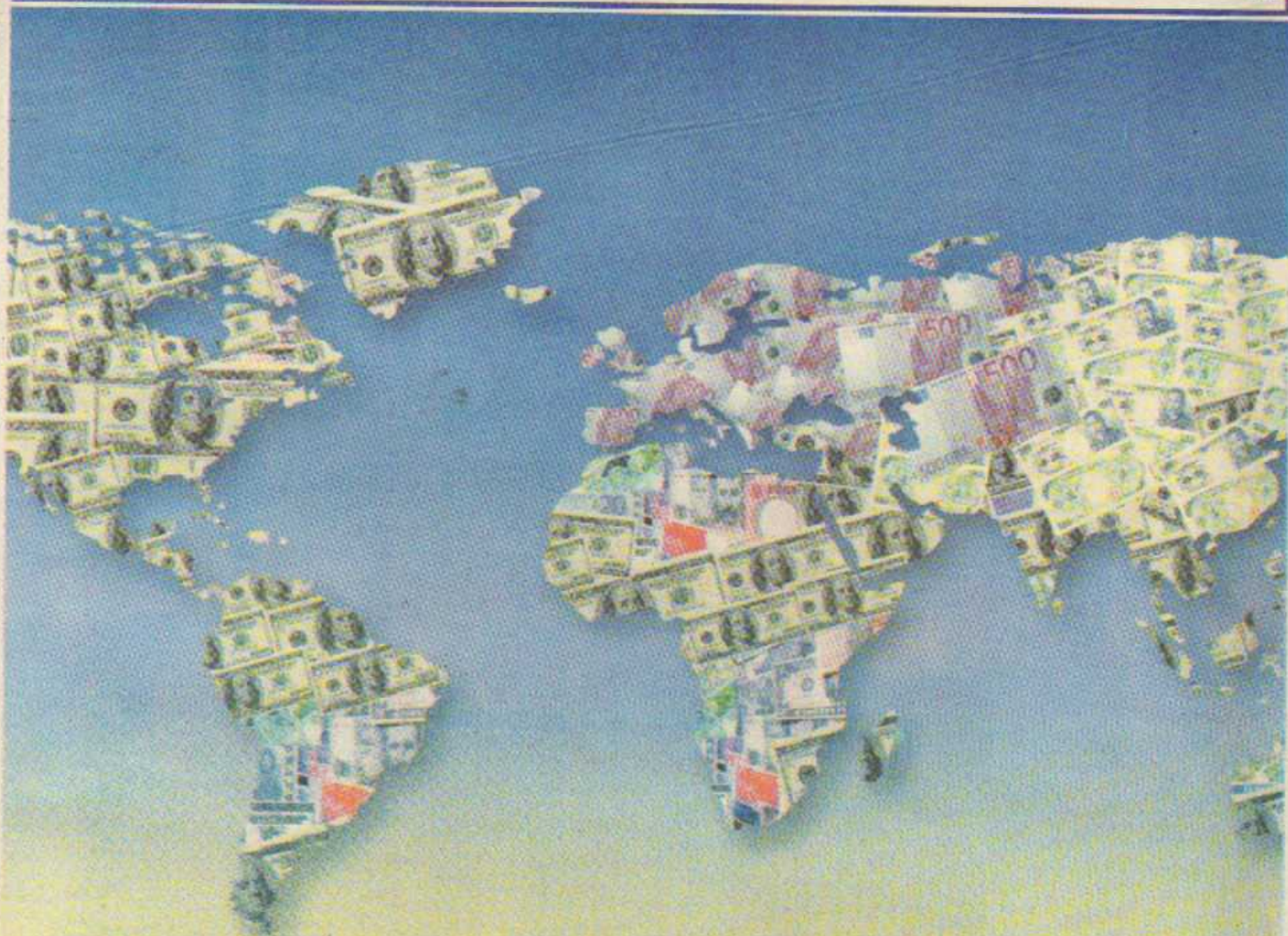
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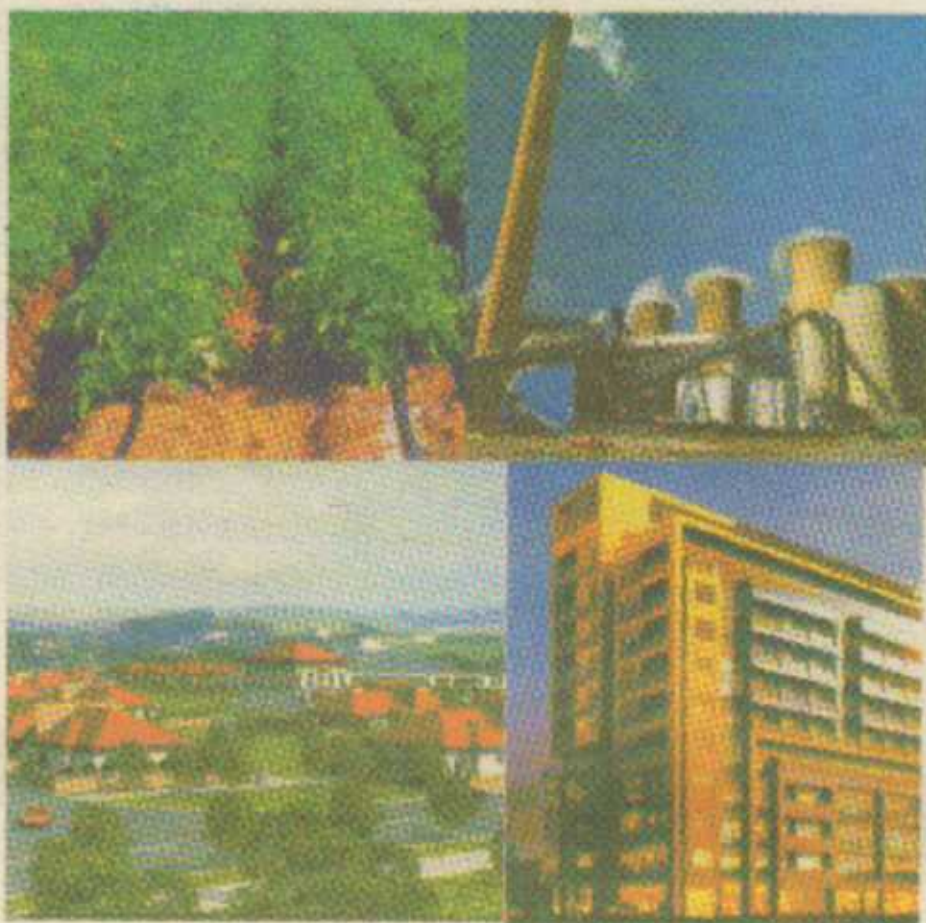
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Puzzles

Sudoku puzzle

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.

65

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

Solution to Sudoku puzzle No 64

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

Sign Language



Take a stand...by sitting down
Spotted by Richard Corner
Culled from the telegraph.co.uk

FIND & CIRCLE JUMBO

FIND & CIRCLE JUMBO puzzles are solved by finding all the hidden words in the diagram. The words are always in a straight line and may read up, down, forward, backward, or diagonally. Cross a word off your list once you have circled it. Many words will overlap.

54

Practical P.J.'S

S	S	N	P	L	A	I	D	P	D	Q	K	C	A	W	Flannel
M	N	F	S	H	O	L	E	N	N	A	L	F	Y	I	Legs
O	G	R	A	E	N	U	E	Y	Z	O	C	Y	N	A	Loose
T	T	O	E	B	V	L	N	G	I	S	E	D	D	E	Lounge-
T	T	L	C	T	R	E	N	G	S	H	O	R	T	S	wee
O	U	Z	O	D	T	I	E	O	E	M	A	Z	M	H	Material
B	B	P	M	O	H	A	C	L	T	W	D	J	A	I	Pajamas
C	S	R	F	T	S	N	P	R	S	T	E	I	T	H	Patterns
N	A	P	O	L	Y	E	S	T	E	R	O	A	E	T	Plaid
W	W	L	R	P	L	A	R	D	A	T	V	C	H	I	Polyester
Q	C	E	T	A	M	I	D	L	S	S	M	K	I	S	Sewn
F	G	S	S	A	N	J	L	N	O	I	H	S	A	F	Shirt
F	D	T	J	G	L	O	A	O	K	A	O	G	L	I	Shorts
U	I	A	C	G	C	P	T	F	A	W	G	D	R	B	Silk
C	P	R	V	T	S	I	L	K	P	Y	E	F	Q	I	Sleeves

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|-------|
| Baggy | Comfort | Draw- | Snaps |
| Bottoms | Cotton | string | Tops |
| Buttons | Cozy | Elastic | Waist |
| Clothing | Cuff | Fabric | Warm |
| Collar | Design | Fashion | |

Solution to Puzzle No 53

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



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THE HOME FRONT

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with
Dr Aminu Magashi
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In Today's Edition

Breastfeeding' protects mother'



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LIVING

How and why women damn the risks of using aphrodisiacs

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Warning signs of autism

By Akor Ojoma and Victoria Awom

APRIL 2, was World Autism Day and the month of April is also autism awareness month generally. Autism is a little understood brain development disorder that appears with varying degrees of severity in children before they reach the age of 3, impeding the development of communication skills and the ability to function socially. The level of awareness about autism in this country is very low and some attribute it to spiritual problems.

According to Mr Okey-Martins, National Coordinator of Autism Associates & CADD in Medical News Today, "There is an estimated 190,000 children in Nigeria who may be living this condition. In February, 2007, the American Centers for Disease Control (C.D.C) released an official estimate reporting an increase in cases of autism spectrum disorders from 1 out of 166 to 1 case per 150 children. Usually, children with autism have no physical feature that sets them apart from others. Many children with this puzzling condition whose cure and causes are largely unknown are not being identified early in Nigeria."

Dr Mariya Mukhtar-Yola, a consultant paediatrician at the National Hospital Abuja said parents can know if their children are autistic, "Autistic children put up



behaviour."

Who is affected by autism?
The national autistic society

Many children with this puzzling condition whose cure and causes are largely unknown are not being identified early in Nigeria

some behavioural abnormalities, like tending to be alone rather than play with others. They tend to be indifferent to communicate with other children, intense and absorbing interest in some things different from what their peers will engage in. Others have compulsive and ritualistic behaviour meaning they follow the same pattern of activity and an attempt to disrupt such pattern evokes a tantrum or rage reaction from them, there is diminished response to pain and external stimuli, speech is often delayed and when it is present, they usually make a nonsensical rhythm. Some engage in head banging, teeth grinding and rocking. Also they don't like eye contacts and some display violent

United Kingdom says Autism is much more common than most people think. People from all nationalities and cultural, religious and social backgrounds can have autism, although it appears to affect more men than women. It is a lifelong condition: children with autism grow up to become adults with autism.

What causes autism?

The exact cause of autism is still being investigated. However, research suggests that a combination of factors - genetic and environmental - may account for changes in brain development. Autism is not caused by a person's upbringing, their social circumstances and is not the fault of the individual with the condition.

What is the diagnosis?

A diagnosis is the formal identification of autism, usually by a health professional such as a paediatrician or a psychiatrist. Having a diagnosis is helpful for two reasons: it helps people with autism and their families to detect and intervene early or understand why they may experience certain difficulties and what they can do about them. It allows people to access services and support.

According to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's Autism Facts, United States of America, "A doctor should definitely and immediately evaluate a child for autism if he or she: does not babble or coo by 12 months of age, does not gesture (point, wave, grasp, etc.) by 12 months of age, does not say single words by 16 months of age, does not say two-word phrases on his or her own rather than just repeating what someone says to him or her by 24 months of age, has any loss of any language or social skill at any age."

Treatment

At present, there is no 'cure' for autism. However, there is a range of interventions - methods of enabling learning and devel-

opment - which people may find to be helpful. Dr Mukhtar-Yola said autism is not an ailment that requires drugs. "It is a spectrum, meaning at a point, it is mild or even normal, or the extreme of all the behaviours stated above. It could however be managed between a paediatrician, psychiatrist and the speech therapist."

She further said there is no drug you can give an autistic person to make him/her behave well. But behaviour modification is very helpful. These children can be taught to think from point one to the end. They should be taught to behave in an appropriate way just like other children. They can also be trained to learn a trade, an art or a skill which will be useful to them in life. She said some have peculiar love for music; some are good in mathematics, so parents should identify the strength of these children and build on it.

The doctor also said the autistic child could talk and live a normal life eventually. "Even if it takes them a longer time than usual most of them are able to communicate, but that also depends on the severity of the autistic spectrum, whether mild or extreme. But again an autistic child can grow up to be useful to himself and the society in general.

Breastfeeding protects mother – Research

WOMEN who breastfeed their babies may be lowering their own risk of a heart attack, heart disease or stroke, research suggests.

