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## CBN to vary capital base for banks

THE Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) plans to vary capital requirements for different categories of banks, an idea which could roll back the 2005 banking consolidation that pegged minimum capital base for banks at N25 billion.

In a speech outlining the next stage of banking reforms after last year's bailout, CBN Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi yesterday in Lagos questioned the universal banking model and said an obsession with

“We will come out with different capital requirements for banks

rapid growth without the right frameworks to manage risk had been at the heart of last year's problems in the banking industry.

“The question we are asking ourselves is must every bank compete in the same space, must every bank be an international bank. Can we not have regional banks, can we not have specialised banks,” Sanusi told a banking conference.

“What we are doing now is categorising banks and we will come out with different capital requirements

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# Jonathan consolidates power hold

## ● Swears in 17 perm secs



CROSS section of the new permanent secretaries taking the oath of office before Acting President Goodluck Jonathan at the State House, Abuja, yesterday.

By Muideen Olaniyi

ON his second day in office as acting president, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan yesterday swore in 17 new permanent secretaries who had been appointed since late October but could not be inaugurated because of the absence of ailing President Umaru Yar'adua.

Jonathan, who took over full presidential powers on Tuesday after a National Assembly resolution, also

yesterday received the Senate leadership on a solidarity visit to him.

He told the new permanent secretaries to support their ministers to ensure smooth and effective running of government.

The permanent secretaries sworn in included Umar Faruk Baba, Sheik Goni Musa, Awosika Ajorisedere Josephine, Mohammed Sani Lawal and Wiloughby Stephen Olukorede, Odu-sote Ibukun Abimnola, Mohammed

Sambo, Aliyu Salihu Gusau and Ibrahim Jalo Daudu.

Others were Olorunfemi Biodun Nathaniel, Mahe Ibrahim Gaya, Ozodinobi Anthony Zikora, Ene-Ita Nkese, Bamidele Fatima Binta, Bonat Charles, Kigbu Dausa and Uhomiohhi Martin.

The acting president had on Wednesday flexed his political muscles by redeploying the powerful,

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## Inside Today's Daily Trust

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NEXIM day secured a credit line agreement of \$20 million from ECOWAS Bank **25**



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Tiger Woods, world number one, has until 10pm today to decide if he will be returning to golf **55**

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Stuttering is less to do with nervousness and more to do with your genes, scientists have discovered **35**

### Politics

INEC Chairman Prof. Maurice Iwu yesterday faulted comments of the Nigeria Labour Congress over the recent Anambra elections **50**



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

CHAIRMAN, Peace, Arts, Culture and Tourism Foundation (PACT) Alhaji Maitama Sule (middle) member, Board of Trustee, PACT Ambassador Olusegun Olusola (right) and member, PACT Muzali Dantata at a press conference in Abuja yesterday.

## Yenlong clears Hausa community on Jos crisis

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

PLATEAU State Commissioner of Information Mr Gregory Yenlong has said the recurrent crises in Jos were not caused by the Hausa community.

Yenlong told our correspondent in Jos yesterday that government knew that the real Hausa people in Plateau State were not the ones causing the crises but that enemies of the state always mastermind the crises to destroy the state. The commissioner said Hausas were living peacefully with other people in Jos and government always carried them along.

"Though I will not mention the names of Hausa people who benefited from the leadership of the state, when the time comes, government will publish their names", he said.

"Government has set up a committee that will go round the country to convince the real Plateau people who left the state to return home to rebuild it", he said.

## Court dismisses AC's case against Jigawa SIEC

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

A Jigawa State High Court in Birnin-Kudu yesterday dismissed the Action Congress's case filed against the Jigawa State Independent Electoral Commission (JSIEC) over alleged deliberate exclusion of its candidates from

contesting in the forthcoming local government election.

The presiding judge, Justice Sadiq Umar, said, "Having gone through all the evidence and exhibits tendered before the court, this honourable court is convinced that the plaintiff has failed to prove to this court that the first depend-

ent (SIEC) has excluded its candidates from the activities of the forthcoming election".

Justice Sadiq added, "Going by the testimony given by the prosecution witness (1), who happens to be the state chairman of the first complainant (AC), the complainants were participated

in the activities of the forthcoming election".

Speaking to Daily Trust after the judgement, the chairman, Jigawa State chapter of the Action Congress, Alhaji Abubakar Hassan Fulata, said the AC would file an appeal at an Appeal Court in Kaduna today.

## Reps return from Saudi without seeing Yar'adua

MEMBERS of the five-man delegation sent by the House of Representatives to Saudi Arabia to see ailing President Umaru Yar'adua may return home today without accomplishing their mission, *Daily Trust* gathered last night.

Sources close to the team, led by the House Deputy Leader, Baba Shehu Agaie, told *Daily Trust* that its members are billed to arrive in Nigeria today after spending six days in Saudi Arabia. Other members of the team are Ali Ndume, Patrick Ikhari-ale, Moruf Akinderu and Jubrin Adamu.

Members of the team who had arrived Jeddah last Sunday were said to have been prevented from seeing the ailing president who has been hospitalized in that country since last November.

## 2 women, 3 children die in Kano road crash

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

TWO women and three children died while four others sustained various degrees of injuries when their vehicle skidded off the road and crashed into a bush near Rijiyar Gwauro along Maiduguri Road in Kano yesterday.

According to witnesses, the accident occurred around

4:00pm when a trailer tried to overtake another vehicle. One of the villagers who went to rescue the victims said the drivers of the two vehicles panicked and crashed into the bush when they saw the trailer on their lane.

According to the Kano Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) A.K. Hassan, the accident occurred

due to overtaking and reckless driving. He said the trailer driver who caused the accident ran away without stopping to know what happened.

"The driver was over speeding and he made reckless overtaking, and when he left his lane in order to overtake a vehicle, the other vehicles left their lanes for the bush. Five persons are con-

firmed dead, while four others sustained serious injuries. However, 10 people escaped unhurt in the accident," the commander said. He said the crashed vehicles, which were all going to Kano, include a Mitsubishi Canter and Volkswagen Passat with registration numbers XG 854 FGE and AL576 KTN respectively.

## Demonstration in Anambra over guber poll

From Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka

THERE was a demonstration in Awka, Anambra State yesterday over last Saturday's gubernatorial election as some people were arrested by the police at entrance to the Anambra State headquarters of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). The demonstrators who identified themselves as

a "Group of disenfranchised voters in the Anambra governorship election", stormed Awka in the morning, barricading the entrance to the INEC premises and carrying placards with inscriptions: "I did not vote, Ask me why Incredibility of INEC". "Where is our franchise?", "When will this nonsense stop?", among others. Some shouted, "Iwu must go".

The demonstrators said only about 301,000 people were allowed to vote in last Saturday's election, as against the 1.85 million registered voters. The group spoke through their leader, I. K. Ekwensi. But a detachment of anti-riot police team led by Anietie Eyoh (SP) stormed the scene and dispersed them before they could enter the INEC office.

## Jigawa Assembly passes 2010 budget

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

THE Jigawa State House of Assembly yesterday passed into law the 2010 budget with an increase of N1.330 billion. The budget is now N72.230 billion as against the N70.9bn earlier presented by Governor Sule Lamido. Before the passage of the budget, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriation Alhaji Babandi Ibrahim Gumel told the House that the increase was to capture some projects of the state Univer-

sal Basic Education (SUBEB) that were not included in the budget presented to the House. He said the increase followed a letter to the House Committee on Appropriation Bill from the Executive seeking an increase of N1.330 billion the budget.

The chairman said having gone through the various standing committees recommendations on the bill, the committee concluded that the executive had taken into consideration all sectors of the economy.

# Terror list: US gives condition for delisting Nigeria

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE United States (US) government has given Nigeria conditions that must be fulfilled before the country is delisted from the list of 'special interest' countries. The US had listed Nigeria along with other countries as potential breeding grounds for terrorists after an alleged attempt by a Nigerian to detonate explosives on a Detroit-bound flight on Christmas day. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ojo

Maduekwe who briefed the House of Representatives committee on Foreign Affairs, said the US government insisted that Nigeria's stand against "all forms of terrorism must be vocal".

Others, he said are public condemnation of any form of terrorism anywhere in the world; improvement of security in the nation's airports; deployment of air marshals on US-bound flight and passing legislative laws on anti-terrorism.

The committee chairman, Rep Umar Bature (PDP, Sokoto State), who briefed newsmen after the meeting held behind closed doors, said the minister was summoned to furnish the committee on the alleged aborted plan by a 23 year old Nigerian, Farouk Umaru AbdulMutallab to bomb an American plane last Christmas Day.

He added that the minister was called to shed light into reasons for the inclusion of Nigeria

on the list by the US. Rep Bature said the minister explained the role AbdulMutallab's father played before and after the incident and also briefed the MPs on the reports of the US State Department on terrorism.

He quoted Chief Maduekwe as saying that in the 2009, 2008 and 2007 reports, Nigeria got commendation from the US on its campaign against terrorism and that she (Nigeria) was named as one of the countries that have

given that country the greatest support since the September 11, 2001 terrorism attack.

Rep Bature debunked the claim that the inclusion of Nigeria on the watch list makes it a terrorist country, pointing out that the country was listed as a "country of interest" which means that anybody flying from or through Nigeria irrespective his citizenship should be watched. Nigeria bank outlines next phase of bank reform.



ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan (centre), Senate President David Mark (second right), and other senators during their visit to State House, Abuja, yesterday.

## Reps insist on probing Akunyili's petition

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE House of Representatives Committee on Public Petition yesterday said the federal legislature can only drop its investigative hearing into the petition by Information and National Orientation Minister Prof Dora Akunyili against her Special Duties counterpart, Chief Michael Aondoaka, if Akunyili decides to "formally withdraw" the petition.

Chairman of the committee, Rep CID Maduagbum (PDP, Anambra state) told newsmen in Abuja that as "a validly referred petition" his committee would go ahead and conduct an investigative hearing to ascertain the veracity of the allegation.

He however that the only reason his committee would drop the hearing is when the petitioner decides to withdraw it formally.

He said: "The petition has been referred to us and consistent with our rules it will be treated accordingly. It is a validly referred petition. We can only stop the hearing when she formally withdraws the petition."

Akunyili had on Tuesday through Rep Dino Melaye and two other federal lawmakers filed a petition before the federal legislature complaining that Aondoaka made disparaging statements against her by accusing her of sharp practices while serving as Director General, National Agency for Food and Drug Administration (NAFDAC).

The petitioners also said that Aondoaka made uncomplimentary remarks against the National Assembly while speaking on British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) yesterday on the resolutions of the Senate and the House that Vice President Goodluck Jonathan should assume full presidential powers.

## Yar'adua: Crises not over, Nnamani group says

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE federal legislators merely created a constitutional friction to redress constitutional violation by President Umaru Yar'adua and members of his kitchen cabinet, the Good Governance Group (3G) said yesterday.

The group which has former Senate President, Ken Nnamani as Chairman of its Steering Committee, said although the National Assembly resolutions which empowered Vice President Goodluck Jonathan as Acting President was consolatory, the invocation of Section 145 has not completely

resolved the constitutional crisis occasioned by Yar'adua's absence.

The group's Organizing Secretary, Salihu Lukman, who said the legal and constitutional basis of the decision to empower the Vice President were inherently flawed, however said that Nigeria has taken a step back from the abyss by the legislators' decision and the consequent assumption of Acting President by Jonathan.