A US study found women who breastfed for more than a year were 10% less likely to develop the conditions than those who never breastfed.

Even breastfeeding for at least a month may cut the risk of diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

The research features in the journal *Obstetrics and Gynaecology*. The study adds to a growing body of evidence suggesting breastfeeding has health benefits for both mother and baby.

Research has found that breastfeeding reduces a woman's risk of ovarian and breast cancer and osteoporosis in later life.

And the list of benefits for the baby is long, with breast milk credited with protecting against obesity, diabetes, asthma and infections of the ear, stomach and chest. The latest US study, by the University of Pittsburgh, focused on nearly 140,000 post-menopausal women.

On average, it had been 35 years since the women had last breastfed - suggesting the beneficial impact lasts for decades.

As well as cutting the risk of heart problems, breastfeeding for more than a year cut the risk of high blood pressure by 12%, and diabetes and high cholesterol by around 20%.

Fat stores

It has been suggested that breastfeeding may reduce cardiovascular risk by reducing fat stores in the body.

However, the researchers believe the effect is more complex, with the release of hormones stimulated by breastfeeding also playing a role.

Researcher Dr Eleanor Bimla Schwarz said: "We have known for years that breastfeeding is important for babies' health; we now know that it is important for mothers' health as well.

"Breastfeeding is an important part of the way women's bodies recover from pregnancy.

"When this process is interrupted women are more likely to have a number of health problems (including heart attacks and strokes). "The longer a mother nurses her baby, the better for both of them."

In the UK, the Department of Health recommends exclusive breastfeeding for six months.

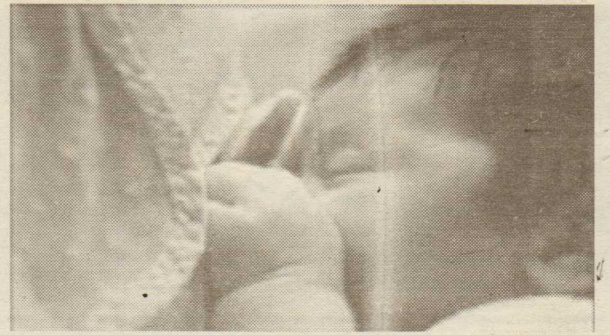
June Davison, a cardiac nurse at the British Heart Foundation, said: "Breastfeeding has long been thought to be beneficial to baby and mother. "This research suggests that it might have also

have heart health benefits for mum too.

"However, it only showed an association between breast

feeding and these health benefits. We will need further research to understand why this is the case."

Culled from bbc.co.uk



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Tambari

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14807, Kano, Nigeria

Advice by Dr Aminu Magashi

Need information on multiple births

I am the kind of lady that admires having twins or even triplets. I will like to know some of the factors that will increase my chance of having what I cherish.

Rebecca from Abuja

There are many factors, some natural, while some artificial that increase the likelihood of a woman to have more than one child at a time. It is called multiple pregnancy. Some of the factors that are associated with multiple pregnancy include:

- 1. Race.** Black women are said to have the highest rate of natural multiple pregnancy. Asian women have the lowest.
- 2. Age.** Older women are more likely to have a multiple pregnancy.
- 3. Family history.** Women with multiple pregnancies in their families are more likely to have a multiple pregnancy.
- 4. Prior pregnancy.** Women who have given birth four or more times are more likely to have a multiple pregnancy.
- 5. Fertility drugs.** Some of these drugs cause a woman to ovulate more than one egg a month, which increases the likelihood of multiple pregnancy.
- 6. Assisted reproductive technology (ART).** Measures that implant more than one embryo are more likely to produce a multiple pregnancy.

The 5th and 6th factors will not lead to multiple pregnancy, only that there is a possibility of that. Fertility drugs are Steroids in nature and they are associated with risk of Breast Cancer, Strokes, Hypertension to mention but few, especially among those with positive family history of any one of those conditions mentioned above. As such when one is considering taking them, one need to be aware of the risk.

Causes of miscarriage

I will like to know the likely causes of miscarriage throughout the pregnancy.

Balabara

1. Majority of miscarriages occur

during the first 3 month of pregnancy, called First Trimester, among them are:

2. Chromosomal abnormalities are found in more than half of embryos miscarried in the first 13 weeks. A pregnancy with a genetic problem has a 95% chance of ending in miscarriage. Most chromosomal problems happen by chance, have nothing to do with the parents, and are unlikely to recur. Genetic problems are more likely to occur with older parents; this may account



for the higher miscarriage rates observed in older women.

3. Another cause of early miscarriage may be progesterone deficiency, (a chemical agent responsible for maintaining pregnancy). Women diagnosed with low progesterone levels in the second half of their menstrual cycle (luteal phase) may be prescribed progesterone supplements, to be taken for the first trimester of pregnancy.
4. Up to 15% of pregnancy losses in the Second Trimester (4th - 6th Months) may be

due to uterine malformation, growths in the uterus (fibroids), or cervical problems. These conditions may also contribute to premature birth. Pregnancies involving more than one fetus are at increased risk of miscarriage (Multiple Pregnancy)

5. Uncontrolled diabetes greatly increases the risk of miscarriage. Women with controlled diabetes are not at higher risk of miscarriage. Because diabetes may develop

during pregnancy (gestational diabetes), an important part of prenatal care is to monitor for signs of the disease.

6. Polycystic ovary syndrome is a risk factor for miscarriage, with 30-50% of pregnancies in women with PCOS being miscarried in the first trimester.
7. High blood pressure and certain illnesses (such as rubella and chlamydia) increase the risk of miscarriage.
8. Tobacco (cigarette) smokers have an increased risk of miscarriage.
9. Severe cases of hypothyroidism increase the risk of

miscarriage. The effect of milder cases of hypothyroidism on miscarriage rates has not been established.

10. Physical trauma, exposure to certain chemicals, obesity, high caffeine intake, high levels of alcohol consumption, and use of NSAIDs have also been linked to increased risk of miscarriage.

I have Low Blood Pressure

My doctor informed me that my blood pressure is very low. He placed me on some drugs. I need more explanation on the causes.

Yusufa

low blood pressure as readings lower than 90 systolic or 60 diastolic — one needs to have only one number in the low range for his/her blood pressure to be considered lower than normal. In other words, if systolic pressure is a perfect 115, but diastolic pressure is 50, one is considered to have, lower than normal pressure.

Yet this can be misleading because what's considered low blood pressure for one person may be normal for someone else. For that reason, doctors often consider chronically low blood pressure too low only if it causes noticeable symptoms. On the other hand, a sudden fall in blood pressure can be dangerous. A change of just 20 mm Hg — a drop from 130 systolic to 110 systolic, for example — can cause dizziness and fainting when the brain fails to receive an adequate supply of blood. And low blood pressure especially caused by uncontrolled bleeding, severe infections or allergic reactions can, be life-threatening.

Low blood pressure can be a sign of serious, even life-threatening disorders. Some possible causes are:

Pregnancy. Because a woman's circulatory system expands rapidly during pregnancy, blood pressure is likely to drop. In fact, during the first 24 weeks of pregnancy, systolic pressure commonly drops by five to 10 points and diastolic pressure by as much as 10 to 15 points.

Medications. Many drugs can cause low blood pressure, including diuretics and other drugs that treat high blood pressure; heart medications such as beta blockers; drugs for Parkinson's disease; Tricyclic antidepressants; Sildenafil (Viagra), particularly in combination with nitroglycerine; narcotics; and alcohol.

Heart problems. Some heart conditions that can lead to low blood pressure include extremely low heart rate (bradycardia), heart valve problems, heart attack and heart failure. These conditions may cause low blood pressure because they prevent your body from being able to circulate enough blood

Blood pressure is the pressure of blood in the arteries (blood vessels). Blood pressure is measured in millimetres of mercury (mmHg). It is recorded as two figures. For example, 120 + or - 20/80 + or - 10 mmHg.

1. The top (first) number is the systolic pressure. This is the pressure in the arteries when the heart contracts.
2. The bottom (second) number is the diastolic pressure. This is the pressure in the arteries when the heart rests between each heartbeat.
3. Some experts define

How and why women damn the risks of using aphrodisiacs

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

FOR quite some years now, women particularly in the north have adopted the use of some concoctions in the form of food or drugs (aphrodisiacs) popularly known as "maganin mata" in Hausa to boost their sexual desire, ability and satisfaction.

Because of the wide acceptance of these drugs in the society, dealers of such seem to be making brisk business. Just like the way provision stores are found in the markets, these aphrodisiac shops have appeared to be rampant in our markets today and surprisingly, most of these shops are owned and managed by men.

Apart from the market where men are in charge in such shops, women are often engaged in the trade where they are usually seen hanging their bags of maganin mata as they enter house by house canvassing for a market for their wares.

Interestingly, these women have a special way of convincing women to buy these products as they use all that words and gestures can say to lure women to buying and using these concoctions.

Usually, these aphrodisiacs

The surprising thing about the whole thing is how the dealers of such aphrodisiacs prescribe to their customers

come in the form of powder where they are dissolved in either milk, honey or yoghurt, pap and the likes, some others come in the form of tablets or capsules meant to be consumed like the usual medical drugs, others meant to be inserted in the private part of a woman while others are meant to be used as cleansing bars or liquids.

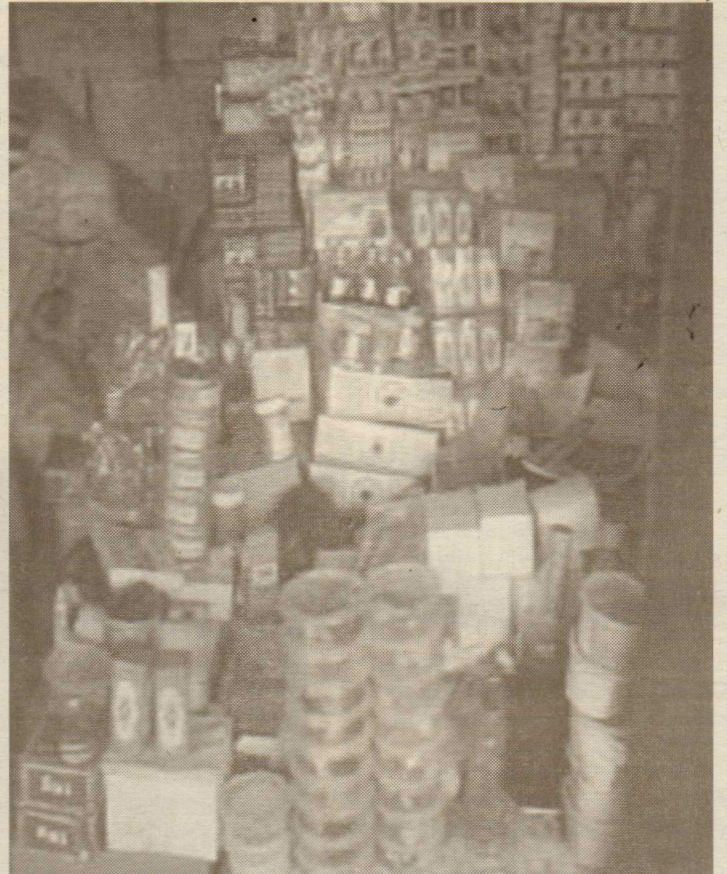
The surprising thing about the whole thing is how the dealers of such aphrodisiacs prescribe to their customers even the Chinese products which contain their prescription and guide in Chinese.

More to the surprise is the extent some women go to source for money to purchase these sex boosters. While some sacrifice a lot of things to buy them, others go to the extent of cutting from the budgetary provision of the household in order to be able to obtain these sex boosters.

The origin of the said sex boosters have however been traced to Niger Republic through Sokoto, Zamfara and Kebbi states into Nigeria. With its sprayed to all other states of the north, use of these sex stim-



SOME of the Chinese products



THESE are also Chinese aphrodisiacs

ulants is one of the most talked about among women today.

However, The Home Front went round to sample opinions of the dealers and consumers of such products and interestingly, a lot of revelations were made.

Maryam Ibrahim is a married woman who uses the said sex boosters; she told this reporter how she came to know about them and their benefits.

She narrates, "I got to know something like that existed when I was in Kebbi State for my National Youth Service. The woman I stayed with who happened to be a friend to my aunt was a dealer and I always wondered whenever women came to buy but being a stranger, I decided to keep my wonders to myself. It was when we became so acquainted that I asked what she was selling and what it is being used for".

"She then explained that it is the ingredient for sustaining

It is so wonderful and honestly, I cannot imagine doing without it, at least not during my young age" she said.

any marriage. On hearing that, I picked interest and decided to give it a trial and honestly, I am convinced that it is truly the ingredient for sustaining any matrimony. It is so wonderful and honestly, I cannot imagine doing without it, at least not during my young age" she said.

Another woman who uses



TYPICAL traditional aphrodisiacs boosters

same aphrodisiacs, Hadiza Umar confessed that as a result of using the drugs and concoctions, she has been able to collect a lot of material things from her husband in the name of reward for satisfying him sexually.

"It really pays using maganin mata because I have over the years used it to make my husband do a lot of things for me, particularly when I want him to give or buy something for me. The tactic is, when a woman has taken these maganin mata, at the peak of love making with her husband, she just whispers to him her demands and due to the extent of excitement, the man

cannot but agree to offer her request. This is why it is sometimes called, *ko gida ko mota*, (a house or a car) which means that your husband can even give you a house or a car due to the excitement.

She continued, "apart from that, both of you derive special pleasure in bed and that makes your man stick to you alone and it also gives more value to the marriage.

Therefore, I recommend it for any woman that wants to keep her man and sustain her marriage".

On the varieties of the sex boosters she uses, Hadiza said

that she uses different types including the ones consumed and that which is inserted in the private part.

Talking on the health implications, Hadiza said she never cared to know about any health implication, all she is after is satisfaction. "Honestly, I never thought of any health implication, my concern is to derive the benefits of it.

But left to me even though I am not a health worker, I doubt if they have any hazard considering how highly placed and educated women also use these drugs. Therefore, I doubt if it has any health implication".

Another user of the aphrodisiacs who pledged anonymity said her husband has warned her severally not to use such artificial sex boosters but she has vowed not to stop.

Her words, "Honestly, I am married to a polygamous man and therefore I must do all it takes to win his heart.

He has warned me severally but I will not stop using it because only God knows what his other wives are using".

On the part of the dealers, they appear to be happy with their trade and do it with all pleasure believing that they are enhancing marriages.

Hajiya Hauwa Gusau is one of them. She said, "I am very proud of what I do for a living as I am becoming popular by the day and my customers seem to appreciate me the more.

Honestly the magic these drugs do to marriages is beyond mere imagination".

ENVIRONMENT

Waste can alleviate poverty, generate energy

By Nasir imam

WASTE has been described as a potential threat to human health and the environment if not well handled and its management can contribute to poverty alleviation and energy generation, among others.

President of the Wastes Management Society of Nigeria (WAMASON), Mr. Reuben Ossai, who said this at the opening of a Waste Summit 2009 in Abuja yesterday, said management of waste can also contribute to secondary raw material production and improve tourism potential.

Mr. Ossai said the vision of the society is to develop waste management practice in Nigeria through the development of appropriate human capital targeted at supporting Nigeria's economic development with the aim of aligning waste management practise in line with international norms and practises.

He said we must put in what he described as urban infrastructure and one of them is "waste

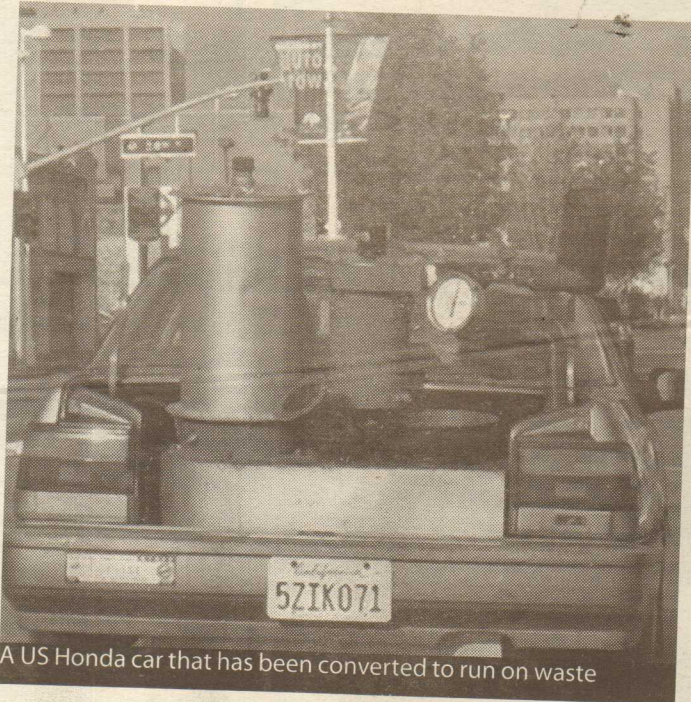
management infrastructure." It must be in place to be able to take care of the growth we are anticipating in the industrial sector. Industrial growth means there is no way even people telling you zero waste, it is unavoidable.

In his keynote address at the occasion, Minister of Environment, Mr. John Odey, acknowledged the theme of the summit "Vision 20-2020" which he said will engender the necessary discourse that will reinforce our efforts towards solving our waste problems.

Represented by the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Safiya Mohammed, the minister said the city of Lagos generates four million tonnes of waste annually, Kano three million tonnes, while Onitsha generates two million tonnes of waste annually.

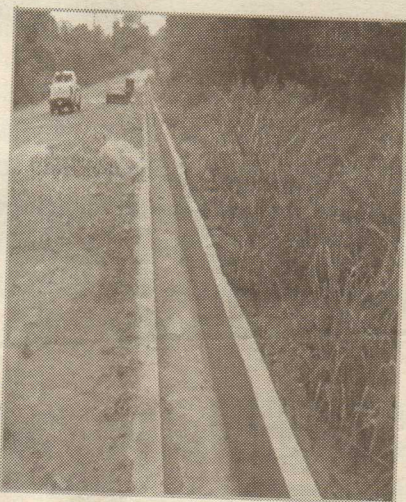
This, he said, poses a major challenge to government in terms of technological, human and financial resources required for its sound management, as well as effectively addressing the socio-economic and health implication.

The minister said the city of Lagos generates four million tonnes of waste annually, Kano three million tonnes, while Onitsha generates two million tonnes of waste annually.



A US Honda car that has been converted to run on waste

Flood: Kano residents to get drainages



From Hassan A Karofi, Kano

IN an effort to safeguard the lives and property of Mandawari residents from perennial flooding, the Kano State government will soon award contract for the construction of huge drainages in the area.

The state's Commissioner of Projects Monitoring and Evaluation, Alhaji Ibrahim Garba disclosed this during his inspection visit to the site of the on-going Muhammad Abdullahi Wase road - Kabuga triple-lane road project.

Garba said that the state government is seriously disturbed by the destructive flooding during each rainy season in the area and it will not rest on its oars until a final solution is found.

He said that apart from the drainages that would discharge flood water into the Jakara River, big box culverts would be constructed across the triple-lane road now being constructed.

NEMA assesses disasters in Cross River

THE Director General of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), retired AVM Mohammed Audu-Bida has despatched special teams to assess the massive damages and destruction that befell Ogoja and Yala Local Government Councils in Cross River State after a devastating and mysterious wind and thunderstorm which had displaced more than 15,000 people and damage 1200 houses at the weekend.

A statement from NEMA's Head of Press and Public Relations, Yushau Shuaib, said the natural disaster that turned the communities to look like battlegrounds affected places of worship, warehouses, schools, abattoirs, hospitals, stadium, business centres, market square, farm produce and federal institutions like the prison yard, offices of INEC, NIPOST and NTA Station.

Conveying the director general's sympathy to Ogoja community, the Director of Relief and Rehabilitation, Dr. Olusegun Ojo

described the incident as the first worst natural disaster in Nigeria in 2009. He commended the concerted efforts of the community leaders and volunteer groups that rose to the occasion in saving many lives from the massive destruction as only three people were confirmed dead from the

incident. Receiving the teams, the Director General of Cross River State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Mr. Vincent Aquah said the devastation was beyond human comprehension as more than 40% of households were damaged in one of the communities.



A gully erosion site

Agency arrests 355 goats for sanitation offences

THE Kaduna State Environmental Protection Authority (KEPA) said on Wednesday that it arrested 335 goats for sanitation offences between January 2008 and April 2009.

Alhaji Ibrahim Hussein, the General Manager of KEPA, who made this known in an interview with the

News Agency of Nigeria in Kaduna, said that the agency generated N162,000 from fines paid on the goats.

He said that owners of the goats were made to pay N500 fine per goat. He said that that the measure was introduced to free the Kaduna metropolis from the menace of stray animals.

Hussein, however, conceded that ongoing street decongestion activities and the just concluded "KADA" Games had led to the temporary cessation of the exercise.

He said that policy was adopted, following complaints from farmers, residents and offices about stray animals destroying their crops and gardens.



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON BARRACKS REHABILITATION
AREWA II, GARKI - ABUJA

1. INTRODUCTION

The Presidential Committee on Barracks Rehabilitation intends to carry out rehabilitation works in Military Barracks Nationwide under its year 2009 Programme (including Millennium Development Goal Projects). Specially qualified and competent contractors are by this publication invited for prequalification.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the programme is improvement of the well being and welfare of the military personnel by rehabilitating and upgrading the facilities and infrastructure in the barracks.

3. DESCRIPTION OF WORKS

Rehabilitation of various buildings and facilities in Military barracks nationwide.

4. PREQUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested companies are required to include in their submissions the following:

- Company Profile.
- Certificate of incorporation in Nigeria or Overseas.
- Evidence of company registration with Ministry of Defence and /or Federal Ministry of Works, Housing and Urban Development.
- List of similar projects (verifiable) completed in the past three years.
- Company tax clearance certificate for the last three years.
- Evidence of VAT registration.
- Financial capability.
- Evidence of technical, operational and managerial capabilities.
- Other relevant additional information.

5. SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Pre-qualification documents which should be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked '2009 PRE-QUALIFICATION' at the top left hand corner, should be addressed and delivered to:

The Secretary,
Tenders Board,
Presidential Committee on Barracks Rehabilitation,
Ministry of Defence,
11, Mahatma Gandhi Street, Arewa II,
Garki - Abuja.
not later than 2 weeks from the date of this publication.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Please note that this is not an invitation to tender.
- Tender information and instruction shall be given only to companies that have been screened and found suitable for the jobs.
- Only pre-qualified companies will be invited to participate in the anticipated competitive tendering.
- Late submission of pre-qualification documents will be rejected.
- The Ministry of Defence reserves the right to reject any application.

Signed
Chairman, PCBR
For: Honourable Minister

Africa Leadership Forum

Democratic Leadership Training Workshop (DLTW)

TARGET PARTICIPANTS: YOUNG FEMALE DOCTORS

- ❖ Are you a Female Doctor?
- ❖ Do you want to develop your leadership skills?
- ❖ Are you interested in exploring networking opportunities?

THE OPPORTUNITY IS HERE AGAIN!!!

The Africa Leadership Forum in collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Nigeria, has been organizing since 2007, a series of training workshops for young Nigerians in both private, public and not-for-profit sectors: women's group, professionals, youth organizations, media, labour organizations, NGOs, community leaders, etc. This particular training is targeted towards FEMALE MEDICAL DOCTORS. As in the past, the primary objectives of these workshops among others are to:

- ✓ Enhance and sharpen participant's leadership skills in participatory democracy and governance
- ✓ Provide opportunity for inter-political networks and linkages towards positive collaboration at both lateral and vertical levels

Method of Application

A two-page resume giving full description of yourself, place of residence, profession, your local government and state of origin. Also, applicant should state previous leadership position(s) and experience(s) with a statement of his/her understanding of leadership and what he/she intends to gain from the workshop. Applications should be forwarded in Ms-word format as an attachment by e-mail. (See email address below)

Condition for Participation

Selected participants will be required to pay a non-refundable commitment fee of N2, 000 upon arrival at the workshop and cover their own travel expenses to & from the workshop venue. The Africa Leadership Forum will be responsible for participant's accommodation and feeding only. Past alumni of the DLTW should not apply.

Workshop Date: May 25 - 29, 2009
Application Deadline: May 4, 2009

Venue: ALF International Conference Center
1 The Beils Drive, Idiroko Road
Ota - Ogun State

For further Enquiries: Contact Workshop Coordinator, Imoleayo Owofadeju,
Tel: 080 9061535, 08067530237 Fax: 039 600043,
Email: democraticleadership@africaleadership.org or
imoleayo@africaleadership.org

You may visit www.africaleadership.org for more details.

PROPERTY

Govt promises compensation

From Hassan A Karofi, Kano

PROPERTY-OWNERS affected by the on-going construction of the Western Bypass road in Kano State have been given assurance that compensation would be paid to them for their structures to be demolished.

The state commissioner of Projects Monitoring and Evaluation, Alhaji Ibrahim Garba gave this assurance while inspecting the road being undertaken by the federal government. Alhaji Ibrahim Garba disclosed that the state government had collated information on all the structures to

be affected for onward submission to the federal government preparatory to the payment of compensation to the owners.

He promised that no stone would be left unturned until all those affected receive their full entitlements.

The commissioner also said that the

state government would contact Islamic scholars on how to relocate the three graveyards affected by the western bypass linking Zaria road with Katsina road.