It said the current solution may fail unless reinforced with reality of Section 144 of the Constitution, adding that the only way to truly resolve the crisis surrounding the Presidency is for the Execu-

tive Council of the Federation (EXCOF) under Acting President Jonathan to determine the exact whereabouts of President Yar'adua as well as his exact state of health.

3G said: "For the avoidance of doubt, the Good Governance Group hereby calls on the National Assembly pursuant to its oversight power under Section 88 of the Constitution and the Executive Council of the Federal under Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to urgently establish the exact whereabouts of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua and determine the exact status of his health; identify the different persons behind the

decision to transfer the President abroad and the various roles they may have played in misinforming the public;

"In the event that President Yar'adua is considered medically unfit or incapable of carrying out the functions of President, to declare him so and swear in Acting President Jonathan sworn in as President and Commander-in-Chief," it added.

The group called on the Acting President to recognize this moment as a transformative moment and redeem the promises of electoral reform and war against corruption.

## Maikasuwa appointed N/Assembly deputy clerk

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) has confirmed the appointment of Alhaji Salisu Abubakar Maikasuwa as Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly.

The appointment which took

effect from October 2009 was released last week by the commission in Abuja. Alhaji Maikasuwa was until his appointment the Assembly's clerk for special duties.

Former Clerk of the National Assembly Alhaji Ibrahim Nasir Arab who retired recently

has been replaced by Mr. Olu Ogunyemi as the substantive clerk.

Born in Keffi Local Government Area of Nasarawa State on March 4, 1958, Alhaji Maikasuwa attended Abdul Zango Primary School Keffi between 1964-1970 and Government Secondary

School Kuru from 1971-75.

He attended the School of Basic Studies Zaria and bagged his first degree at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria in 1980 and later Masters Degree in Public Administration and Policy Analysis at the University of Jos in 1983.

# 2011: Women demand one-third of political posts

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

WOMEN politicians in the country under the aegis of Gender and Affirmative Action (GAA) have implored the National Assembly to allocate 30 percent of the elective offices and political appointments for women during the review of the 1999 Constitution to improve women participation.

Presenting their position paper to Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu yesterday the women leaders in the country, GAA suggested that political parties should have special con-

sideration and allocation of positions to women aspirants. The leader of the delegation and former Women Leader of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Mrs. Josephine Anenih said it was time for women to be allowed to take a centre stage in the political space.

She said, "The leading political parties should have 30 percent women in their list of candidates for major elections. This will increase the representation of women in politics and development of the country."

Mrs Anenih said several countries have implemented the inter-

national agreement on women participation in politics saying "Some countries have adopted the Proportional Representation (PR) System. In Kenya women now make up a certain proportion of the candidates nominated by each political party. Other countries have adopted other systems and we as signatories to the agreement must also find a way of ensuring that women get adequate representation in the polity. We have suggested several means of achieving this in our presentation."

In his response, Senator Ekweremadu who is Chairman of the

Senate Committee on Review of the Constitution (SCRC) said the Senate has set up a sub-committee for gender issues in the SCRC to consider improving women participation in politics.

He said "I must admit that our women have done very well over the years. I am happy that the women that are in political positions have represented you well and have made a strong case for you. We are going to look at this proposal during the Constitution review because we look at women as capable of adding value to the development process in the country."

## 'PDP not consulted on Aondoakaa's removal'

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE tactical displacement of the former Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice (AGF), Michael Aondoakaa, by the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan caught the national leadership of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) unawares, *Daily Trust* learnt.

A reliable source said Prince Vincent Ogbulafor led National Working Committee (NWC) of PDP which paid homage to Jonathan on Tuesday night was not briefed before the step, which brought former Minister of Labour Adetokumbo Kayode on board as AGF, was taken.

*Daily Trust* gathered from the source within the party that they were ignorant of and surprised about the minor cabinet reshuffle could be confirmed from the calls most of them put out to friends in the media industry on Wednesday.

The source said: "With our stay with the Acting President, no mention of the minor cabinet reshuffle was mentioned. As I told you, we were with the Acting President, but the members of the NWC were not told. It came to us a surprise. This can be verified from some of the calls, which some of us made to you members of the media, trying to ascertain whether what we heard is true."

"It is not that the party is against what the Acting President has done, but in the past, the party was always in the know. He is the Acting President and Commander in Chief, the ball end in his table. We certainly will not control him on how he does his things, he is in charge, but it is fair to let us know, at least for an input," the PDP source said.

It was further learnt that the party's national leadership was not aware of the reported visit of Governors Isa Yuguda, Gabriel Suswam and Ibrahim Shema to Saudi Arabia to brief President Umaru Musa Yar'adua on the latest development.



PIC: NAN

ARCHBISHOP Peter Akinola (2nd right), outgoing Primate, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) Mr. Abraham Yisa (2nd left), Chairman, Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CAN) Board of Trustees Chief Gboyega Delano (left), Secretary, CANA Board of Trustees and Mr. Emmanuel Kampouris (RIGHT), the publisher, Kairos Christian journal, at an event in Washington DC on Wednesday in honour of Akinola ahead of his retirement in March.

## Ag President controversy: AC suggests way forward

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday suggested three options through which the controversy surrounding the step taken by the National Assembly can be resolved.

AC National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, who insisted that the National Assembly resolutions that made Vice President Goodluck Jonathan Acting President was unconstitu-

tional, said the party's stand was not determined by what is popular but by what is legal and constitutional. Mohammed said while the product was what all Nigerians wanted, the fact remained that the process was faulty.

He said: "The National Assembly can make its action constitutional by using the PDP majority in both chambers to pass a resolution compelling the Federal Executive Council (FEC) to invoke Section 144 and declare the President

incapacitated; Two, the National Assembly can use the PDP majority in both chambers and state Houses of Assembly to amend Sections 144 and 145 of the constitution to make it automatic for the Vice President to act once the President is away and also remove from the Federal Executive Council the responsibility of writing to the National Assembly to set up a medical panel to determine whether President is medically fit or not to continue in office. This

can be done in a week since the PDP controls both chambers and about 27 state Houses of Assembly.

"The third option is for FEC, as presently constituted, to invoke Section 144 immediately asking the National Assembly to set up a medical panel to certify what infirmity of body or mind the President is suffering from and whether such infirmity has rendered him permanently incapable of discharging the function of his office," he suggested.

## Court hears suit against Yar'adua's CSO today

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

FURTHER hearing in the suit against the Chief Security Officer to President Umaru Yar'adua, Yusuf Tilde, will continue today when his Counsel Mr Ben Anachebe appears before Justice Mudashiru Oniyangi of an Abuja High Court to shed more light on the nature of the undertaking he entered

on February 9, 2010 before the Court of Appeal.

The CSO was sued for alleged dispossession of plots of land belonging to one Bello Umar without following due process of law.

G. U Nwaneri from the chambers of Ben Anachebe and Co. who represented the Plaintiff during the hearing had told the court that he was not aware of

any undertaking entered by his principal at the Court of Appeal in respect of the matter even as he said he was not holding Anachebe's brief but the brief of the law firm.

The trial Judge told him that he could not say anything concerning the undertaking as he (Nwaneri) had no knowledge of what transpired at the Court of Appeal on February 9, 2010 when the

undertaking was made.

"Since you don't know what transpired there and the only party who was there was Mr. Onyeaka who told us what happened. What the Court will do is to adjourn for a short time to enable Anachebe appear before the court to clear the air on the issue", Justice Iniyangi stated and adjourned the matter till today.

The court's ruling was sequel

to the submission of the Counsel from the office of the Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF), Daniel Chukwuemeka Onyeaka that Anachebe made an undertaking when the motion for stay of proceedings was heard at the appellant court and prayed the court to adjourn indefinitely further hearing in the matter pending the determination of the motion at the appeal court.



PHOTO: NAN

FROM left: Alhaji Muktar Shagari, Deputy Governor of Sokoto, Mazi Anuforo, Director-General, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Mr. Babatunde Omotoba, Minister of Aviation and Alhaji Idris Kuta, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Aviation at the public presentation of 2010 annual rainfall predictions in Abuja yesterday.

## CBN to vary capital base for banks

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for the banks."

The move could change the landscape of Nigerian banking, until now characterised by swollen institutions concerned primarily with outstripping their rivals' asset growth at the expense of creating loans and growing their business, according to news agency Reuters.

Sanusi voiced confidence that the reforms would continue after Vice President Goodluck Jonathan took over as acting president this week and dismissed rumours a committee had been set up to review the central bank's powers.

He said regulatory shortfalls, including at the central bank, had allowed liquidity to flow into capital markets at the expense of the real economy in the run-up to last year's crisis.

"Do we not need to look again at the universal banking model?" Sanusi asked the conference. "Should banks use depositors' funds for their own proprietary trading, should they risk depositors' funds for private equity, should they use depositor's funds for venture capital or should they risk their own funds?"

Sanusi said the central bank would pursue a "hybrid" monetary policy with the twin aims of targeting single-digit inflation -- at 12 percent in December -- as well as seeking to avoid a repeat of the sort of asset bubble which led to last year's crisis.

Part of that financial stability would be achieved through tighter regulation of risk management in the banking sector but also by stabilising government revenues, which are largely dependent on oil.

Sanusi said the central bank was working with the finance ministry on developing the use of market instruments to hedge against oil price volatility.

He said the central bank had received expressions of interest for all of the banks rescued in last year's bailout, including three or four from foreign investors.

"Some transactions could be concluded by April or May. It is not a shot-gun marriage. These things happen as they come," he said. The central bank wants to complete the process by the end of the year at the latest, Sanusi said.

## NIMET predicts low rain, harvest for 2010

By Shehu Abubakar

NIGERIA may experience low rainfall this year that could lead to low agricultural production within the year and possible shortage of food. Aviation Minister, Babatunde Omotoba said while presenting the 2010 seasonal rainfall prediction and socio-economic implications for Nigeria by the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET) that Nigeria may suffer shortfall in this year's rainy season compared to last year's.

He said however, that the report predicted mild harmattan season in the year which implies that there will be less incidences of severe flight cancellations.

The prediction report indicate that rainfall will start about two weeks late and stop about a

week earlier than usual which may reduce cases of flood and water flows in streams and rivers. Farmers he said are advised to plant crops like maize, millets and sorghum that take shorter time to germinate and ready for harvest.

He said farmers should source and plant high yielding and early mature crops to avoid draught. The report also indicated that between January and April this year, the Southern part of Nigeria will be warmer while the North will be slightly cold.

"It is important for me at this juncture, to recognize the sustained proactive efforts of Nigerian Meteorological Agency towards providing appropriate meteorological information in support of safety of life and property not only in aviation, but also

in other sectors of our economy. These efforts are in consonance with Federal Government policy of according top priority to safety; particularly in aviation, which is vulnerable to adverse weather conditions.

"The seasonal rainfall prediction which I will have the honour to present to you today has been produced by NIMET as part of its statutory responsibility of advising government and Nigerian public on issues relating to weather and climate.

Let me use this opportunity to call on all stakeholders in agriculture, energy, environment, water resources management, health, etc to apply the information in this forecast in a manner that will enhance socio-economic activities in our country," Omotoba said. Deputy Governor of Sokoto

state, Alhaji Muktar Shagari who was also at the presentation of the prediction report ceremony, urged the federal government to provide the states with agric extension workers that will assist farmers with technical and professional techniques in improving on agricultural production.

He argued that the Nigerian farmers have nothing to benefit from the numerous seminars and tutorials being organized, "Government should empower the farmers for massive food production."