He assured that the 9-kilometer road, the bridge and the flyover would all be completed within a year.

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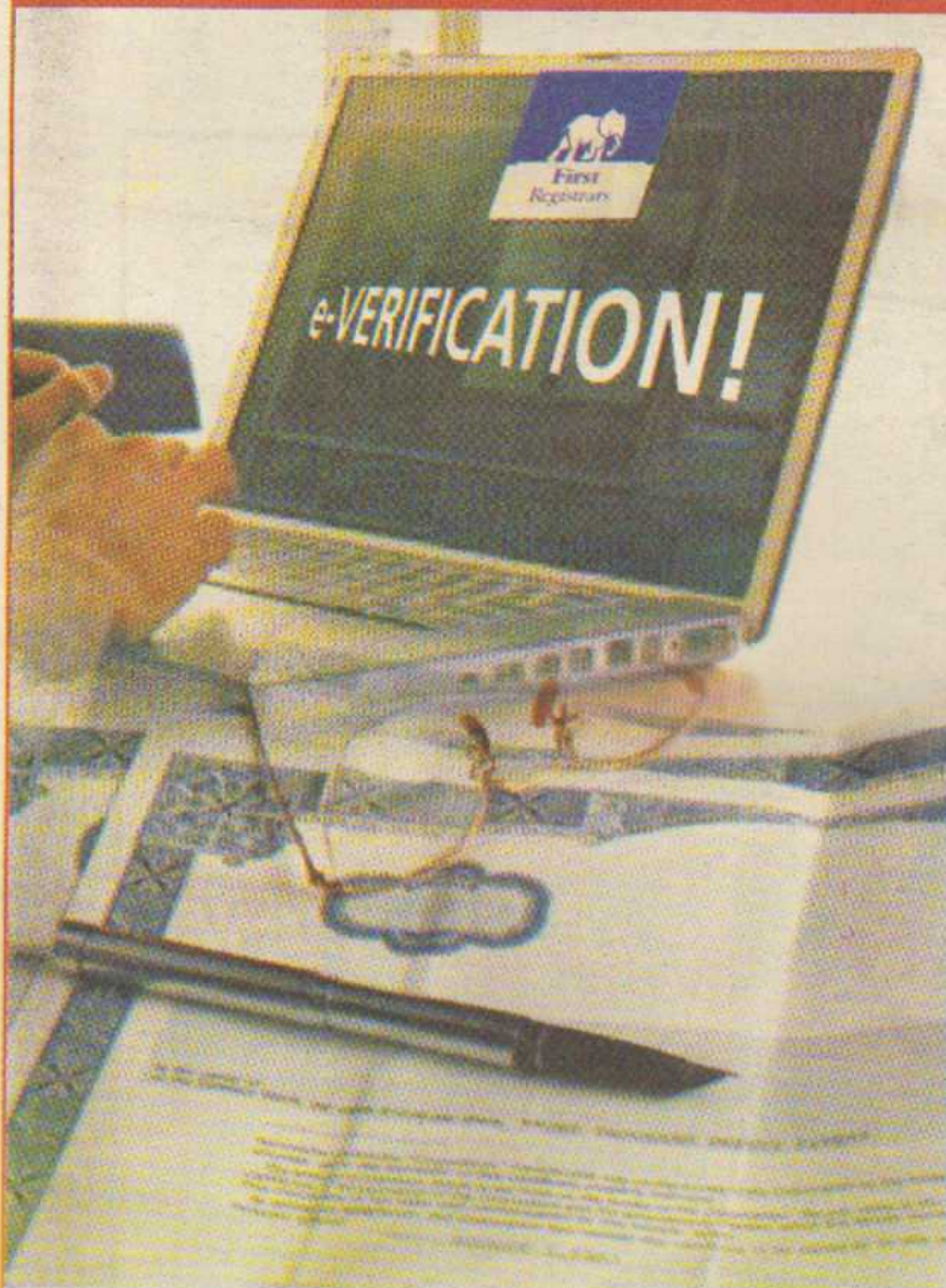
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Breastfeeding protects mother – Research



WOMEN who breastfeed their babies may be lowering their own risk of a heart attack, heart disease or stroke, research suggests.

A US study found women who breastfed for more than a year were 10% less likely to develop the conditions than those who never breastfed.

Even breastfeeding for at least a month may cut the risk of diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

The research features in the journal *Obstetrics and Gynaecology*. The study adds to a growing body of evidence suggesting breastfeeding has health benefits for both mother and baby.

Research has found that breastfeeding reduces a woman's risk of ovarian and breast cancer and osteoporosis in later life.

And the list of benefits for the baby is long, with breast milk credited with protecting against obesity, diabetes, asthma and infections of the ear, stomach and chest. The latest US study, by the University of Pittsburgh, focused on nearly 140,000 post-menopausal women.

On average, it had been 35 years since the women had last breastfed - suggesting the beneficial impact lasts for decades.

As well as cutting the risk of heart problems, breastfeeding for more than a year cut the risk of high blood pressure by 12%, and diabetes and high cholesterol by around 20%.

Fat stores
It has been suggested that breastfeeding may reduce cardiovascular risk by reducing fat stores in the body.

However, the researchers believe the effect is more complex, with the release of hormones stimulated by breastfeeding also playing a role.

Researcher Dr Eleanor Bimla Schwarz said: "We have known for years that breastfeeding is important for babies' health; we now know that it is important for mothers' health as well."

"Breastfeeding is an important part of the way women's bodies recover from pregnancy.

"When this process is interrupted women are more likely to have a number of health problems (including heart attacks and strokes). "The longer a mother nurses her baby, the better for both of them."

In the UK, the Department of Health recommends exclusive breastfeeding for six months.

June Davison, a cardiac nurse at the British Heart Foundation, said: "Breastfeeding has long been thought to be beneficial to baby and mother. "This research suggests that it might have also

have heart health benefits for mum too.

"However, it only showed an association between breast

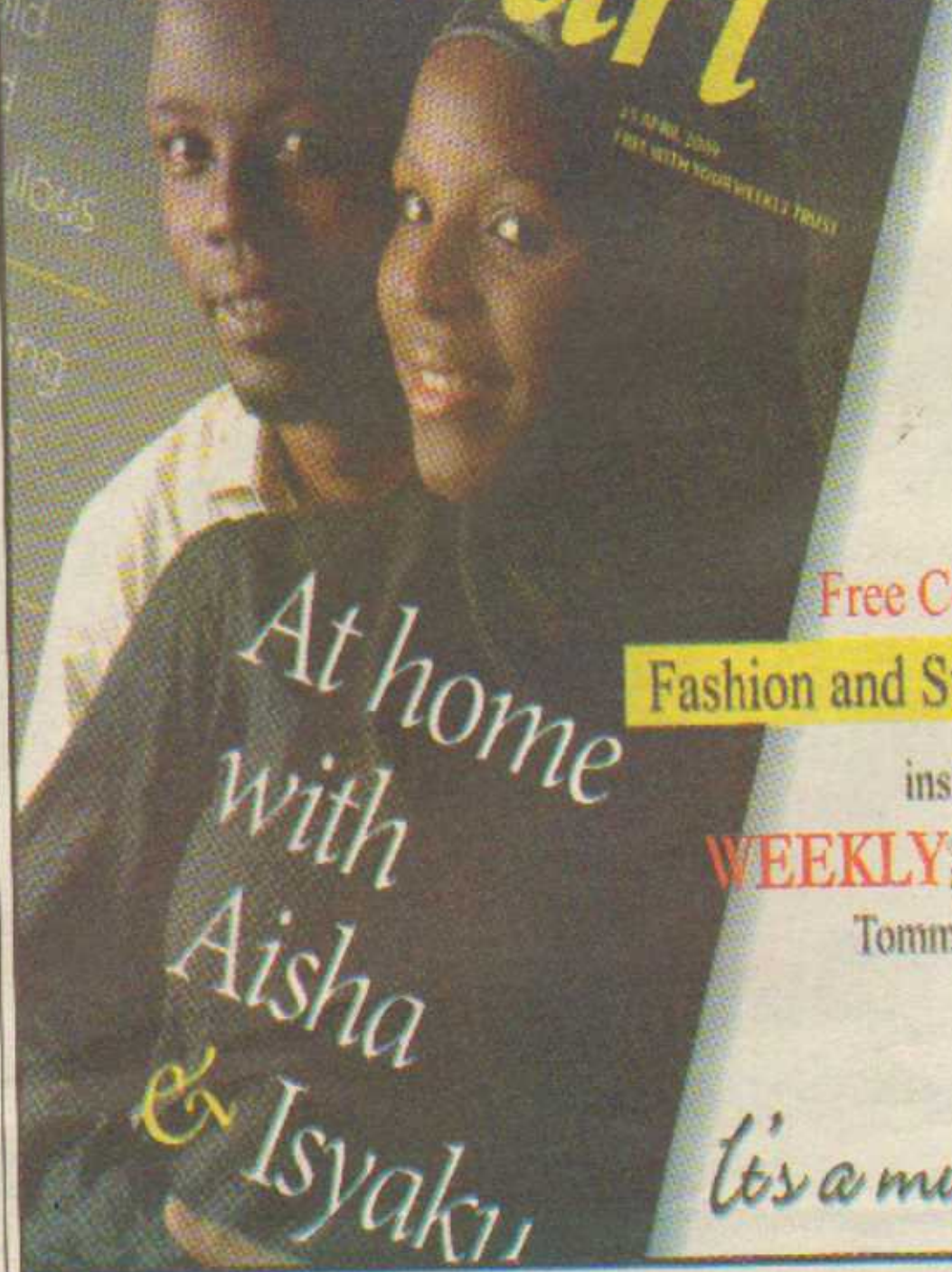
feeding and these health benefits. We will need further research to understand why this is the case."

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Tambari

FASHION



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inside

WEEKLY TRUST

Tomorrow

At home
with
Aisha
& Isyaku

It's a must read!

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE



RISLANUDEEN MUHAMMAD

Executive Director, Retail and E-Banking
Unity Bank Plc

We the undersigned celebrate with you on your appointment as **Executive Director, Retail and E-Banking** by the Board of **Unity Bank Plc**.

We are confident that you will continue to demonstrate professional acumen in the discharge of your duties.

We pray to Almighty Allah (SWT) to continue to guide and crown all your efforts with resounding glory. Ameen

SIGNED

Capitan Sa'id Muhammad
Alihan Sami Ullah
Alihan Usman Bello
Alihan Sa'id Umar Dan
Alihan Muhammad Usman Yakara

Hanyu Hasya Sadiq Far
Alihan Abdulkadir Muhammad Adnan Darselmo
Alihan Abdo Jani Yusranmar Adnan Danialko
Alihan Sa'idudeen Zia'ati

CITY NEWS

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News about your capital city

Loyola Jesuit College to host Supreme head

By Abubakar Yakubu

LOYOLA Jesuit College will from April 27-29 host the Superior-General of Jesuits, Rev. Fr. Adolfo Nicolas in Abuja.

In a statement yesterday, Media Consultant of the school, Edward Okeke stated that this is the first time the Superior-General will be visiting the country and he will be coming with messages of peace and love to Africa.

He stressed that the school's Principal, Rev. Fr. John Okora Ihakewandan expressed his delight in hosting the visitor.

The school invited the general public to a Mass to be celebrated by the Superior-General on Monday April 27 as well as a picnic thereafter.

Loyola Jesuit College also called on parents and friends to join the school in hosting the visitor, adding that a number of the school's benefactors will be invited to a dinner reception in honour of the 'Father-General' at the Spanish Embassy in Nigeria that will hold in the ambassador's residence.

Nicolas was born in Palencia, Spain in 1936 and was ordained a Priest in 1967.

The Priest has written two books in Japanese language and has also done extensive studies about the challenges facing Christianity in Asia, immigration labourers and refugees among others.

Three die in auto crash

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THREE persons lost their lives, while 12 others were seriously injured in a ghastly motor accident on Wednesday at Abaji town, along the Abuja-Ikokoja highway.

An eye witness said the accident occurred in the early hours of the morning and involved a Daf truck with registration number XA 828 BAU that was loaded with goats and cattle.

"The truck driver, who was on top speed suddenly lost control of his vehicle near Cam off and crashed into a ditch, killing three persons on the spot and injuring 12 others," the witness said.

He said immediately after the accident, officials of the Abaji unit command of the Federal Road Safety Commission were alerted and they rushed down to carry out rescue operations by taken the injured to Abaji General Hospital and St Peter's Clinic.

Our reporter who visited the scene of the crash yesterday watched as Abaji sanitation officials buried 82 dead rams by the road side.

Reacting to the accident, Abaji Unit Commander of the FRSC, Mr. Joseph Ojerinde, said the human corpses have been deposited at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital's Morgue.

In a related development, one

person died, while two others sustained injuries Wednesday evening in another accident that occurred at Kilankwa junction, near Dahi village on the same road.