The Director General of NIMET, Dr Anthony Anuforom said the agency has recorded over 60 percent accuracy in its similar weather forecast report of 2009 and expressed confidence that the current forecast is near perfect.

## Jonathan consolidates power hold

Continued from page 1

outspoken justice minister Michael Aondoakaa to the obscure special duties portfolio. He also changed portfolios for two other ministers.

At yesterday's inauguration ceremony, Jonathan warned the top civil servants against any action that could create division and rancour in their various ministries.

"I admonish you to give your honourable ministers the required cooperation and support to ensure smooth and effective running of government machinery. In particular you must take all natural actions to

assure that you have good relations with ministries that have more than one minister and avoid being agents of division and rancour," he said.

The acting president urged them to be a shining example in the war against corruption championed by the administration in their various ministries.

"You must also bear in mind that as accounting officers of ministries, departments and agencies of government you must live above board and must not condone corrupt practices. Therefore let the zero tolerance to corruption of this administration be your watch word and guiding principles," he added.

Receiving the Senate leadership at his residence in Abuja, Jonathan said he was determined to ensure that the nation surmounted what he called its daunting challenges.

He thanked members of the National Assembly for their "courage" in moving the nation forward, while assuring them of a harmonious working relationship.

He said the business of governance was a collective one, and all arms of government should work together in the interest of the nation within the doctrine of separation of powers.

Earlier, Senate President David Mark, who led the prin-

cipal officers, pledged the cooperation of the upper chamber with the Acting President. "We are very willing and prepared to work with you. We look forward to the first letter from you and I expect a loud ovation when your first letter comes to the Senate," he said.

On Mark's delegation were his deputy Ike Ekweremadu, Senate Leader Teslim Folarin, Chief Whip Mahmud Kanti Bello, Minority Leader Maina Ma'aji Lawan, Deputy Minority Leader Olorunimbe Mamora, Minority Whip Ahmed Sani, Deputy Majority Whip Mohammed Mana and Deputy Minority Whip Kabiru Gaya.

### CORRECTIONS: FOR THE RECORD

In the Daily Trust of Tuesday 9th February, 2009 on page 2, in the story "2 die in Kachako auto crash," we said Takai local government is in Jigawa State. Actually the local government is in Kano State.

Also on page 9 of the Daily Trust of Thursday 11th February, in the story "US envoy meets Iwu over 2011 pools" the word "envoy" was spelt "enjoy." Both errors are regretted.

# Sha'aban wants Appeal Court to re-open guber case

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE quest to take the 2007 Kaduna State seat from Governor Namadi Sambo continued at the Court of Appeal yesterday in the suit filed by Alhaji Mohammed Sani Shaaban, the governorship candidate of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) urging the court to set aside its earlier decision which upheld the election of Governor Namadi Sambo on March 6, 2009.

The ANPP candidate in the 2007 governorship election had earlier approached the court to rescind its decision, arguing that the court settled issues of law and facts without an appeal. According to Chief

Mike Ahamba, Shaaban's legal counsel, the Appeal Court has no competence to raise an issue of law when it had been settled by the lower court. In a preliminary objection to the motion, Chief Emmanuel Toro, counsel to Governor Sambo objected on two grounds, arguing that the court lacked jurisdiction to entertain the application and set aside its judgement on the governorship election on March 6, 2009, having regards to section 246(3) of the constitution.

According to him, the Appeal Court by virtue of that section, is "wearing the cloak of finality in the case of gubernatorial election petition matters." Once the Appeal Court delivers a final judgement

on election matters, the counsel continued, it cannot seat on an appeal over the same judgement, review it or set it aside. He cited the case of Dr Andy Uba, where the Supreme Court struck out his appeal, urging it to review its judgement. Former Chief Justice of the Federation Idris Kutigi had described Uba's suit as an abuse of court process, Toro recalled. Praying the Court of Appeal to dismiss the motion, Toro argued that there should be an end to litigation as section 246(3) precludes it from re-opening the matter.

In his submission, Chief Ahamba pointed out that even his colleague who argued that the court lacked jurisdiction

to entertain the case, conceded that the court could set aside its own judgement under certain circumstances in his written address. He agreed that generally, once a court gives judgement, it becomes final except where that judgement is conjectured to be a nullity.

Where that arises, the parties have a right to apply for a review in order to set aside such a judgement, instead of going for an appeal even when there is a right of appeal, Ahamba argued. The court which was presided by Justice K.B Akaahs, said the date for ruling on both the preliminary objection and application would be communicated to counsel at a later date.



FORMER Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Chief Michael Aondoakaa (right) with his successor, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, during the handing over in Abuja yesterday.

PIK: KENNEDY EGBONODJE

## Ibru wants case transferred

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

THE former Managing Director of Oceanic Bank Plc Mrs. Cecilia Ibru yesterday asked that her case be transferred from the trial judge, Justice Akinjide Ajakaiye's court. Ibru's counsel, Prof. Taiwo Osipitan, yesterday said this was because there were indications that his client would not get a fair hearing with respect to her application for a stay of the execution of the ex-parte order. According to him, the judge has already made up his mind against his client and seemed biased against her. Consequently, Osipitan urged the court to transfer the case to the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court Justice Dan Abutu for re-assignment. In his response, EFCC's counsel, Kanyinsola Ajayi, described Osipitan's allegation as an indictment on the bench, saying he should be asked to make his application in the proper manner or formally write the Chief Judge. Ajayi noted that the ex-parte order attaching Ibru's property was pursuant to Sections 28 and 34 of the EFCC act.

Justice Ajakaiye said the application under consideration was an off-shoot of the criminal charge brought against Mrs. Ibru, a case that was still pending before the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court. Ruling on the matter was adjourned to a later date.

## Court to rule on Akingbola March 1

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

A Federal High Court in Lagos has fixed March 1, 2010 as the date to rule on applications filed by the former Chief Executive Officer of Intercontinental Bank Plc Dr. Erastus Akingbola and the Economic Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). The EFCC had filed two appli-

cations, one is asking the trial judge, Justice Tijani Abubakar, to stay proceedings on the case indefinitely, pending Akingbola's return to the country. Secondly, the commission is calling for oral evidence to resolve conflict in affidavit evidence as Akingbola was said to have claimed that he acquired some of the property before he became the chief executive of the bank.

## Kano spends N2.7bn on electricity

From Hisham Habib, Kano

THE Kano State government has spent N 2.7 billion on the upgrade and repair as well as installation of new equipment for the Kano zone of the electricity distribution company, the Chief Executive Officer of the company Muhammad Tunde Balogun said yesterday.

## Yakasai, Ukpo, others form new association

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

FORMER Presidential Adviser on National Assembly Matters, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai, Senator Paul Ukpo and others have floated a new pro-democracy association called Forum for the Defence of Democracy and Rule of Law (FODRUL).

Tanko Yakasai, who last week withdrew his membership from the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) said the group was formed to defend, "The sanctity of the Nigerian constitution."

A statement jointly signed by Alhaji Yakasai and Senator Paul

Ukpo, the Chairman and Secretary of FODRUL respectively in Kano yesterday, said the formation of the new association became imperative in view of the prevailing situation in the country.

"Following attempts to destroy our hard-earned democracy, patriotic and committed Nigerians from different political backgrounds have found a compelling need to join forces to form a common ground and defend the constitution from being trampled upon by a few individuals," the group said.

Alhaji Yakasai said they had unflinching belief in democracy, the

rule of law and the constitution.

"We, the like-minded citizens of Nigeria came together and agreed to stand for everything that is democratic. We therefore after our meeting in Abuja on Monday, February 8th, 2010 resolved to form an organization to be known as FODRUL," he said. He said the vision of the new association was to ensure the practice of true democracy in strict adherence to the Rule of Law and the constitution. Among the aims and objectives of FODRUL, the chairman said, were to sensitize the citizenry on the benefits of democracy and the need to ensure its growth and survival.

## Nasarawa Assembly members to pay new income tax

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

MEMBERS of the Nasarawa State House of Assembly are to pay the increased income tax which was not deducted from their January salaries.

The organized labour in the state had

queried the fact that members of the House collected their salaries without the government removing the stipulated tax as contained in the Income Tax Law of 2004 of the Federal Republic.

A statement from the House, signed by the Press Secretary Ibrahim Tanko said,

"All the state legislators have unanimously agreed with the new tax increase."

The statement said the Speaker of the House, Musa Ahmed Mohammed called on members of the public, especially civil servants to disregard reports that they were exempted from the new tax regime which

was introduced in the state in January.

"As representatives of the people, we cannot be exempted from tax and have accordingly directed the Department of Finance of the House to effect begin the implementation of the new tax law," the statement added.

## 'Army committed to professionalism, defence of territory'

By Benjamin Auta

THE Nigerian Army has reiterated its commitment to professionalism and protection of the citizens.

The Corps Commander, Nigerian Army Ordnance Corps, Lagos, Maj.-Gen. Olayemi Abidoye, stated this while speaking with newsmen at the command's West Africa Social Activities (WASA), adding WASA is part of regimentation and drive toward professionalism of Army operations. Army is being equipped to become a professional organization. "We now have time for our jobs—soldiering. We are also committed to the defence of civilians," he added. He said professionalism was one of the best things that had happened to the nation's armed forces.

WASA, one of the age-long practices of the Nigerian Army, serves as a platform for social interaction between soldiers and their families and friends. It is usually held annually to usher in a new year.

Abidoye, who said WASA was a worthy legacy that had helped to foster esprit de corps in the armed forces, described the turn out of the civilian population at the occasion as highly impressive.

Brig.-Gen. Osemudiamen Osemwota, who represented the General Officer Commanding, 81 Division, lauded the command for a successful hosting of WASA, which he described as a unique activity of Army.

## Nigeria to partner Kuwait on energy

By Aisha Umar

THE Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ojo Maduekwe, has revealed Nigeria's willingness to partner with Kuwait on energy and infrastructural development to Special Envoy of the Amir of Kuwait, Ambassador Mohammed Abu Hassan. Maduekwe made the statement at the foreign ministry during the Kuwait Special Envoy visit to Nigeria to discuss issues of bilateral and multilateral interests.

Kuwait Special envoy disclosed that Kuwait was desirous of partnering with Nigeria and interested in concluding outstanding bilateral agreements, as quickly as possible, that would provide the necessary legal framework for bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and Nigeria.

Ambassador Mohammed Abu Hassan also disclosed that Kuwait was equally desirous of strengthening the existing level of cooperation between Kuwait and Nigeria at various multilateral fora particularly at the UN.

Maduekwe assured the visiting Special Envoy that all would be done by the various departments/agencies of government concerned to ensure that the enabling agreements for meaningful bilateral cooperation between Nigeria and Kuwait would be put in place. He also assured the visiting envoy of Nigeria's commitment to strengthen and deepen cooperation with Kuwait at the multilateral level.

The Ghanaian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, His Excellency, Alhaji Mohammed Mumuni, who was in Abuja for consultation on the 37th ECOWAS Summit, was also received by the chief Maduekwe. The 37th ECOWAS Summit is to hold in Abuja on February.

# Women and children most affected in Jos crisis - Commission

By Akor Ojoma

THE Commissioner of The National Commission for Refugees (NCFR), Hajiya Hadiza Sani Kangiwa has said of the 31,826 persons internally displaced from the recent Jos crisis, women and children were mostly affected. The Federal Commissioner stated this yesterday while fielding

questions from newsmen at the inaugural meeting of the expanded Technical Working Group (TWG) coordinated by the commission in Abuja.

She said women constitute 35% of the total number of internally displaced persons, children constitute 30%, the elderly 15% and men and others 20%.

Members of the Technical Working Group inaugurated include Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Mallam Lamido Sanusi, the Comptroller General Customs and representatives from most Federal Ministries, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence (NSCDC), International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and foreign embas-

sies among others.

The thematic areas of National policy relevant to the drafting of National Migration Action Plan (NMAP) by the inaugurated Technical Working Group comprises migration and development, migration and cross cutting issues, National security and irregular movement etc.



A tanker that skidded off the road on Lagos-Badagry Expressway in Lagos yesterday.

## Okorie's APGA plots to reclaim Obi's victory

By Abbas Jimoh

GOVERNORSHIP candidate of Chief Chekwes Okorie's faction of the All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) Hon. George Ibezimako Ozodinobi claimed yesterday that the victory recorded by the party at the just concluded Anambra state governorship polls belongs to him.

Hon. Ozodinobi who made the claim while addressing newsmen in

Abuja on the outcome of the elections said, said he and his running mate Hon. Dr. Okey Umeano are the legitimate APGA candidate for the elections having been duly nominated by the party.

He faulted the decision by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to issue certificate of return to incumbent Governor Peter Obi, saying that INEC acted in error.

He said that the party had already

sued for the Order of Mandamus from the Federal High Court, Abuja to compel INEC to obey the wish of this party APGA and substitute Mr. Peter Obi with himself and running mate.

He said, "In spite of the leadership crisis in the party that has persisted till this day, the sentiments and emotions expressed by the good people of Anambra State to APGA has remained solid, unwavering and cannot again be overstated."

## UK issues stricter entry rules for foreign students

By Aisha Umar

FOREIGN students from outside Europe who wish to come to the UK to study will have to accept the new regulations where students studying below degree level have a limited ability to work in the UK while their dependants cannot work in UK at all, the Home Secretary, Alan Johnson has said.

A statement signed by British High Commission Head of Visa Operations Jason Ivory added

that the new stricter entry criteria for foreign student will be even harder for bogus students, whose only aim is to work in the UK, to come into the country.

It added that the Home Secretary also confirmed that the Government will implement plans to introduce a points test by 2011 for those who wish to earn British Citizenship, and the new measures include; a good standard of English (equivalent of holding just below a GCSE in a foreign

language) will be needed to come to the UK and study to improve English language competency further; a good standard of English (again equivalent of holding just below a GCSE in a foreign language) will need to be demonstrated in order to study any other course below degree level.

It added that other measures include restricting the lowest level courses (A-levels and equivalent) to only the most trusted institutions; halving the amount of time

a student studying below first degree level or on a foundation degree course, will be able to work, to just ten hours during term time; a ban on bringing in dependants for anyone studying a course for less than six months; and a ban on dependants of anyone studying a course lower than foundation or undergraduate degree level from working - they will face removal from the UK if found doing so.

Home Secretary said "The Points Based System was introduced to provide a rigorous system to manage legitimate access to the UK to work and study, with the ability to respond to changing circumstances.

"We want foreign students to come here to study, not to work illegally, and today we have set out necessary steps which will maintain the robustness of the system we introduced last year. I make no apologies for that."

# Acting president signifies return of peace - Aliyu

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

NIGER State Governor Babangida Aliyu yesterday said the decision to make Goodluck Jonathan Acting President has returned peace to the country.

Governor Aliyu said this in Minna yesterday while receiving the Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development. He said the country could now move forward as the Acting President was expected to take

care of issues that had been left unattended to due to the absence of President Umaru Yar'adua.

"What we have done is to make sure that the constitution is respected. By giving Goodluck Jonathan the mandate to act as

president, peace has returned to Nigeria.

Now, we can concentrate on praying for the health and safe return of Yar'adua so that he can carry on with his duties as president", he said.

He added that Yar'adua may be unaware of the fact that some people tried to hide the state of his health, saying the president was a respecter of the rule of law and would have willingly made his health matter public.

## NYSC commends Yobe govt over employment of corps members

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

THE Yobe State Coordinator of the National Youths Service Corps (NYSC) Dr. A.E Ogo-Ochi yesterday commended the state government over its plans to offer permanent employment to any youth corps member who is willing to work in the state after the service year.

Dr. Ogo-Ochi who spoke in Damaturu at the passing-out ceremony of the 1,290 Batch A' 2009, corps members said the programme was a veritable tool for national development.

He also called on outgoing



GOV Ibrahim Gaidam

corps members to take advantage of the government's offer.

He maintained that the corps members had through the Community Development Service (CDS) contributed a lot to the development of the state.

Dr. Ogo-Ochi said eight corps members were given awards for their outstanding performances while 44 others who misbehaved would have their service year extended.

Yobe State Governor Ibrahim Gaidam called on outgoing corps members to remain patriotic and continue to render humanitarian services.

## Jonathan good for Nigeria - lawmaker

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

THE declaration by the National Assembly empowering Goodluck Jonathan to act as president is the best thing that happened to the country's democracy, the member representing Tafawa Balewa constituency in the Bauchi State House of Assembly, Aminu Tukur, has said.

Speaking with our correspondent in Bauchi yesterday, the lawmaker said Nigeria would witness development in the next few months.

Aminu Tukur, who is a member of the All Nigeria Peoples' Party (ANPP) said Jonathan had

proved that he is a man of his words, adding that he promised that the just concluded governorship election in Anambra State would be free and fair and that was what happened.

"In Goodluck Jonathan, we now have a leader that does what he says. I can tell you that Nigerians have more confidence in him than most of his predecessors," he said.

"In Goodluck Jonathan, we now have a leader that does what he says."

## MP lauds media's role on Jonathan

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

A member of the House of Representatives, Ernest Ibejiako, has said that the declaration of Goodluck Jonathan as Acting President would not have been possible without the media.

Ibejiako at a luncheon with media practitioners in Owerri yesterday, said the media contributed to the resolution of what appeared to be a political log jam.

He urged them to continue with the good work.

Ibejiako also advised media

practitioners not to listen to sycophants.

The Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Imo State Council, Mr. Fidel Onyeneke, said democracy in the country was succeeding because of the media. While commending Ibejiako for recognizing the role of the media, he also commended members of the National Assembly for the resolution empowering Goodluck Jonathan to act as president.

The NUJ boss urged the Acting President to lead the country without bias.

## Uwazurike's wife plans protest over detention

FROM Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

WIFE of the leader of the Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) Mrs. Ngozi Uwazurike has threatened to stage a protest over the continued detention of her husband. Mrs. Uwazurike who spoke with newsmen in Owerri, Imo State yesterday, said she would mobilize women in the state to protest if her husband was not released immediately.

She said the continued detention of her husband without charging him to court could no longer be tolerated. Mrs. Uwazurike, who

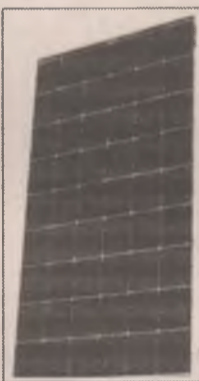
lamented over the absence of her husband from their home since February 12, 2010, wondered why he was taken away in an ambulance to an unknown destination. She said no one had heard from him since he was taken away, adding that the family was worried about his health.

On whether MASSOB was divided because of the arrest and detention of its leader, Mrs. Uwazurike said the movement was still intact.

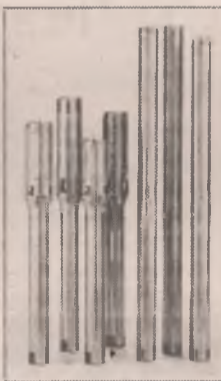
She assured that the movement would continue in its struggle for the emancipation of Biafrans.

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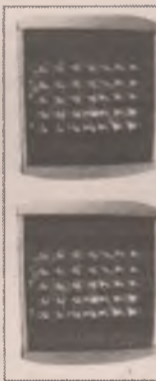
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# Gaidam signs 2010 budget into law

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

YOBE State Governor Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam yesterday signed into law, the 2010 Finance and Appropriation bill.

The governor had in December last year presented to the House, a budget proposal of N62,420,341 but the legislators increased it to N65,137,209,386 with the Speaker Usman Adamu saying the upward review was necessary to effectively cater for the yearnings of the populace.

The Speaker also called on the executive arm of govern-

ment to strictly adhere to the provisions of the budget, adding that the House would enhance its oversight function by monitoring the ministries and agencies.

The 2010 budget earmarked N45,571,628,386 for capital expenditure and N19,565,581,000 for recurrent expenditure while the state government has an opening balance of N5.5 billion.

"This upward review of the budget size by the House makes it imperative for us to intensify our internal revenue enhancing efforts. I believe these

amendments were done with the intent of providing more funds for the execution of capital projects for the improvement of the living conditions of the people", Gaidam said.

He added there was the need for concerted efforts in order to make the 2010 budget a reality.

"We are aware that the unpredictable Federation Account allocation and the state's poor internal revenue base are factors which will make the achievement of these objectives difficult", he said.



GOVERNOR Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe State (Middle) signing the 2010 appropriations bill passed by the state House of Assembly. With him are the Assembly Speaker, Usman Adamu (right) and Secretary to the State Government Babagoni Machina (left) at the Government House, Damaturu, yesterday.

## Poverty kills 178 in 1000 infants every year- Minister

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

MINISTER of Women Affairs and Social Development Hajiya Salamatu Husseini Suleiman has said that an average of 178 out of 1000 infants below the age of five die due to poverty and lack of proper medical attention in the country every year.

Hajiya Suleiman made this disclosure in Minna yesterday during an advocacy visit to Niger State as part of nationwide sensitization campaign to educate government and people on the need to put women and children on top priority list in terms of budgetary consideration.

She stressed that women and children and people with disability who form 70 percent of the total population of the country are the most vulnerable in the area of health, adding that infants and mothers die during or after birth due to lack of basic provisions.

Infant mortality is high as it is estimated to be 105 per 1,000 live births with under-five rate at 178 per 1,000, she said. A Large number of women suffer from preventable premature death while giving birth as a result of inadequate health facilities and non-incentives for health personnel, in Nigeria, she added. She said judg-

ing from the prevailing deaths occasioned by lack of financial support for women, children and people with disability, government at state and federal levels should increase budgetary allocation to support them.

"I therefore call for increased budgetary allocation for issues of women, children, the aged and concerns of persons with disabilities which cannot be overemphasised. I make this special request, your Excellency, for increased budgetary allocation to the state Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development to enable it carry out its mandate effectively", she said.

## Assembly confirms Abba Aji's son for commissioner

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

THE Borno State House of Assembly yesterday confirmed Nasiru Abba Aji, one of the sons of late Maiduguri based Islamic scholar, Sheikh Muhammad Abba Aji, for appointment as commissioner in Governor Ali Modu Sheriff's cabinet.

Nasiru Abba Aji, who is in his early 40s, was nominated alongside Hajiya Hauwa Mai Musa by Sheriff to join the state executive council. Hajiya Hauwa had served as commissioner in the same

administration until Sheriff dissolved and reconstituted the cabinet in August, 2009 without reappointing her.

Aji, a lecturer in the department of Mass Communication in the University of Maiduguri was the chairmanship flag bearer of the ruling All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) in Jere Local Government Area in the 2004 council polls. He however lost to the opposition, PDP's candidate and didn't hold any government position. He was said to have crossed over to the PDP a few years back while remaining a lecturer

in UNIMAID.