Mr. Tukur D. Sifawa, Kwali unit commander of FRSC, said the accident happened when one of the front tyres of the truck pulled out and the driver jumped out, adding that the truck fell on the driver, killing him instantly.

He said the truck driver's corpse has been deposited at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital's Morgue, while the injured are on admission at the same hospital.



SCENE of an accident at Abaji Tuesday.

PHOTO: ABUBAKAR SADIQ ISAH

Soldiers arrest motorists

By Abubakar Yakubu

SOLDIERS attached to Niger Barracks, along Asokoro-Kubwa expressway in Abuja, yesterday morning arrested some motorists and detained their vehicles for several hours on charges that they were moving on the pedestrian path of the road.

The soldiers led by one Lt. M. M. Marwa of the military police unit of the barracks, collected the keys of the motorists, amidst protest of innocence from many of them, who said they swerved to the pedestrian path as a result of broken down vehicles in their front.

Soldiers that embarked on the operation refused to listen to the protesting motorists and threatened heavy reprisal action on anyone that talks.

One of those arrested told our reporter that he was arrested at 8 am with his vehicle as he tried to overtake a broken down vehicle during an artificial traffic jam caused by the soldiers.

"The traffic light in front of the barracks was working perfectly well, yet there was a military police officer with a small signpost controlling traffic and causing the jam," he said.

Another motorist said he saw soldiers taken positions in front of the barracks at 8 a.m.

"They started controlling traffic despite the fact that the traffic light mounted on the spot was working and far distance motorists, who were not aware of their presence, obeyed the traffic light and fell into their trap," he added.

Our reporter noticed over 20 vehicles detained for four hours and towards the end of their ordeal, the soldiers invited officials of the Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS) and handed over the list of impounded vehicles and drivers to them.

Police clamp down on street traders

By Misbahu Ilashir & Mustapha Suleiman

THE FCT police command yesterday drafted policemen around Wuse Market to arrest traders selling items in unauthorised places.

Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of operations in the FCT, Mr. Wilson Inalegwu, disclosed that the deployment became necessary because the traders have resisted warning calls by officials of the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB).

He said AEPB officials charged with the responsibility of stopping street trading have been attacked by the traders in the past while performing their duties.

"The illegal traders have in

so many instances attacked the officials and policemen attached to them, there by inflicting casualties among them," the police officer stated.

According to him, the illegal traders and hawkers threw pebbles at the AEPB officials and policemen attached to them, adding that the police will not allow such acts.

Our reporter learnt that recently, a hawker stabbed an AEPB official in the stomach and another injured a police officer on the head as well as burnt a police motorcycle.

City News further learnt that AEPB official in company of over 300 fully armed policemen cordoned the area before the raid that

led to the arrest of over 50 street traders, who were immediately arraigned before a mobile court.

A lot of wares were impounded by the AEPB officials, in the operation led by the AEPB's Director, Engr. Abubakar Shehu Yabo.

The director said the traders have been warned over times through the media to desist from the act but they ignored the warning, adding that the FCT minister has given them the go ahead to arrest and prosecute offenders.

He said the FCT Administration have discovered that the place harbours criminals and a lot of illegal activities take place in the area.

The raid also took place at Jabi Park.



AEPB's Director Engr. Abubakar Shehu Yabo (right), during the raid at Wuse Zone 6 yesterday.

PHOTO: MISBAHU ILASHIR



THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Roll back malaria

2009 WORLD MALARIA DAY CELEBRATION

The Federal Ministry of Health joins the rest of the world to commemorate the 2009 World Malaria Day on the 25th April, 2009.

THEME: Counting Malaria Out

SLOGAN: Are you involved?

The following activities are lined up to commemorate the event.

S/N	ACTIVITIES	DATES	VENUE
1	Advocacy Visits to Seven States: Sokoto Anambra Kano Lagos Akwa Ibom Benue Gombe	May - June 2009	Sokoto Awka Kano Ikeja Uyo Makurdi Gombe
	Oganisations: * National Assembly * Chief of Defence Staff * Army, Air Force, Navy * State Houses of Assembly * Customs Service * National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) * Sultan of Sokoto		
2	PRESS INSERTIONS * Daily Trust * Punch Jingles * NTA * Radio Nigeria Public Service Announcement * NTA * Radio Nigeria	24th April, 2009 25th April, 2009 23rd - 29th April, 2009 23rd - 29th April, 2009 23rd - 28th April, 2009 23rd - 28th April, 2009	Nationwide - IPCA - ICON Nationwide - Sygenta Nationwide Nationwide Nationwide Nationwide
3	Malaria - Focus on Nigeria	24th April, 2009	Washington Dc, USA
4	MEDIA APPEARANCES * FRCN Radio Link * News Panorama	25th April, 2009 28th April, 2009	Nationwide Nationwide
5	PUBLIC LECTURES CENTRAL MOSQUE CHURCH	24th April, 2009 (1:30pm) 26th April, 2009 (10:00am)	Central Mosque, Abuja All Saints Anglican Church, Zone 5, Abuja
6	World Malaria Day Celebration * Rally Take off point "Berger Round about Old Parade Ground" * Exhibition * Football * Dance/Drama: * SAGE Schools Team * TUG of WAR (Secondary Schools co-ordinated by MAN O' WAR) * Sensitization of various Groups/Organisations * LGA's * Boys Brigade * NYSC * Market Women Association * Gen. Hospitals (ANC Clinic) * Ministerial & Inter-ministerial Dept * Walk from Bonny Camp to Ocean View by KOM Africa	25th April, 2009	Old parade ground, Area 10, Abuja Lagos
7	Ministerial Press Briefing Dinner with the Media Executives and unveiling of the Barometer	29th April, 2009	Rock View Hotel Time: 7:00pm (Dinner)
8	Flag off of Universal Campaign for Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (ILLINs)	8th May, 2009	Kano
9	Community Dialogue/Sensitization	12th May, 2009	AMAC

SIGNED
ALHAJI GARBA BUWAI, mni
PERMANENT SECRETARY

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Inside Politics

AC lauds Yar'adua for shelving troops deployment to Ekiti

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday praised President Umaru Musa Yar'adua for dismissing advice to deploy soldiers to Ekiti State for Saturday's governorship re-run election. National Publicity Secretary of the party, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, said in a statement in Lagos the President's decision was the only overt act he has taken in furtherance of his rule of law mantra and commitment to free and fair elections. The statement urged the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to follow the President's footsteps by creating a level playing ground for the conduct of the re-run on Saturday. The party also urged the police to be neutral, fair and professional in their conduct during the polls to justify the confidence reposed in their ability to maintain law and order.

Aspirant challenges Nyako's second term bid

FROM Ibrahim Muhammad, Yola

FORMER Political Adviser to former Vice president Atiku Abubakar, Dr. Umaru Ardo, has declared that he would challenge Governor Murtala Nyako in the governorship race in 2012 on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Ardo, who made the declaration in Yola recently, decried Nyako's style of administration, saying he is running an exclusive government. The aspirant said divisions within the PDP in Adamawa resulted from the governor's inability to carry every one along. "We intend to join forces with you to ensure that we have an all-inclusive government in Adamawa State," he said while making the declaration. Fielding questions from newsmen shortly after, Ardo, said he decided to declare early because he is dealing with an incumbent governor. He said he needed enough time to mobilise support for his ambition.

Unity Forum tasks Yar'adua on Ekiti polls

By Muideen Olaniyi

A group known as Unity Forum has tasked President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to prove to Nigerians that he is taking the political reform project very seriously by ensuring the conduct of free and transparent election in tomorrow's rerun gubernatorial poll in Ekiti State and future elections. A statement signed yesterday by the Forum's Chairman, Musa Maigida Abdu also asked the President to give hope to democracy by ensuring the survival of vibrant opposition. The Forum said this would give room for the sustenance of positive debates, provide checks and balances and allow the citizens to develop potent views, tendencies and choices on issues that affect their livelihood all the time. According to the group, a situation where the opposition is subdued or altogether eliminated only creates internal dissensions, vicious intra-party squabbles and place power in the hands of a clique which normally develop into a power cult that may not necessarily have the interest of the nation at heart.

Mega party will check impunity, Nnamani says

By Suleiman M. Bisalla



SENATOR Ken Nnamani

FORMER Senate President Ken Nnamani has said that the move by opposition politicians to form a mega party deserves encouragement because it will lead to healthy competition and check impunity in the country's polity.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* in Abuja on Wednesday, Nnamani also said such a political adventure will put the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on its toes to lead the way to good governance and democracy.

The moves for the mega party aimed at challenging the PDP in 2011 as well as those behind it have been described in various terms by ranking members of the PDP since it started. Some principal proponents of the mega party have also alleged that the PDP has commenced working covertly to scuttle the movement.

However, the former Senate President said there was nothing wrong with forming a mega party that will compete with the PDP, stressing that a one-party state will not augur well for the country.

"There is nothing wrong with mega party, we should encourage it to emerge and compete with PDP so that PDP will seat up," Nnamani said, adding that "two big parties can really hold the economy very well; you cannot become autocratic and all the signs of impunity will stop."

"I will recommend that for Nigeria to enjoy healthy political activities, it will be necessary to have additional one or two major parties so that competition will be healthy enough. I don't support the idea of one party state. I don't see how we can practice the presidential system under one party state," he added.

Nnamani said that there is danger in running a one party state because people will have no alternative should the party fail them.

He said: "I know that any mega party will not be more mega than PDP. But if all the other mushroom parties can come together and form a very strong party, it will even strengthen PDP because PDP will now sit up and work harder, knowing that there is a major competitor."

Anambra PDP faction rejects Emodi-led exco

By Muideen Olaniyi, Abuja & Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka

THE Anambra State faction of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led by Chief Ifeatu Ohi Okoye has said it will not work with the rival faction led by Uchenna Emodi which recently got the recognition of the National Working Committee (NWC) of the party.

The group called for fresh congress in the state, warning that the action of the NWC would cost the PDP any future election in the state if it is not rescinded.

Speaking at a rally in Awka, Okoye said he remained the authentic chairman of the Anambra state PDP and vowed to defend his mandate even at the cost of his life.

"Anambra state PDP is still under my leadership. I will do whatever it takes to defend this mandate even at the cost of my life," Okoye said.

A three-page communiqué at the end of the rally, signed by Hon Ken

Emekayi, Hon Bart Otuoghulu, Dr Ben Obidighu, Hon Basil Iwuoba, among others, said NWC's recognition of Emodi was unacceptable.

However, Emodi who assumed duty recently, said he would extend the olive branch to all aggrieved party members in the state.

Speaking to journalists in Abuja recently, the chairman said he would also extend the reconciliation bid to Chief Nicholas Ukachukwu, gubernatorial candidate of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) in the April 2007 general elections.

He, however, said that the ANPP governorship candidate will have to follow due process if he wants to return to PDP. Emodi added that the party would embark on fresh membership registration exercise to ensure that all those coming into the party were registered and provided with membership cards.

The chairman also berated the performance of Governor Peter Obi

of the All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA), saying that Mr. Obi should be preparing to leave office in 2010 because he had failed to utilize the opportunity given to him to improve the state.



MR. Uchenna Emodi

Trust Islamic Forum

In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. We testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, and that Muhammed (peace be upon him) is His prophet and messenger. May the benediction and blessings of Allah be on Prophet Muhammed who is the noblest of mankind, his household, his companions and those who follow their foot steps till the day of resurrection.

It is He Who has made the earth submissive to you; so traverse its paths and eat of what He provides you... (67:15) The fundamental attitude of Islam toward man's position in the world is that Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala has made the earth for the benefit of man, in whom He has given control over it. It is the duty of man to profit from this favor and to exert himself to seek Allah's bounties throughout the earth.

It is not permitted to the Muslim to avoid working for a living on the pretext of devoting his life to worship or trust in Allah, as gold and silver certainly do not fall from the sky. It is also not permissible for him to depend on charity while he is able to earn what is sufficient for his own and his family's needs through his own efforts. In this regard, the Prophet (peace be on him) has said, "Charity is haram neither for the rich nor for the able-bodied."

The Prophet (peace be on him) made it haram for the Muslim to beg from others without dire necessity thus losing his honor and his dignity. He said, "He who begs without need is like a person holding a burning coal in his hand." He also said "anyone who begs from people in order to increase his wealth will have his face scratched on the Day of Resurrection, and will eat burning stones from hell, so let him reduce it (his punishment) or let him increase it as he pleases." Again, he said, "A person keeps on begging until he meets Allah (on the Day of Resurrection) with no flesh on his face." By such strong admonitions, the Prophet (peace be on him) intended to train the Muslim to safeguard his dignity, to develop self-reliance, and to be far-removed from dependence on others. The Prophet (peace be on him) was, however, aware of situations of necessity. If, under the pressure of need, one is forced to ask for financial help from the government or from individuals, he is blameless. Said Allah's messenger (peace be on him): "Begging is similar to scratching the flesh off your face; so if someone wants to save his face he should avoid it, except for asking from the ruler or asking in case of dire need."

In his Sahih, Muslim reported Abu Bisr Qubaysah ibn al-Makharaf

Obligation of working to earn a living

It is not permitted to the Muslim to avoid working for a living on the pretext of devoting his life to worship or trust in Allah, as gold and silver certainly do not fall from the sky. It is also not permissible for him to depend on charity while he is able to earn what is sufficient for his own and his family's needs through his own efforts. In this regard, the Prophet (peace be on him) has said, "Charity is halal neither for the rich nor for the able-bodied."

By Sheikh Yusuf Al-Qaradawi

as saying, "I agreed to pay himlah (an amount of money paid to two quarrelling parties in order to make peace between them) and came to the Messenger of Allah (peace be on him) asking for help. Thereupon the Prophet (peace be on him) said, 'Wait until alms (sadaqah) are brought to us and we will give you from that. Qubaysah, he continued, 'asking for money is not permissible except in three cases: for a man who takes it upon himself to pay himlah, he may ask people for help until the designated amount is received and then he should stop asking. For a man who suffers calamity and loses his property, it is permissible for him to ask until he is able to stand on his own feet. For a man who is starving, until three reliable persons from his community say, 'That man is reduced to hunger; it is permissible for him to ask until he is able to stand on his own feet.' Except for

these, Qubaysah, begging is fire, it is eating fire."

Some people regard certain kinds of work or professions as contemptible. However, the Prophet (peace be on him) denied the validity of this notion. He taught his Companions that the whole of a human being's dignity is tied up with his work - any sort of work - and that real disgrace and humiliation consist of depending on other people's help. He said, "It is better that a person should take a rope and bring a bundle of wood on his back to sell so that Allah may preserve his honor, than that he should beg from people, (regardless of) whether they give to him or refuse him."

The Muslim can earn his livelihood by agriculture, trade, or industry or by any profession or employment as long as it does not involve doing, supporting, or propagating anything haram.



Significance of trust and trusteeship in Islam

By Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed

Allah (SWT) says in Surah An-Nisa, verse 58: "Indeed, Allah commands to render back your trusts to those whom they are due; and if you judge between mankind, you should judge justly; indeed, Allah gives you very good advice, Allah is ever hearing and seeing."

The circumstances in which this verse was revealed are very interesting. We know that before the conquest of Mecca, the keys for the house of Allah were kept by Uthman bin Talha.

At the time of the conquest of Makkah, Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) asked Uthman bin Talha to hand him over the keys. Uthman bin Talha gave them reluctantly saying that it is 'amana' (trust) with you.

Prophet Muhammad opened the House of Allah and removed all the idols from it. At that time his uncle Abbas and Ali requested that these keys be kept in the family. Prophet Muhammad did not give them the keys. As narrated by Umar, the Prophet came out of the house of Allah reciting verse 58 of Surah An-Nisa. He banded the keys back to Uthman bin Talha. This surprised Uthman, since the Holy Prophet as a conqueror, could keep these keys for good. Uthman bin Talha was highly moved by the character of Prophet Muhammad and immediately accepted Islam.

Anas narrated that Prophet Muhammad always insisted on fulfilling the covenants. Anas said

that Prophet Muhammad rarely gave a khutbah in which he did not mention the following: "He who betrays his trust, does not have an iota of faith in him. He who breaks a promise, has no sense of Islamic life."

Abu Huraira and Umar narrated in Bukhari and Muslim that while describing the indicators of hypocrites Prophet Muhammad said, "He who breaks his trust when he is trusted." Allah mentions several prerequisites for entering Heaven in Surah Al-Muminun and Al-Ma'ariz. For example, Allah says in Surah Al-Ma'ariz verses 33-35:

Abu Huraira and Umar narrated in Bukhari and Muslim that while describing the indicators of hypocrites Prophet Muhammad said, "He who breaks his trust when he is trusted."

"Hence some of the prerequisites are: They fulfill their covenants and keep their promises. They also stand by their testimony firmly. They also establish prayer regularly and with full concentration. They will be honored in Gardens." Thus fulfilling covenants is just like performing salat correctly.

Prophet Muhammad also said that: The meetings of people should display total trustworthiness, among themselves. Hence what is said in meeting must not be disclosed, to outsiders. Similarly, Prophet Muhammad said, "Whosoever is consulted should act in a full trustworthy manner. He should give the best and useful advice. He should not knowingly give wrong advice, otherwise he would break the trust. Similarly, if someone shares his secret with you, do not divulge it to others without his permission.

ASK YOUR IMAM

Q What is the ruling on men exchanging a hand-shake with women?

A It is not permissible for a man to exchange a handshake with women who are not his Maharam. Upon receiving the pledge of obedience from women, the Prophet (p.b.u.h) said to them: "I do not shake hands with women." 'Aishah, the wife of the Prophet asserted: "By Allah, the hand of the Messenger of Allah never touched a hand of a woman. He only accepted their pledges verbally." (Sahih Al-Bukhari)

Allah the Exalted says: "Verily, you have in the Messenger of Allah an excellent model for him who fears Allah and the Last Day, and who remembers Allah much." (33:21). There is no harm, however, in exchanging verbal greetings with women, which are void of tempting and seductive speech. Allah says: "O wives of the prophet! You are not like one from other women if you are righteous. So be not soft in speech, lest he in whose heart is a disease should feel tempted; and speak to men in decent manner." (33:32). There is no harm for women to shake the hands of their fathers, brothers, uncles, or any other Maharam of theirs. - Sheikh bin Baz.

MEMORY VERSE

"Whoever works righteousness and has faith, his endeavor will not be rejected. We shall record it in his favour." Q 21:91

TRUST CLASSIFIED

SUYA & BERBEQUE SELLERS ASSOCIATION, ABUJA

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation 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. Mr. Umaru Daud (Sarkin Pawa, Abuja)
2. Mr. Hassan Dangwan (Sarkin Pawa, Nigeria)
3. Mr. Hanna Jafin (Sarkin Pawa, Daud)
4. Mr. Ibrahim Yusuf (Sarkin Pawa, Karama)
5. Mr. Yabun Gada Mohammed (Treasurer)
6. Mr. Ezenwa Mosa
7. Mrs. Maki Jishi
8. Mrs. Sefiora (Chairman)
9. Mr. Ibrahim A. YA
10. Mrs. Yusuf
11. Latewal Abubakar (Secretary)
12. Hassan Mohammed
13. Mr. Hassan Abulhadi
14. Mrs. Mohammed Dangi

THE AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote unity among members
 2. To ensure betterment in the F.C.T in terms of services.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Irons Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight (28) days of the publication.

ISMOR MAGORO FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. BELKIRI MAGORO
2. HADIZA MAGORO
3. HAUWA MAGORO
4. REKMA MATUMBI
5. FATIMA KASKO MOHAMMED

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To provide educational scholarship to the less privileged.
2. To provide skill acquisition programmes to the public.
3. To provide charitable services to the less privileged.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Irons Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight (28) days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

OLOLESTER EREDIAWA FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. HENRY IYANRE
2. OMOROGHE FREDIAWA
3. PRINCESS MRS. EWELE AIDIKUNLA OLUmise
4. CHIEF USARLAKI OWENSUVI EDOSOMWAN (SAN)
5. CHIEF TAYO AKINFA
6. PHOENIX GREGORY BURBORAKIN (SAN)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To assist the less privileged girl-child to be educated and acquire trade skills through development of resource centre and counselling unit.
2. To assist in the general well being of orphans.
3. Urgency of need to create a skill repository, development and health care facilities for them.
4. To help underprivileged children in their education, health and general well being.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Irons Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight (28) days of the date of this publication.

SIGNED BY
ENI EGBAREYBA
SECRETOR

PAUL PRAISE MINISTRIES

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. PAUL CHIDOLEZE PRAISE OSIFO
2. CHLOMA THURERA PRAISE OSIFO
3. VALENTINE ENYERLIE OKEREFAYOR
4. UEDWA UCHE

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. To preach and teach the word of God to all men in order to show the will of God and show them a way of salvation.
2. To preach the gospel in earth, heaven and in the power of His Holy Spirit.
3. To train believers in the word of God as well as equipping them to minister to distressed people and the less privileged.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Irons Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
Legal Field Consult
08033499570 or 08055178150

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of loss of the Re-certification and Re-issuance of C of O Acknowledgement belonging to MRS HELEN NWABUEZE later transferred to me, HON. TERNGU TSEGBA, with Plot No. 892 Cadastral Zone B06 dated 02/19/1998, the new file no is BNI1038 issued on the 06/01/2005. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive. If found, please contact the nearest police station, or call 08061605910. AGIS take note.

CAMPUS CRUSADE AGAINST HIV/AIDS INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization 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. MRS PLANGSAT BITRUS DAVIL (PRESIDENT)
2. MR BITRUS DAVIL DUWONG
3. DR. NANKLING MICHAEL LAMU
4. DR. SABASTINE SELDI MAIMAKO
5. PROF. SUNNY GWAL TYODEN.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To offer counselling to youth on campus with particular reference to HIV/AIDS prevention and care.
 2. To support already infected youth and the most vulnerable ones (girls/boys) on campus through social protection initiatives.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General, Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja, within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

BIOTECH ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No. 1 of 1990.

TRUSTEES ARE:

1. PROFESSOR ELINER ESCOBIN
2. HER EXCELLENCY, MRS. PATI INE TALIEN
3. PROFESSOR EVITAYO LAMBO
4. CHIEF JUDGE OMBIKORE

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

1. To advance Nanotechnology world wide.
2. To initiate and improve new systems in Biotechnology.
3. To create structure in Biotech in line with the vision.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Irons Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
USHE U. TOM & CO
105, 2/4 Copper House, Third Floor,
Zone 8, Abuja,
08029797291

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Vital Documents belonging to Evan II. Bwala as follows:
1. S.S.C.E Original Certificate F.G.C. Ilorin, 1990.
2. B.A., Political Science, Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana.
All efforts to trace the documents proved abortive. If found, please take to the nearest Police Station. NYSC, please take note.

CAVEAT EMPTOR

I, ELLA OMALE AGIDA of Block D Flat 11 NITEF Quarter, 3 Durban Street, West 2, Abuja. Phone No. 08023164954 hereby notify the general public of the loss of original Re-certification Certificate and Re-issuance of C of O Certificate of land plot No. 107 Cadastral Zone C02, old file No. DS 383, (New file No BN 1144) issued by AGIS, dated October 4th 2005 was lost to hoodlums who snatched a bag containing the said documents amongst other items from MRS. E.O. AGIDA while turning to Kado express way from Zanki Medical Centre on August 28th 2006. All effort to recover the stolen documents proved abortive, consequently, any person or persons who transact(s) or deal(s) on the said property with the stolen document does so at his/her own risk. The general public and

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Original Certificate of Occupancy of Plot No. 1396 of about 631.89 Ref. No. MECT/ABU/KB/20620 dated 16/04/07 at Cadastral Zone bearing DANAZUMI ALI is reported missing and all effort to trace the documents proved abortive. If found, please contact any nearest police station. AGIS/FCDA please note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original OFFER LETTER of Plot No. CRD75 of about 548.57sqm² located in Cadastral Zone 07-07 Lugbe with old file No. PCT/MZTP/KN/452, new file No. 1M46706 dated 20/09/89, bearing KAKA UMARC now belonging to AUGUSTINE EMEREONWU. And all effort to trace the documents proved abortive. If found, please contact any nearest Police Station. AGIS and FCDA please note.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as MISS ONUBEZI ADAOBI ASSUMPTA, now wish to be address as MRS. EZENWA ADAOBI ASSUMPTA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS IKEDIASHI ELIZABETH, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. EZEAGWU ELIZABETH NKEAKONAM. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as DR. (MISS) KODE OLUWADAMILOLA OLUWASEUN, now wish to be known and addressed as DR. (MRS) ONWUZULIGBO OLUWADAMILOLA OLUWASEUN. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly known as MISS OMOTAYO ABIODUN OLAYORI, now wish to be addressed as MRS OMOTAYO ABIODUN DLOKODANA. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly AYODEJI OGUNGBEMI, now wish to be MR AYODEJI McDONALD JAMES. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MISS OMOHOLANLE BANKOLE, now wish to be known as MRS JIMOH MUIBAT OMOHOLANLE. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly MISS KEHINDE BUNLA KOLADE, now wish to be MRS KEHINDE BUSOLA OWONIYE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly MISS OKONKWO IFEATI NGOZI, now wish to be known as MRS UDEH IFEATU NGOZI. All former documents remain valid. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria and general public take note.