His recent nomination, many believe, follows the death of his father, Sheikh Muhammad Abba Aji, in December, 2009. By nominating Aji, observers believe that Sheriff may be aiming to 'kill three birds with one stone' by cushioning the bereavement of the late Sheikh's family; standing the chance of attracting political support from amongst the thunderous admirers of the late scholar while at the same time hitting at the opposition PDP by taking one of theirs.

## Oshiomhole signs 2010 budget

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

EDO State Governor Comrade Adams Oshiomhole has signed the state 2010 Appropriation bill into law. The N101.965 billion "Budget of Consolidation", is N21.37 billion higher than that of 2009 and N2.71 billion higher than the actual bill submitted to the state Assembly.

The budget breakdown showed that capital estimates will take N63.174 billion while N 38.791 billion is allocated to recurrent expenditure.

Speaking at the budget signing ceremony yesterday, Governor Oshiomhole commended the House of Assembly for the speedy passage of the appropriation bill, saying it was a major improvement over that of last year.

According to the governor, "last year the appropriation bill was not ready until about the 20th of April. That we are able to conclude this task first week of February is a major improvement over last year. I want to assure the people of the state that we will be able to implement the budget much faster this year unlike last year", he said.

## PDP will take over Edo, chieftain says

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

THE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Edo State will soon bounce back despite the current state of affairs of the party in the state. A chieftain of the party, Dr Osa Ogiemwonyi, said in Benin yesterday while addressing newsmen on his plan to declare for the PDP this weekend that those who had decamped from the PDP to the Action Congress would soon return, stressing that crisis would soon rock other small parties.

He said he decided to be in the PDP because according to him it has a national spread.

He advised Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to continue with the rule of law posture of President Umar Yar'adua.

He advised Jonathan to be courageous in taking important decisions.

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**WORKSHOP ON EU CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR NON-STATE ACTORS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

UN-HABITAT in collaboration with the Foundation for Development and Environmental Initiatives (FDI) is organizing a two-day Workshop to sensitize and build capacities of Local Government officials and civil society organizations (NGOs and CBOs) to submit proposals for funding of European Union (EU) in the following thematic areas:  
**LAND USE PLANNING, MANAGEMENT OF METROPOLITAN AREAS, STRATEGIC URBAN PLANNING, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, WATER AND SANITATION, WASTE MANAGEMENT, RISKS PREVENTION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL TAXATION AND MANAGEMENT AND LOCAL FINANCE AND TAXATION.**

**Venue:** Shehu Yar'adua Centre, Abuja

**Date:** 17 - 18 February, 2010. Thereafter, continuing follow-up actions with various LGs to finalize their proposals for submission on 25 February 2010.

**Workshop Fees:** N150,000 per 2 representatives for each LGs and NGOs. Kindly make your cheque payable to Foundation for Development and Environmental Initiatives (FDI) based on the above fee schedule.

**CONTACTS**  
**Elizabeth Owolabi -**  
 09-461-6136; 08051636835



## Invitation for Bids (IFB)

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

#### MINISTRY OF MINES AND STEEL DEVELOPMENT (MMSD) SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES PROJECT (SMMRP) CREDIT No. 4012-UNI

February 12, 2010

**SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF AIR CONDITIONERS FOR MMSD ZONAL OFFICE JOS AND SOKOTO STATE OFFICE**  
IFB No. (MMSD/SMMRP/NCB/G/03/2009)

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. ID-843108 of 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2004
2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the Contract for the Supply And Installation of Air Conditioners for MMSD Zonal Office Jos and Sokoto State Office
3. The Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Supply and Installation of:

Lots	Description of Works	Locations	Quantity	Bid Security	Delivery period
	Supply and Installation of Air conditioners	MMSD Zonal Office, Jos	197 Nos.	At least 2.5% Bid price	90 days
	Supply and Installation of Air conditioners	MMSD State Office, Sokoto	40 Nos.	At least 2.5% Bid price	90 days

4. Bidding will be conducted through the **NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)**, a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project at the address below** and inspect the Bidding Documents from **11:00am to 4:00pm Mondays to Fridays**.
6. Qualifications requirements include:
  - Documentary evidence of previous supply (sale) of similar equipment proposed for the last 5 years.
  - Audited Financial Statements for the last 3 years to demonstrate the financial capability of the Bidder in terms of Profitability and adequate working capital.
 A margin of preference for eligible national contractors **shall not be applied**, Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in **English** may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee **N 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Naira) only or 80 USD (Eighty US Dollars)**. The method of payment will be cash or bank draft in favor of **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project**. The Bidding Documents will be collected by the representative of the Bidder or by courier services on request.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **2:00pm on Monday March 15, 2010**. Electronic bidding **will not** be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend in person at the address below at **2:00pm on Monday March 15, 2010**. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as indicated in the table in paragraph three above or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
9. The address referred to above is:

**Project Coordinator**  
**Project Management Unit (PMU)**  
**Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)**  
**Ministry of Mines and Steel Development**  
**No 6 Marte Close, Off Misau Crescent**  
**Garki II - Abuja**  
**Nigeria**  
**TEL: +234 8053000153, +234 7098802871**  
**E-MAIL: [uladie2001@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:uladie2001@yahoo.co.uk) , [uladie@msmd.gov.ng](mailto:uladie@msmd.gov.ng)**

Signed

**MANAGEMENT**

# Online Reactions

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



**EX-LAGOS State Governor Bola Ahmed Tinubu**

## Tinubu, CNPP praise Jonathan over Aondoakaa's removal

PEOPLE like Aondoakaa should leave so that more competent people would be given a chance, because he has publicly demonstrated that he is incompetent.

**Leefer**  
[leefer@yahoo.com](mailto:leefer@yahoo.com)

Dr Goodluck, you did well by removing Aondoakaa, but he should not have been redeployed to the Ministry of Special Duties. He should have been sacked.

**Ishaya**  
[ishaya@yahoo.com](mailto:ishaya@yahoo.com)

Comrade, whether you accept the resolution of the National Assembly or not, the nation will move forward. Make up your mind fast.

**Anthony Ajonye**  
[realtony2001@yahoo.com](mailto:realtony2001@yahoo.com)

NLC yet to decide after 79 days? The truth is that, the NLC leaders have been compromised. They should hide their faces in shame.

**Ken Mani**  
[kenmani@yahoo.com](mailto:kenmani@yahoo.com)

# Why I was removed –Aondoakaa

THE former Attorney General should see this as a time to write his memoirs, a time for sober reflection, as this is what is obtainable at the Ministry of Special Duties.

There must be a great deal of information he has for Nigerians, especially when you consider his recent comments about Professor Dora. He should also expect a court suit in a couple of days if he does not publicly apologise to the professor.

**Thomas George**  
[okirika\\_george@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:okirika_george@yahoo.co.uk)

This is indeed a welcome development. We are now waiting to see what steps the Acting President will take to move this country forward. My little advice is that the Acting President should continue with the 7 point agenda, rather than introduce a new policy. May Allah give him the wisdom to do things that would develop Nigeria.

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

Collective decision indeed, the man was demoted. If he has any honour at all, he would have resigned. The decision by Jonathan shows that he has no confidence in him. I am not surprised.

**Man**  
[mankrool@gmail.com](mailto:mankrool@gmail.com)

I think what happened at the



**FORMER Attorney-General of the Federation Michael Aondoakaa**

FEC meeting was right. People like Aondoakaa are inimical to the growth of the country. I urge the Acting President to exercise his duties with integrity and transparency.

**Zanna Bukar Baruwa**  
[bukar.zanna@yahoo.com](mailto:bukar.zanna@yahoo.com)

I said it on the pages of this paper not too long ago, that God will speak this year and he has started speaking. One of the

greatest obstacles in the Yar'adua's govt was Aondoakaa. He refused to tell the man the truth. God is still speaking.

**Nnamdi Nwachuku**  
[prettydinxven@yahoo.com](mailto:prettydinxven@yahoo.com)

Aondoakaa, You have played your part. I salute you, I salute your courage. Like any student of Power would say, you remain a silver shield.

**Babangida Dangora**

[babangidadangora@yahoo.com](mailto:babangidadangora@yahoo.com)

Aondoakaa's removal by the Acting President is a very good move. I hope he also fights corruption.

**Tony Umeh**  
[ohaintony@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ohaintony@yahoo.co.uk)

The Acting President needs to cleanse the cabinet by firing Aondoakaa, Sam Egwu, and Udenwa.

**Ike Mba**  
[ikemba450@yahoo.com](mailto:ikemba450@yahoo.com)

I must commend the Senate for invoking section 145 of the constitution, and I pray that God sees Nigerians through. As for the cabinet reshuffle by the Acting President, I believe it is a welcome development. For Mr. Jonathan to work effectively, he must ensure that those working with him are loyal, and if they are not loyal, they should be sacked.

**Abdulkadir Ali Bage**  
[alizaki001@yahoo.com](mailto:alizaki001@yahoo.com)

This is just the beginning.

**Ismail Ahmed**  
[elderabuth@yahoo.com](mailto:elderabuth@yahoo.com)

The truth of the matter is that, Aondoakaa was redeployed not removed. The president would have earned himself more credit if the former Attorney General was dropped from the cabinet. I wish the Acting President, good luck.

**Abdu Isa Kofarmata**  
[kmatagigi@yahoo.com](mailto:kmatagigi@yahoo.com)

# Boko Haram: Reps probe extra-judicial killings

THIS is a very serious matter and a disgrace to the Nigerian Police and the country. Incidences like this must be thoroughly investigated and culprits should be brought to book immediately. This goes to prove that security agents who are supposed to protect lives and property are the ones killing and causing tension in the country. This investigation should include all allegations involving uniformed men in Nigeria from 1999 to date. Our security agents have become bias and sentimental on security issues which are very critical to the unity of this nation. This is not something to be taken lightly, because it was planned and executed without fear or mercy. It is very unfortunate.

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

It is Boko Haram today and possibly other innocent Nigerians tomorrow. Let us join hands to stop police brutality and extra judicial killings. Taking shortcuts to justice is not in anyone's interest.

**Isaac**  
[iadeyemi@gmail.com](mailto:iadeyemi@gmail.com)

This video clip is horrible. Human life has no value in Nigeria. Security agents are expected to protect lives and property, not to destroy them.

**Lawal**  
[lawalhy@gmail.com](mailto:lawalhy@gmail.com)

The whole world should rise up and condemn these extra judicial killings. I was in Maiduguri during and after the crisis, what Aljazeera reported is actually what happened. The footage was recorded in front of the police headquarters and I was there when some of these people were being executed in cold blood.

The police and members of the "Operation Flush", a patrol unit consisting of the military and police was largely responsible for the killings. There are so many other video clips that can be found in Maiduguri. Some of them are even more incriminating. While am an advocate of law and order, I believe whatever actions the police and military take in such matters should be in accordance with the law of the land.

**Lawal Muntari**  
[lawalmuntari@yahoo.com](mailto:lawalmuntari@yahoo.com)

The people of Borno and Yobe States witnessed serious extra judicial killings during the Boko Haram crisis. I want to remind the authorities of the constitutional right to life. Government has to set up a committee to investigate the matter.

**Zanna Bukar Baruwa**  
[bukar.zanna@yahoo.com](mailto:bukar.zanna@yahoo.com)

It is really sad and unfortunate that it took an international media broadcast for the House of Representatives to investigate this unpatriotic attitude of the Nigerian Police. The people, murdered were harmless civilians and there was no prior investigation as to their involvement with the Boko Haram sect. Even if they were members of the sect, they should have been arraigned before a court of law.