I formerly MISS TERESA OGWA ADAJI now wish to be called MRS. TERESA OGWA ADIVE. Former documents remain valid First Bank Plc, need the general public to take note.

I, formerly MISS ZAINAB G. UMAR, now MRS ZAINAB MU'AZU YARIMA. All former documents remain valid. Bayero University Kano and general public to note.

I, formerly MISS KHAULATU USMAN MUTAWAKKIL, now wish to be called MRS KHAULATU USMAN MUTAWAKKIL. All former documents remain valid. Baki, nyse and public note.

I, FORMERLY MISS IKE JOY ODINAKACHI, NOW MRS. AKUGBO JOY ODINAKACHI. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. ABIA STATE UNIVERSITY (UTURU), NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

I, FORMERLY MISS JANE GLORIA MERCY, NOW MRS. TAFRE GLORIA OKANNEME. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE AND GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

I, formerly known as MISS BARIDAM FLORENCE BARIKU, now known as MRS FAKAE FLORENCE BARIKULE. All former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, Formerly RAMATU MOHAMMED, now RAMATU MOHAMMED SALISU. Former documents remain valid. NYSC public note.

I, formerly called ZALIHATU AHMAD MODIBBO, now wish to be called ZALIHATU MURTALA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC to note.

I, formerly MISS OLUKUNMI ELIZABETH OLUWATOYIN, wish to be called MRS IDOWU ELIZABETH OLUWATOYIN. All former documents remain valid. National Gallery of Art and general public take note.

I, formerly known as HAJIA GANA MOHAMMED, now wish to be called as NANA MOHAMMED RUFAL. All former documents remain valid. Ministry of Education Damaturu and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as MISS KIKELOMO ADUNNI DANIEL, now wish to be known as MRS KIKELOMO ADUNNI ADEGORKODE. All former documents remain valid. General public, please take note.

I, formerly MISS NWANKWO CHINEME ELIZABETH now wish to be called MRS EBACH CHINEME ELIZABETH. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, general public take note.

I, formerly known as RAYYAN ABDULMALIK, now wish to be called LAWAL IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Bassai Local Government and general public to note.

I, formerly known as DR. MISS OLOPADE ENITA OTOLORIN now wish to be known and addressed as DR. MRS. ADEWUMI FRANCIS-LOIS OTOLORIN. General Hospital, Minna, Niger State and the general public to take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

DAVID MARK FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

TRUSTEES ARE

1. Senator David Mark
2. Mr. Jonathan Mark
3. Rev. Father Moses Bijo

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE

1. TO SET UP AN ENDOWMENT FUND that would STRENGTHEN and FACILITATE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DELIVERY.
2. TO COMPLEMENT THE EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTNER WITH OTHER PROVIDERS, THROUGH AN EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP IN AREAS OF RESEARCH, PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND EDUCATION PROGRAMME.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigri Crescent, Maitama Abuja, FCT within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

ISLAMIC RIGHTS AWARENESS

The general public is hereby notified that the above named ISLAMIC RIGHTS AWARENESS has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE

1. SAABUDAKAR
2. DANUMA DABA
3. DANLAMI ABUDAKAR

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To encourage, promote and sponsor indigenous industries of the country.
2. To foster a high standard of Islamic Study/Constitution and promote unity of Muslims and other religion.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigri Crescent, Maitama Abuja, FCT within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
BARRISTER NICHOLAS O. ODUARAN
ISABU CHAMBERS
BAHAGO PLAZA
TUNGA, MINNA
NIGER STATE

MAYO NDAGA AREA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. ASUBAKAR BOBOLAURO (OOVI) | CHAIRMAN |
| 2. UMARU ROKHBI | MEMBER |
| 3. MUHAMMAD M. ADAMU | " |
| 4. DR. GHADIRI MUHAMMAD | " |
| 5. MOSES NYAMSA | " |
| 6. ALIYU UMARU NGRE | " |
| 7. ALIYU MAMMAN | " |
| 8. MUHAMMAD GOMISE ARDO | " |
| 9. HARI SAKAWUA | " |
| 10. AHMADU NDOTIJO | " |
| 11. JAHIB SANI USMAN | SECRETARY |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. To work for effectively socio-political, educational and economic development of Mayo Ndaga Area.
2. To contribute to the provision of social amenities and basic infrastructure in the Area.
3. To foster unity and harmony among the people of the area.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigri Crescent, Maitama Abuja, FCT within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary
08135578272

FOUNTAIN OF PEACE GOSPEL CHURCH INT'L

The general public is hereby notified that the above named church has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990 Part C.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. REV. BONFACE DAVID (GENERAL OVERSEER)
2. PST. MRS. THERESA BONFACE (SENIOR PST)
3. ELDER HARUNA DEWAN (CHAIRMAN B.O.T)
4. DR. OGUBAYO (VICE CHAIRMAN)
5. MRS. ELIZABETH EBOODAME (GENERAL SECRETARY)
6. ELDER FELIX OGBCIFUR (MEMBER)
7. DEACON PATRICK ANANKEWE (MEMBER)
8. DEACON CHARLES BENSON (MEMBER)
9. BARR. FRIDAY OKENKWI (MEMBER)
10. DR. XENOS GAGE (MEMBER)

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To propagate the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
2. To promote Christian love, fellowship, respect and peaceful co-existence among members.

Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
BARR. FRIDAY OKENKWI

CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

The general public is hereby notified that the above named association has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990 Part C.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. MR. JAPHET EZEANUZIE
2. MR. EPHRAIM M. ORI
3. MR. MICHAEL MONWUBA
4. DR. SILAS E. AMMIEH
5. MR. SYLVESTER EHE
6. MR. EDWIN ANYA

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. TO BRING CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS UNDER ONE UMBRELLA.
2. TO PROMOTE READERSHIP OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURES.
3. TO PRODUCE QUALITY CHRISTIAN LITERATURES AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS.
4. TO CAREER FOR THE WELFARE OF MEMBERS.
5. TO REGULATE THE ACTIVITIES OF CHRISTIAN BOOKS AND RELATED MATERIALS PUBLISHED IN NIGERIA.

Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
OSA-OBAZEE & ASSOCIATE
Suite 100, Copper House, Wuse Zone 5- Abuja,
09-6716150, 0906-537272

ORSL LOCAL GOVERNMENT TOWNS DEVELOPMENT UNION ABUJA

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Union has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990 Part C.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. MR. L.O.V. NWOIKE
2. MR. ADDI OBIANERI
3. MR. EMEKA OKOYE
4. MR. E. I. OGBURIE
5. MR. BONNY ENWEREM
6. NZE U.N. OKERE
7. MR. MATHEW NGAJHOZOR

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To promote peace, unity among members.
2. To promote the community integration and prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sex, status and religion.

Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
BARR. VITALIS ERLO

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of certificate of occupancy of No. 319 Giyadi-Giyadi new lay-out, Kano.

The Certificate of Occupancy No. LKN/RES/99/12/91 registered as No. 261 at page 261 in volume 76 in the Land Registry Office, Kano.

We are hereby apply to Kano State Ministry of Land/Survey and Regional Planning for the re-issuance of certify true copy of the said documents

Signed: Mahmoud Yola Baffa

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Original Certificate of Occupancy of Plot No. 1396 of about 631.89 Ref. No. MFC/ABU/KB/20620 dated 16/04/07 at Cadastral Zone bearing DANAZUMIALI is reported missing and all effort to trace the document proved abortive. If found contact any nearest police station. AGIS/FCDA please note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the General Public that the Certificate of Occupancy to a plot of land, file No. KD22248, Katampe Extension of Abuja, belonging to Mohammed Bello Aliyu, is missing. AGIS and the General Public take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the General Public that the Certificate of Occupancy to a plot of land, file No. LA21157, Kubwa District, Abuja, belonging to Asmau Umar Abdulrahman, is missing. AGIS and the General Public take note.

CHRISTAIN MISSIONS BRIDGE FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Dr. Salatu James Nita
2. Dr. Mrs. Uweon Edimbak-Smar
3. Mr. Oghena Douglas Opongwe
4. Dr. John Ekhua
5. Dr. Otioma Douglas Okporde
6. Mrs. Mbet Douglas Okporde
7. Rev. Dr. Paul Eno

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To minister eternal life by preaching the gospel and to serve to all and fight by good deeds
2. To deny the works of the devil by good works and pills of power
3. To serve humanity especially the orphans of Christ in love and
4. To worship our God through Jesus Christ.

Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565, Ndoni Square, Wuse, Zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

CENTRE FOR POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHT ISSUES

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Mrs. Okporde Eya
2. Dr. Okporde Eya
3. Emmanuel Okporde Eya
4. Mr. Martins Ndon
5. Mrs. Obasogie In Uko

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To promote and instigate civic education in Nigeria which is in line with the reforming policy
 2. To develop and promote leadership for a developing nation such as Nigeria
 3. To promote peace and conflict resolution through dialogue and negotiation
- Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565, Ndoni Square, Wuse, Zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

ASSOCIATION FOR NONVIOLENCE AND PEACE EDUCATORS

The general public is hereby notified that the above association with the Head Office at No. 205 Niger Street Port Harcourt Rivers State has applied for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act laws of the Parliament 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Priscilla Ogoke
2. Segha Victor Ogoke
3. Isaac Jai Ibara
4. Modest Okeke Okeke
5. Nwagwu Nwa

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. To teach the non-violence way of resolving community crisis capacity and peace building through development initiatives.
- Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Wuse Zone 5 Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
I.B. GEORGE ESQ.
Emmanuel Chambers
No. 5 Harold Wilson Drive
Port Harcourt

THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

SPORT

Amodu to ring changes against Kenya

Page 62



Stolen money: NSC panel drills Lulu, Ojo-Oba

NFF tightens security at Glass House after the second theft in a month involving loss of a laptop, mobile phone

By Orkula Shaagge

TOP shots in the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), including the federation's President Alhaji Sani Lulu Abdullahi and scribe Bolaji Ojo-Oba were yesterday drilled by the panel recently set up by the National Sports Commission to unravel the mystery surrounding the loss of \$236,000 at the NFF secretariat last month.

The NFF chiefs were summoned by the panel during its unscheduled visit at the Glass House as part of efforts to recover the stolen funds.

Chairman of the Committee Alhaji Abubakar Sadiq, accompanied by members, during the visit at the NFF also requested the NFF secretariat to present a written account of what happened by today.

A dependable source close to the meeting hinted Trustsports that the panel which met at the old building of the Rock View Hotel, drilled the NFF chief for three hours, beginning from 11 am to 2 pm.

Following the incident, the two NFF bigwigs, who were earlier scheduled to inaugurate the 11-man committee set up to mobilize support for the Super Eagles in the remaining matches of the 2010 World Cup qualifiers yesterday morning, had to shift the exercise to 2.30 pm when they were left off the hook by the panel.

According to the source, Lulu and Ojo-Oba who were accompanied by Assistant General Secretary Musbau Kayode and the Head of Finance, Osawaru Oyinwense were asked hard questions by the panel about the calibre of NFF's employees and who recruited them as well as their states of origin and whether the federal character was applied in the recruitment exercise.

Meanwhile, security at the NFF secretariat was yesterday tightened following the loss of a lap top, handsets and cash in the office of the Assistant Secretary General in charge of Finance and Administration.

Yesterday, all visitors to the NFF secretariat, including journalists were made to fill a register indicating their mission to the house, their address and host.

Plain clothes security operatives and private security guards were involved in carrying out the screening and search on visitors to the building.



NFF President, Sani Lulu and his scribe Bolaji Ojo-Oba were drilled by NSC probe panel over stolen money.

Nwosu sacked as Eaglets coach

By Orkula Shaagge

APPARENTLY not satisfied with the performance of the Golden Eaglets, the team's head coach, Henry Nwosu was yesterday sacked by his employers Nigeria Football Federation and replaced by his first assistant Monday Odigie.

Odigie will stay in charge as care-taker coach for the cadet team before the appointment of substantive handler for the Eaglets who will be defending the world title won at the 2007 FIFA U-17 World Cup in Korea.



Nwosu

Nwosu has come under heavy criticisms in recent times following series of unimpressive showing of his wards, who finished third at a Four-Nation soccer fiesta in Dubai early this month.

His sack was announced in Abuja yesterday after a marathon meeting of the NFF Technical Committee, headed by Taiwo Ogunjobi.

The technical committee of the Nigeria Football Federation on Thursday recommended the replacement of National U-17 team Head Coach, Henry Nwosu and also approved the pro-

grammes of Super Eagles Head Coach Amodu Shuaibu and U-20 team boss Samson Sasia.

"At its meeting in Abuja, the Committee noted that the U-17 team had been performing dismally and therefore recommends Nwosu's replacement, with his 1st Assistant, Monday Odigie taking over in acting capacity for the time being", the NFF said in a statement in Abuja yesterday.