**Mustapha Isa**  
[mustyfagge@yahoo.com](mailto:mustyfagge@yahoo.com)

All western media organization have shown this video. But the Nigeria media has not shown it, that shows us how bias they are. Daily Trust, please endeavour to keep us posted.

**M. H**



**THE late Mohammed Yusuf, leader of the Boko Haram sect.**

[gogannaka@hotmail.com](mailto:gogannaka@hotmail.com)

Please, no panel of inquiry. Those heartless policemen should be made to lie down and shot just the way they killed those people.

**Haliru**  
[haliru9@yahoo.com](mailto:haliru9@yahoo.com)

Before the creation of the Mobile Police, there were not wanton killings like this. Let's disband the Mobile Police. Let the police also revert to its role of investigations and arrests only.

**Mustash**  
[almustash@yahoo.com](mailto:almustash@yahoo.com)



By Adamu M. Fika

## Dantata was right: The wealth of colonial-era North developed Nigeria (IV)

Cont'd from yesterday.

The 1948/49 expenditure estimates were based on the revised 1947/48 estimate plus 5 percent on both the Recurrent and Extra-Ordinary expenditure which came to £1,885,000 for Northern Region, £1,900,000 for Western Region and £1,673,000 for Eastern Region. Estimated Revenues came to £2,440,800 for the Northern Region, £1,543,600 for the Western Region and £1,323,800 for the Eastern Region, giving surpluses of £555,800 and £353,600 for the Northern and Western Regions respectively and deficit of £349,200 for the Eastern Region part of the revenue surpluses for Northern and Western Regions were transferred to Eastern Region revenue to wipe out the shortfall, thereby reducing the Northern and Western Region revenue to £2,216,780 and £1,407,821 respectively while the revenue of the Eastern Region was increased to £1,763,450.

A similar procedure was followed in the 1949-50 estimates when the Regional expenditure came to £2,265,705 for the Northern Region, £1,357,446 for the Western Region and £1,798,719 for the Eastern Region against regional revenue of £2,540,785 for the Northern Region,

“The main road from Sokoto to Zaria was constructed from Native Administrations funds

£1,508,355 for the Western Region and £1,327,733 for the Eastern Region, giving surpluses of £304,874 and £166,566 for Northern and Western Regions respectively, and a deficit of £425,462 for the Eastern Region. These were adjusted as was done in previous years to meet the minimum needs of the Eastern Region by reducing Northern and Western Regions Revenue Estimates to £2,265,577 and £1,357,998 respectively, and by increasing the Eastern Region's Revenue Estimate to £1,798,295.

The magnanimity of Northern and Western Regions subsidising the Eastern Region continued up to 1953-54, the year when Nigeria formally became a federation. In that year, the Regional Expenditure Estimates came to £7,230,000 for Northern Region, £5,701,000 for Western Region and £5,651,000 for Eastern Region, and the total of Regional Revenue came to £8,774,000 for the Northern Region, £10,188,000 for the Western Region and £5,188,000 for the Eastern Region, giving surpluses of £1,544,000 and £4,487,000 for the Northern and Western Regions respectively and a deficit of £463,000 for the Eastern Region.

It is clear from the foregoing schedules that during the first forty years of unification of Nigeria it was only in 1919 and 1920 that the revenue contributions from the South marginally exceeded those from the North. In 1919, the South contributed £575,890 compared with the North's £555,040 giving difference of

£20,850 in favour of the South. On the expenditure side, the Government actual expenditure on services in the North was £350,279 compared with the actual expenditure on services in the South of £1,154,307. In effect the North could still be regarded as having contributed more if the combined effect of revenue and expenditure were taken into account.

In 1920 the south contributed £588,210 compared with the £579,210 contributed by the North, giving a difference of only £9,745. On the expenditure side, the Government spent the sum of £509,515 on services in the North and £1,900,973 on services in the South.

During the period of forty years the contribution of Northern Provinces to the central fund totalled about £18,000,000 compared with about £8,000,000 contributed by the Southern Provinces. On the expenditure side, the Government spent a total of about £13,000,000 on the services in the Southern Provinces compared with about £6,000,000 on provincial services in the North. In other words, the North contributed almost 225% more than the entire South, but itself received only 46% of the share the South got out of the common pool.

Contributing to the central revenue fund and receiving less spent on the Provincial Services in the North was not the only sacrifice made by the North. A number of projects and services which should have been more properly charged directly on the central fund were in fact financed by the Native Administrations in the North. The more important instances of these include:

The main road from Sokoto to Zaria was constructed from Native Administrations funds.

The Kaduna College, the Sokoto Women Training Centre, the Kano Law School were all financed from Native Administrations funds. The Okene Training Centre was in fact Native Administration institution, instead of being Government Institution. In fact, in the Northern Provinces the resources of the Native Administrations were regarded as available for any useful purpose.

During the depression of the early 1930s the Government sought the assistance of the Native Administrations in balancing the Nigerian budget when the latter materially relieved the strain on Government finances. They also helped in arresting the process of drastic retrenchment then being followed when some of the Northern Native Administrations took over on secondment a considerable portion of Public Works Department staff and also undertook a much larger share of financial responsibility for the execution of public works.

Indeed the Native Administration in the Northern Provinces took over the strains of the expenditure on Extra-ordinary Public Work to the extent that in 1935-36 Government expenditure represented only 6.75 per cent of the total expenditure of £2,143,211 while the expenditure of the Native Administrations in the Northern Provinces represented 88.14 per cent.

To be concluded.

Malam Adamu, the Waziri of Fika, is a former Head of Service of the Federation.



By Abubakar Muhammad

## Health status paramount in selecting president

Many Nigerian wordsmiths have come with many coinages in order to depict the topical issues that affect the country. Writing in the Nigerian Observer in the early 70s, one of the early Nigerian wordsmiths Andy Akporugo coined *Nasseristic Ogbemudianism* in drawing analogy between the late Egyptian president Gamal Abdul Nasser and former military governor of the Mid-west Region Brigadier Samuel Ogbemudia (rtd).

The late chairman of *This Day's* editorial board Mr Godwin Agbroko, who made reference to Andy Akporugo's article in one of his incisive pieces, carved out his own from the similarities between former presidents of Nigeria and the US, Olusegun Obasanjo and Richard Nixon. His piece was titled *Nixonistic Obasanjoism*.

The situation in the country bears some similarity to the Cameroon's situation in the 80s. Ahmadou Ahidjo, the late sit-tight president of Cameroon was hospitalised for a long time outside the country. When the illness seemed prolonged, Paul Biya, who was then the Acting President, took over the mantle of power.

Ahidjo's resignation was seen by some as a move by him to pave way for his kinsman, Maigari Buba from

“While other groups still remain loyal to Yar'adua, others are making clandestine moves to select a possible vice president in case of any eventuality

the Northern part of the country to become the president. Just like Jonathan Goodluck, Paul Biya began to fire the supporters of Ahidjo, eliminated Ahidjo's portraits with his own and crossed out Ahidjo's name from the anthem of the CNU. Similarly, the Northerners are now scheming to anoint who will succeed President Umaru Yar'adua in 2011 election.

Aondoakaa's demotion is a sign that the acting President would certainly sack or send the loyal Yar'adua's aides to obscurity. Where is Babagana Kingibe today? Of course the fears of people for Jonathan to be acting president are that most of the previous decisions and appointments by Yar'adua would be reversed.

Serving governors, former governors, and other top ranking cabinet members are said to be eyeing the post of the Vice President. According to a credible inside source, plans are afoot to anoint the former governor of Kaduna State Senator Ahmed Makarfi in the event of President Umaru Yar'adua's resignation.

Many people may find such decision absurd because people had told us that Yar'adua was healthy and could steer the mantle of leadership effec-

tively. But what turns out now is something of the contrary. If the political leaders of the Northern region failed to unite themselves, the chances of the North to complete envisaged eight years of presidency are somehow unfeasible.

In the event of the resignation or (God forbid) death, the political leaders of the region should think inwardly and find one of the serving governors or ministers or any other person with a good record of health. It will be suicidal for us to go for any other person with not-so-clean bill of health. The word of caution here is that a healthy person should be selected. We have good performers in the ranks of Northern governors, among others.

More than ever before, Nigeria finds itself in a deep constitutional crisis that is threatening its existence. National Assembly's resolution earlier in the week to vest the presidential powers on acting capacity to the vice president Jonathan Goodluck somehow doused the tension.

There is really some political subterfuge brewing in the nation's political scene. While other groups still remain loyal to Yar'adua, others are making clandestine moves to select a possible vice president in case of any eventuality. Although the call for the transmission of vacation letter seemed unanimous across the country, some groups are rapidly evolving, saying the constitution was flouted.

The former Adviser to the former president Shehu Shagari on National Assembly Matters, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai and Senator Paul Ukpoko, among others, have floated new pro-democracy association called Forum for the Defence of Democracy and Rule of Law (FODRUL). Tanko Yakasai, who last week withdrew his membership from the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) alongside other members, formed the group in order to defend “the sanctity of the Nigerian Constitution.”

To add another injury to the national wound, two days after the Senate resolution three governors, namely Governors Gabriel Suswam, Isa Yuguda and Ibrahim Shema, reportedly jetted out of the country to Saudi Arabia to inform President Umaru Musa Yar'adua of the new development. Pray, if Yar'adua is recuperating as were told, he would have known what was happening in the country. To demonstrate his knowledge of the burning issues in the country, Yar'adua even wished our national soccer team, the Super Eagles, success!

My last final word of caution is that those planning to impose another person – with no glowing medical record – on the North should know that apart from a person's public service record, there are many parameters that should be employed in selecting a person. When assessing the next presidential material, good health condition should be top the requirements.

Abubakar writes from Rigasa, Kaduna State.



## Your Letters

### Jos crises

I read Timawus Mathias' weekly column on the above matter published in the Daily Trust. The write up was quite revealing, educative and informing. What fascinates me most was the author's conclusion where he put it point-blank for the warring sides to come to terms with the reality of the existing circumstances to live together as brother's keepers in the interest of peace and corporate existence of Nigeria. It is a universally accepted fact that the once peaceful, serene and beautiful Plateau with its fine weather and cosmopolitan nature had become a shadow of its former self. One is always confronted with fear, suspicion and uncertainty when passing through the Plateau. Against this

background most of my people from Gombe and Bauchi states prefer to travel to Abuja through Kano and Kaduna to passing through the Plateau for fear of the unknown. My greatest problem with most of the crises on the Plateau is: why the crises always take a religious dimension?

I am a Muslim from a minority tribe of Tera from Gombe state. We have a significant number of my people in the plateau who emigrated there as migrant labourers during and post colonial era. Generation of my people were well established in the plateau. During my school days in the early and mid eighties I used to spend my holidays in places like Tanti, Barikin ladi, Bukuru, Dorawan bukuru among others. We used to have very wonderful times with Chala, Biroms, Fulani who came from Cameroon and Central Afri-

can Republic.

Another example that was the last stroke that broke the camels back was an incident that happened during the very last crises. A family friend on his to Abuja miraculously escape death along jos bye pass. He was driving through when he ran into a mob. He was stopped and asked in Hausa namune ko nasu? upon noticing a prayer mat in his vehicle than rain of stones and clubs hurled on him. He escaped miraculously and finally rescued. Thanks to the immediate intervention of the second in command in plateau whose convoy managed to whisked him to Bauchi state border. Two other commuters were not that lucky; while one was slaughtered the other fell as the vehicle was set ablaze. What can we deduce from such incidents?

**Alhassan Ibrahim, Gombe State Water Board.**

## Text us on 08 131 8000 30

### Shape of things to come?

AS Goodluck started redeploying ministers, it is an indication that all those who refused to support him might lose their cabinet posts. I pray to God for the quick recovery of our ailing president.  
**RUFAT Doro, Katsina, 08067603171.**

### There's always a price tag

EX-MINISTER of Justice Aondoakaa is now paying the price of loyalty to Yar'adua. Only time will tell what will happen to Yar'adua's kitchen cabinet, and many ministers who believe they owe their loyalty to the ailing president. Now Jonathan has started to flex his political muscles, which were never seen before.  
**ILYASU Mohammad, Kurfi, Katsina state, 08038222685.**

### Haba, acting president

IT is too early now to react the way you have done. Is it revenge or what?  
**AWWAL A. Muhammad, 08065323971.**

### Forward ever

THE first day Goodluck assume acting as president and commander in chief, he acted no nonsense by reshuffling Yar'adua's cabinet. It is hoped that others will not be victimised, and Kazaure should desist from telling lies to labour as he did on power problem. The acting president should put national interests ahead of personal ones.  
**AMINU Adamu Kura, 08032554873.**

### These lawmakers...

I am highly disappointed in our lawmakers in adopting a resolution handing over power to the Vice President to act as president. What they did was unconstitutional and it's only for their self-interest, not for the country.  
**08065395933.**

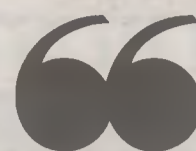
### ...Can't make decrees?

WELL, Senator Lado, you may be right. But your colleagues have

just promulgated one. You know why? It's simply because the head of the two chambers was former military dictator. But one thing they should know is that their self-serving action has thrown this country to the wrong side of history; and we should all await the consequences, which must come sooner or later. **SALEM, Kuje, Abuja, +2348055354436.**

### On Trust's columnists and Jos crises

IT was unfortunate and myopic of your last Wednesday's guest columnist, Onmonya Daniel to hypocritically deny the definition of a genocide provided by your regular columnist Adamu Adamu and other Daily Trust writers. What about the over 200 dead bodies that were found inside wells at Kuru Karama. They clearly were not of Christian victims. Mr. Daniel should stop being in denial. Daily Trust columnists did a great job on what happened in Jos.  
**JUNAIDU, 08027873121.**



By Abdullahi Garba

## Beware, the cockroach always rises again

Goodluck Jonathan, Vice President and now acting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is touted to be a man with good luck. Unsolicited but widely circulated messages on the Internet have enumerated the circumstances that have justified the luck in the man's life.

Now acting President, courtesy of the Senate's resolution, Jonathan has started his acting new role on a wrong foot. The immediate redeployment of Michael Aondoakaa from his post as Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, to the relatively nondescript Special Duties Ministry, and the swapping of position of some other two ministers less than forty-eight hours after hastily acting of the otherwise non-binding senate resolution, is a clear steps of a man in a hurry.

Contrary to widely held belief that Goodluck Jonathan was a loyal vice president, his current action seems to be speaking a discordant tune in sharp contrasts with the act he exhibited during the Diepreye Alamiyeigha saga. The long wait for the governor's return then could be likened to the fear of the popularity of the governor and the impact it will have on his political future. One can safely say that it was loyalty that was not in-depth.

The current situation, where he made a quick cabinet reshuffle, especially when one views the excitement displayed on the AIT by the Information Minister Dora Akunyili reminiscence of her memo to the Federal Executive Council, praying for transmission of power to the Vice President to discharge the functions of the President, the persistent media hype seeking the views of some select Nigerians to lend credibility to the illegality of the act coupled with the Obasanjo brouhaha, clearly demystifies any iota of doubt that the Obasanjo boys are in action.

The Presidency is that of Yar'adua not Jonathan's. The well orchestrated public fight between Akunyili and Aondoakaa to cast him as the only stumbling block to the grand design is well-known to Nigerians. Let them not be fooled by the so-called popularity of the act to attach legitimacy to hitherto an illegitimate process. Notwithstanding the grandstanding of the media, we refuse to be fooled by all these arrangee acts.

Jonathan should ask Jikamshi, the erstwhile Deputy Governor to Yar'adua while he held sway in Katsina State; and he should also dig deep into how Yar'adua rose to his current position. In all the situations he has found himself, he has risen like the proverbial cockroach, when all hopes have been lost to bounce back and reclaim what rightly belongs to him.

Lai Mohammed, lately of Action Congress party may not be a PDP member; but he is an honest Nigerian. He has systematically been educating Nigerians on the ill or otherwise of certain government actions. The action of Jonathan assuming the position of an Acting President without a letter duly transmitted is an act of illegality and therefore makes his acting capacity illegitimate. Contrary to what the Senate President has advocated, as being an act of transmission of a BBC Hausa Service interview, our belief is that the section expressly states that a letter should be transmitted and not through other means. If there were other means, the logjam will not have occurred.

Similarly, Jonathan's action shows that there has been no love-lost between himself and the President. It is expected that all appointments were made in full consultation with the Vice President and even if he was not satisfied with the conduct of a public officer, he should sort that out internally. Having assumed such powers does not confer on him the right to do as he likes. Goodluck has acted in a manner that amounts to smacking the President in the face; it does not in anyway place him on a high pedestal, nor does it bring out any gentlemanliness in him. Despite Obasanjo latter-day loquaciousness, he did not make Yar'adua president; providence did. For Jonathan to start the hatchet man's job so early in the life of his acting position is to draw ire to himself. With our arms crossed, we are watching and waiting patiently for the return of the cockroach. He should not forget that there is no public humiliation greater than the reversal of decisions taken recklessly.

Should the cockroach rise again as it always does, the fear of its further actions is the beginning of wisdom.

Garba wrote from Ungwan Shanu, Kaduna (abdullahigdl@gmail.com)

## DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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## MEND's threat to renew sabotage

**T**he recent threat by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) to resume their sabotage activities in the creeks, barely months after the commencement of the amnesty programme again highlights the problems associated with the deal. Indeed, since the beginning of the amnesty programme last year, MEND had never associated itself with it and vowed to return to the creeks unless government showed 'serious commitment' to the development of the region.

MEND's renewed threat is also coming barely weeks after ex-militants took to the streets in Port Harcourt, Rivers state and Benin City, Edo state, in protest against what they described as government's renegeing on the amnesty terms. During the protest march, the ex-militants disrupted commercial activities and threatened show-down with the authorities, a development re-echoed by MEND in its threat statement. They blamed politicians and the government for not addressing the fundamental problems that led to militancy in the Niger Delta region.

In its reaction, the federal government insisted that the programme was on course. The Presidential coordinating committee on the Niger Delta announced, after an extraordinary meeting, that the five sub-committees created last year to implement the amnesty package, were at work on various aspects of the post-amnesty programme. These include modalities for involvement of host communities in the ownership of petroleum assets, infrastructural development, environmental cleanup and remediation, oil and gas assets protection, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-militants. Meanwhile government also claimed to be spending over N3bn monthly in payment of allowances to militants who surrendered their arms and camped in various locations in the Niger Delta region, in accordance with the amnesty terms.

With these explanations, we wonder how long it would take for the committee to study the situation and come out with blue print for implementation. Why did the Presidential Committee find it expedient to be silent all this while until MEND threatened to resume hostilities? This communication gap must be bridged in order to have a smooth implementation of the post amnesty programme. This is important because the nation cannot afford a further breakdown of law and order in the Niger Delta region especially now that new foreign investors have indicated interest in the oil and gas sector.

Over the years, the Niger Delta crisis has cost the nation huge human and material resources. Reports also indicated that the recent renewed attack at the Ogbotubo area in Bayelsa led to a production cut down of about 70,000 barrels of crude oil per day. Prior to the amnesty deal, the country was losing 1.3million barrels per day as a result of attacks on oil facilities by the militants. Similarly, government has blamed its inability to realise the 6000 megawatts of electricity supply on the crisis in the Niger Delta region. Therefore, the renewed threat by MEND, unwarranted and condemnable as it is, should not be taken lightly.

While we urge the government to hasten the implementation of the amnesty schedule in order to sustain the peace deal and guarantee security of oil facilities and in the region, it is important to remind MEND and its membership that they cannot be allowed to hold the country to ransom. As the months-long constitutional crisis occasioned by the absence of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua seemed to have found some (though imperfect) resolution, we expect all stakeholders in the amnesty deal to allow the acting President, Goodluck Jonathan carry out the task of nation building pending the return of the President from his extended medical vacation. We call on the Joint Military Task Force and other security agencies operating in the Niger Delta to buckle up and neutralize any attempt to break the law in the region. It is in the overall interest of governors of states in the Niger Delta to cooperate with the federal government in this regard, without which the amnesty deal would continue to remain an illusion, and a relapse to near-anarchy a possibility. This must not be allowed to happen.

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## Reviewing litigation on Yar'adua's health

By Ola O. Olatawura

**O**n Friday, 29 January 2010, Justice Dan Abutu Chief Judge, Federal High Court (FHC) delivered

the last of three judgments exclusively heard by him arising from the ill-health, incommunicado, and absence of President Umaru Yar'adua. This provoked a constitutional crisis, among other challenges. In the first judgment, arising from an action to compel the President to handover to his Vice President, the learned CJ held that section 5 CFRN 1999 allows the Vice President to automatically function when the President could not function as a result of illness. This interpretation and application is seriously flawed. Section 5 does no more than identify the persons and officers constituting the executive arm of government. The decision also contradicts the constitution's preference for a chief executive or executive President. The decision suggests collective responsibility for governance by the executive arm of government. It is trite that the presidential arm of government rests on an individual President or state Governor, who though assisted by ministers and other public servants, is alone responsible for the direction of the executive arm of the government. Simply for this reason, a US' President's table plaque stated: "the buck stops here." Ordinarily, the Vice President has specified functions. He cannot perform functions belonging to the President or others not expressly delegated by the President. (Section 148 (1) CFN 1999) The second decision, initiated by Hon. Farouk Lawan, concerned the duty of the Executive Council of the Federation popularly known as Federal Executive Council to comply with section 144 CFRN 1999 by passing a resolution that the President is incapable of discharging the function of his office, etc. Where a two-third majority of the FEC confirmed the 'legal fact', other provisions would follow suit, including where necessary constituting a medical panel to assess the President is "permanently incapable".