Coach Odigie will be assisted by Coach Abimbola Samuel and Coach Shuaibu Suleiman.

The Committee also considered and approved the pro-

gramme of activities of the Super Eagles Head Coach, including his 29-man list for the upcoming friendlies and World Cup qualifiers.

QUOTE

Nwosu has come under heavy criticisms in recent times following series of unimpressive showing of his wards.

News Briefs...

Eto'o: Iniesta best player in the world

BARCELONA finally proved that they do not suffer from an over-dependency on their Argentine virtuoso, Lionel Messi, as a masterclass from the unassuming Andres Iniesta almost single handedly guided the Blaugrana to a thumping 4-0 win over Sevilla on Wednesday night.

The 24-year-old netted his side first goal before setting up the other three strikes, and Samuel Eto'o, one of those who benefited from the Spaniard's assistance, sung the praises of his team-mate.

"Whenever Iniesta steps on to the pitch, he creates a spectacle. He is the best player in the world," he told the

Keane returns as Ipswich coach

ROY Keane has been appointed manager of Championship side Ipswich Town. The 37-year-old signed a two-year contract following the dismissal of Jim Magilton on Wednesday.

Keane has been out of work since December when he resigned as Sunderland manager, having taken the club from the Championship to the Premier League.

"I truly believe I am joining a club that has the potential, ambition and infrastructure to once again be a Premier League side," said Keane.



KEANE

Lel eyes record fourth London win

KENYA'S Martin Lel is confident he will overcome a hip injury to chase a record fourth London Marathon title on Sunday. Lel, 30, set a course record of two hours five minutes and 15 seconds to win last year's race, but faces a scan to discover the extent of his injury. "I'm confident of running, in my mind I'm preparing to run," he said.

If fit, Lel will face world champion Leter Kibet and Beijing Olympic marathon medalists Sammy Wanjiru, Jaouad Glaoui and Tsengaye Kebede in a tough race.

Lel told BBC: "I hope I'll make history and hope not be forgotten."

Rose is NBA rookie of the year



ROSE

AFTER learning on Wednesday he is the NBA's rookie of the year, Chicago Bulls' Derrick Rose let a little secret slip: He wanted the award. Badly.

"When I first came into the season, my biggest thing was to get this award," Rose said. "I was telling you all that I didn't care, but I did. You really do want this award. There was a lot of talent out there that I had to go against."

Rose, who led his hometown Bulls to the playoffs, was the runaway pick. Rose became the third Bulls player to win the award.

England a coach's paradise - Mourinho

ENGLAND is a paradise for coaches who want to build for the long term whereas Serie A clubs are sack happy and obsessed with the next result, according to Inter Milan coach Jose Mourinho. "England is a paradise for the coaches who can plan for the future without the pressure of winning in the short term," he said.

"(Arsene) Wenger works in tranquility. Arsenal haven't won a title in four years but he continues his fantastic work with young players. In Italy I think 10 coaches have already been replaced this season."

Summer exit for me - Tevez

CARLOS Tevez has decided that it will be the "best solution" to leave Manchester United after reluctantly accepting that Sir Alex Ferguson wants to persist with Dimitar Berbatov and Wayne Rooney as his preferred strike partnership. Tevez, who started on the bench against Portsmouth, has attracted offers from Real Madrid and Internazionale but the Argentina forward also said he would consider signing for another English club.

"I need a regular place in the team to offer my best level and if that cannot happen at Manchester [United] I believe it will be my last year [at the club]," he said. "Out of respect to the fans and the history of Manchester United I do not want to leave the club in a bad way. But in my situation an exit will be the best solution."

"I have many offers already and not only from Spain. I have to see which club I can go to. It's not only Real Madrid and Inter who want me and I need to study the options now, not just from a money point of view, but also because I want to play for a team with a good project and in a country that is perfect for my family. In particular, I want somewhere where my daughter is comfortable."

Increasingly marginalised since Berbatov's £30.75m transfer from Tottenham Hotspur last September, Tevez went on to admit being frustrated by the manner in which he had been left out of United's bigger games. The partnership between Rooney and Berbatov has failed to ignite, the two players combining directly for only one goal all season, but it



TEVEZ wants to leave Manchester United.

has become clear to Tevez that he is increasingly seen by Ferguson as the odd man out.

"What I've found in England is that a player can score three or four goals in one match [Tevez got four in the Carling Cup tie

against Blackburn Rovers on 3 December] and in the following match not even make the team," he said. "United have a lot of very good footballers but the fact is that I need to play more minutes."

Amodu to ring changes

SUPER Eagles Chief Coach Shaiibu Amodu has said he will be making changes to his squad for the 2010 World Cup qualifier at home to Kenya on 6 June.

The Eagles could only manage a goalless draw away to Mozambique in March in the first game of the final round of qualifying.

The lethargic performance in Maputo and unimpressive displays in friendlies against Colombia and Jamaica has led to severe criticism of the coach and players in the local media.

"There is still so much to do because this present squad have not shown enough determination and aggression like a group that wants to play at the World Cup," said Amodu.

"What we truly need now are players who are aggressive, hard-fighting, like Dickson Etuhu, Yusuf Ayila and Danny Shittu based on what he has shown so far."

"We will certainly be making relevant changes because we cannot afford to lack the basics needed to earn a ticket to South Africa."

"But that does not mean we are underestimating players who took us this far."

His interests in Fulham's Brian and Dynamo Kiev's Ayila will keep many critics happy following his decision to leave out the duo for the games against Jamaica and Mozambique.

With two friendly games against Ireland on 29 May in London and France four days later in St Etienne coming up the under-fire coach is clearly aware of the dangers ahead.

"We must pick maximum points in the other games, significantly the back-to-back ties with Tunisia, which will determine whether we go to the World Cup or not," he said.



AMADU is expected to bring back Dickson Etuhu and Yusuf Ayila



Call list

Call grandma	:	6 mins
Call electrician	:	4 mins
Call Stanley	:	12 mins
Call customer	:	6 mins
Total mins	:	28 mins
I pay	:	14 mins
Zain pays	:	14 mins

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A wonderful world

THE FRIDAY COLUMN

Adamu Adamu

adamuadamu@dailytrust.com

Obama and the Muslim World (II)

Whatever form it takes, however, the war will be opposed, because the defence of the realm from any kind of threat is an inescapable sacred duty. And since the Muslim World is not a racial or national category—it is a cultural one—a war against any portion of it is a war against every portion of it. That is why today Islam will continue to be the only effective opposition to globaloney in a unipolar world; and would continue to pose existential challenges to the West in ways the moribund secular ideologies of the past could not.

And with its pan-Ummatic citizen-like solidarity and a communal allegiance to faith at the street level, which colonialism had been unable to obliterate, Islam would continue to pose this potent oppositional challenge to the West as long as the it doesn't deal even-handedly with the Muslim World—and it matters little what Obama does otherwise today.

Right now, however, Iran is the only Muslim country that poses any real, serious challenge to the United States. But it is a matter of time; the others will join. Why? Because that is just how it should be. It is not because Muslims hate America or the West that America represents; even though, if they so choose, they have sufficient reasons in history and in contemporary events to do so. They oppose it because its policies affect them in a direct and painful way.

Since 1979 when the Islamic Revolution of Iran broke that country out of the Western orbit and tore to shreds that so-called Western concept of superpower spheres of influence, challenged the international order and seemed poised to set a trend for the Muslim World, an alarmed America identified and had pursued these three strategic goals—one, ensuring, even if by force, the free flow of energy supplies, which they imagined the revolution threatened; two, actively preventing any Middle Eastern state becoming more powerful than Israel, their client in the region, which explains the US-induced eight-year-long Iran-Iraq War to weaken Iran and the subsequent American-led Gulf War to finish Iraq; and, three, after the rise of al-Qaeda, seeking to reduce the threat posed to America by anti-American terrorism.

But all of America's problems are self-inflicted. Even the event of September 11 could be explained, if not justified, by America's unconditional support for Israel, and by Israel's impunity in defiance of international opinion; and the complicity, silence and helplessness of a cowed world in the face of Muslim suffering.

But American support for Israel is not the only problem igniting and fueling Muslim anger against the United States. America is also in deep, collusive, hand-in-glove cahoots with all the undemocratic, repressive, unpopular and corrupt regimes of the Muslim World, almost all of which are repressive killer dictatorships. Why should the victims of these governments support the superpower that arms and keeps them in power? If America's energy interests and its relationship with oil suppliers are more important to it than the freedom, dignity and aspirations of two billion Muslim people, America will then seem to have made its choice; and it shouldn't complain if there is anti-Americanism in the Muslim World.

But what does America really want in this world? Is it world domination? If it is, then it is a non-starter, because Islam will never allow this to happen. That day will never

come when all nations accept and fall prostrate before its power; so that it does what it likes, invades any nation it fancies, slaps sanctions on those it doesn't like; wields a veto to protect, not world peace but its own narrow, selfish interests.

Or, is America's goal the defence of Zionism? If it is, then the eternal battle line with Muslims will have been permanently drawn; because true Islam will never bow before or surrender to Zionism. It is not our problem if the world doesn't understand its nature. We do.

Or, is America genuinely interested in international cooperation and the friendship of all peoples and their progress? In which case, it must accept the equality of all peoples as a matter of fact, oppose all types of oppression against them, support their quest for freedom, aid their struggle for genuine democracy, always stand by the side of justice, forget its quest for regional transformation, and join others to remake the world for the benefit of all.

If Obama really wishes to bridge the gap between Islam and the West, and understand why Muslims react to oppression the way they do, he needs only to listen to a fellow African-American—Malcolm X, to whom he is really an heir. Malcolm said Muslims don't turn the other cheek: 'Our religion teaches us to be courteous, obey the law, respect everyone; but if someone puts his hand on you...take him off the planet!'

That is the true spirit of jihad which, thanks to international media, has put America and the Muslim World at cross purposes—the former on the high horse, the latter on the defensive. But Muslims have no apology for jihad, which is to fight oppression whoever it is by; and its obligation remains incumbent on Muslims to the end of time. It makes no difference if America calls those engaged in it terrorists.

But what is this terrorism that they are talking about? Is terrorism only when American citizens are killed? Why should the killers at the World Trade Centre be condemned and those in Gaza be commended?

And if what they say (Osama bin Laden is doing is terrorism—and it is—what do they call what they are doing? In the few times they have drawn a line between Islam and the terrorists using its name, they said Osama has twisted Islam. And so he has. But no power could have carried out Hiroshima and Nagasaki or the atrocity in Gaza without twisting Christianity or Judaism to justify the perfidy. They are therefore no better than him. But have they become permanently set in their ways? Is it already too late in the day for America to change?

If so, Obama's 'Yes, we can,' will begin to look like a 'No, we can not,' and the cynics and skeptics will have been right, after all.

No doubt, changing America in such a fundamental way will not be easy, but it can't afford not to change; because its very survival may well depend on it. Should Obama fail in his quest for change, the world's greatest republic will have failed to rise to its full potential; and instead of being a benefactor to the world, America will end up a malefactor to it—all because Zionist lobbyists have taken the American government hostage.



If Obama really wishes to bridge the gap between Islam and the West, and understand why Muslims react to oppression the way they do, he needs only to listen to a fellow African-American—Malcolm X, to whom he is really an heir.



US President Barack Obama

SPORT REPORT

Inter crash out of Coppa Italia

Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored the only goal of the game as Inter Milan beat Sampdoria 1-0 in their Italian Cup semifinal second leg at the San Siro, but it was not enough to prevent the visitors reaching the final 3-1 on aggregate.

The Swedish international striker volleyed home a superb strike in the 27th minute -- although he was unfortunate not to double Inter's lead on the night when his lob hit the post 10 minutes later.

Sampdoria had their chances to take something from the game with Antonio Cassano and Giampaolo Pazzini both denied by good saves from Inter goalkeeper Julio Cesar.

The evening ended badly for Inter with defender Marco Materazzi sent off in the final minute.

However, their 3-0 first leg victory ensured Sampdoria were always in the driving seat and they now move forward to their first final since 1991.



Ibrahimovic scored for Inter

Penalised Southampton face relegation

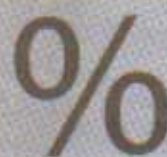
Southampton have been effectively relegated after being docked 10 points by the Football League. The ruling comes after Saints' parent company went into administration, though the club and administrators say they expect to launch an appeal.

Four points off safety with two games to go, Saints will lose 10 points if they stay up in the Championship.

And if they do not avoid finishing in the bottom three then the points penalty will take effect next season.

The south coast outfit had hoped to avoid the punishment as they argued that it was their parent company Southampton Leisure Holdings plc (SLH) which had gone into administration on 2 April -- not the football club.

But a League investigation by "independent forensic accountants" found that the football club and SLH were "inextricably linked as one economic entity" and applied their mandatory penalty.



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