**T**he result is well known. The FEC unanimously held that the President is not incapable of performing the duties of his office. Only him, it was said could state whether he was incapable. It is obvious the FEC did not answer the question or fulfil or follow the directive. It was for them to state whether in the light of constitutional duties of the President, particularly sections 5 (1) (b) and 148 (2) the President is incapable to discharge the functions of his office. Clearly, the President has not been conveying and attending meetings. He is not a position to coordinate his, the Vice President, or ministers' activities. He is also not supervising the ministers. The FEC is also not in position to advise the President of their activities on account of his ill health. The directive, no doubt, was not well drawn to specify what would constitute 'incapability of the President'. In the absence of a voluntary disclosure by the incumbent President, what the constitution requires is whether on the available facts

there is a case for a medical examination of the President to confirm the state of his physical and mental health. The answer to the live case is pretty obvious. Any other answer raises complications for the addressees as to their loyalty to the nation and the constitution. Because they de facto stand to benefit from the situation they may be cited before the appropriate court or tribunal, including the Code of Conduct Tribunal and now or in later years, a Public Inquiry Tribunal. It is unclear whether the FEC has notified the court that it has complied with the order and that will be application. It may be noted that the resolution conflicts with Section 144 (5) in so far as the Vice President voted. Mr. Michael Aondoakaa (then Attorney General and Minister of Justice) has stated the Vice President

still a President who is de facto and de jure in charge and no other person can 'discharge the functions of his office'. "The Constitution," per Uwais CJN, "is not intended to approbate and reprobate," (*Kalu v The State* [1998] 13 NWLR (Pt. 531) 541, 545). If Section 145 is to be discretionary, it would be clearly written and fully understood by anybody. ("The President may transmit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of the Representatives a written declaration that he is... otherwise unable to discharge the functions of his office, so that until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary such functions shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.") It is section 148 which uses the language of discretion, direct and apposite to the case. It states: "The President may in his discretion, assign to the Vice President or any Minister...

**The decision suggests collective responsibility for governance by the executive arm of government**

did. Only the ministers can vote. The Vice President is not a minister. Of course, nothing prevents the plaintiff/claimant from challenging the so-called compliance, bringing an action for contempt of court on members of the Executive Council, or filing an appeal against the direction as not complied with.

In the final decision, the NBA case, the learned CJ held that section 145 of the constitution applied. The President, the court held, was not obliged to transmit a letter to the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of the Representatives that he is proceeding on vacation or unable to discharge the functions of his office. According to the learned Chief Judge, the Vice President automatically became Acting President. Although one may not agree with the arguments deployed by the claimant, the learned CJ's interpretation is a tragic reading of the applicable section 145 and the whole constitution. It completely misconceived the wording, functions, and purpose. Section 145, as previously addressed in a published piece, refers to when the President is partially unwell. (Daily Trust, December 2009. It certainly obliges the President to notify the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of the Representatives. The court's reliance on the opening provision "whenever" cannot be read to be a discretion. It is strictly a description of an action, the act being influenced by either the President going on vacation or being unable to discharge the functions of his office. It is also wrong to say it is voluntary. Any voluntariness exists only in the specific sense that the President is able to inform the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of the Representatives. If he does not notify these persons, who it must be noted are heads of the elected peoples representatives, the position would be that there is

responsibility for any business of the Government of the Federation, including the administration of any department of government." It is settled that delegation is always preceded with a written Presidential Order, Memo or Note. None, so far as we are aware, exists. The learned trial CJ is reported to hold that there is a delegation by the President to the Vice President. This position is neither factually sustainable nor to be implied. The reading of a need for compliance with the prescribed form has more benefits to stakeholders than a presupposed unilateral benefit to the office holder. For even if it was a discretion, approved dictum is that: "Discretion does not empower a man to do what he likes merely because he is minded to do so, he must in the exercise of his discretion do not what he likes, but what he ought," (per Lord Wrenbury in *Robert v Hopwood* [1925] AC 579, 613). In short, section 145 has no application to the matter. Rather section 144 is the applicable provision to the facts. Those clamour for a written declaration under section 145 are the President's greatest fans.

**T**he President's men should oblige. The sanctity of the constitution needs to be vouchsafed. Furthermore, the position that the Vice President shall then discharge the functions as Acting President only confirms that there must always be a written declaration.

How else does Abutu's decisions process flounder? Firstly, the learned CJ should have allowed counsel to know the position he was leaning and allowed for comments by the Bar to guide him. Most likely different decisions or reasoning would have been given.

*Dr. Olatawura is Goldmann Lagos Transnational Lawyers, Abuja.*



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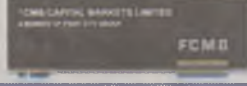
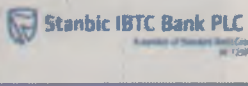
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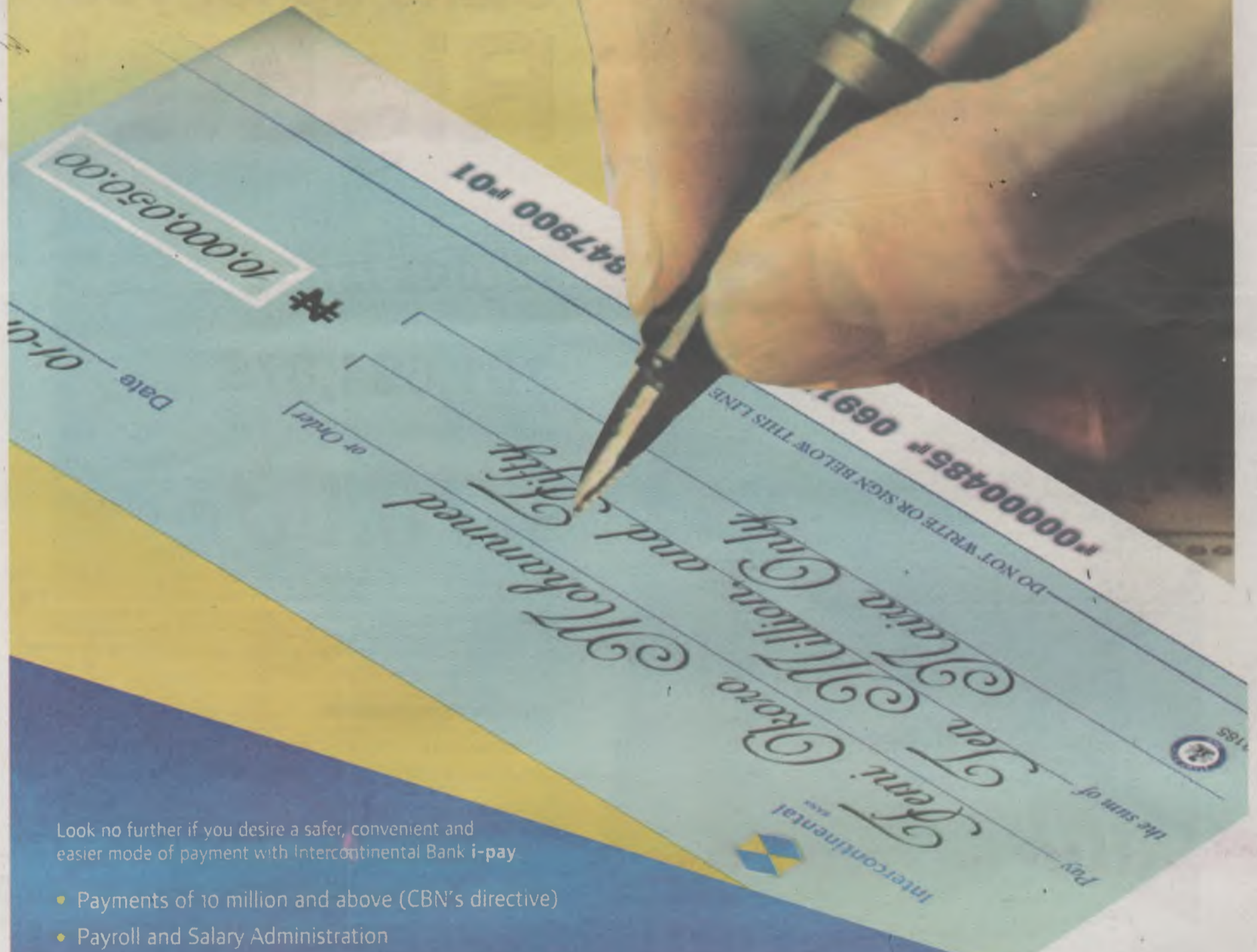
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

**The House of Representatives Ad-hoc Committee on the Investigation into Foreign Loans obtained by the Federal and State Governments**

*Invites*

Federal Ministry of Finance, Federal Ministry of Justice, Account-General of the Federation, Federal Capital Territory Administration, Debt. Management Office and other relevant Federal Government Agencies; the 36 States of the Federation and the General Public to a two-day Investigative Hearing on Foreign Loans obtained by Federal and State Governments.

### **The Investigative Hearing Holds as Follows:**

**Date:**

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> of February and  
Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> of February, 2010.

**Time:**

1:00pm and 10:00am respectively.

**Venue:**

Conference Room 2.31 House of Representatives  
New Building (Second Floor)

Kindly submit 10 copies of memoranda to the Secretary of the Ad-hoc Committee in HB47 White House Basement on or before the date of the Investigative Hearing.

For further enquiries kindly contact: 08037015326;  
E-mail: [h-jankaro@yahoo.com](mailto:h-jankaro@yahoo.com)

*Signed:*

**Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha, KSC**  
*Chief Whip/Chairman*



... At Wits End With  
**AUDIT MATTERS**

**THEME:**  
Increasing the Effectiveness of  
Audit Committees of  
**QUOTED COMPANIES**

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three and above.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To foster greater involvement of Audit Committee Members in the audit of companies
- Assist members understand new issues emerging from challenges posed by the current operating environment
- Assist in setting proper agenda and priorities for Audit Committee members
- Introduce members to regulatory and statutory framework
- Improve Audit Committee focus and efficiency
- Assist members in understanding Audit Committee members liability

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Ms. ARUNMA OTEH,  
DG SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC)**

Importance of Adhering to Statements of Accounting Standards in Quoted Companies in Nigeria  
By: Mr. Godson Nnadi, CEO Nigerian Accounting Standards Board, Ikeja, Lagos

Laying the Appropriate Environment for improving the Focus, Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Audit Committees  
By: Mrs. Sade Ogundare, (Managing Partner) Legal Partnership, Ikoyi.

Responsibilities, Roles and Liabilities of Audit Committee Members  
By: Mr. Kenneth Odusanya, (Managing Partner) Eminent Consulting, Lagos

Current Trends and Developments in Financial Reporting Systems of Banks and Non Bank Financial Institutions  
By: Mr. Gabriel Ukpe, (Partner) Price Waterhouse Coopers, V.I, Lagos.

Understanding Risk Management Challenges in the Current Environment  
By: Mrs. Sade Odunaiya, (Partner) Alliance Consulting, Marina, Lagos.

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 24, 2010 **TIME:** 9.00 A.M. **VENUE:** PROTEA WESTWOOD, AWOLOWO ROAD, IKOYI

*For registration and sponsorship enquiries please call*

Tel: 01-8762997, 08022900601, 08023191930, 08033047096, 08023051195

# INTERNATIONAL

## S/Africans mark 20yrs since Mandela freed

**PROMINENT** South Africans gathered at a prison outside Cape Town yesterday to fete the 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from jail, which hastened the demise of apartheid.

At a breakfast organised by the ruling party's former anti-apartheid activists, tycoon and veteran activist Cyril Ramaphosa said Mandela was serene as he prepared to walk free.

"Here is a man who's about to be released out of prison after 27 years.

He was as cool as a cucumber and younger people would say he's a cool cat," said Ramaphosa, who was part of the team that welcomed Mandela on February 11, 1990 as he left the jail.

Ramaphosa told anti-apartheid veterans and government ministers who had gathered at the prison grounds: "We are celebrating a life that has been lived in service of our people.

"He knew he needed to continue living for the people that were outside.

Without the struggle of our people, Madiba would have never been released," he said, using Mandela's clan name.

Veteran anti-apartheid activist Ahmed Kathrada, released four months before Mandela, told journalists he knew Mandela would be freed soon after him.

"It was an emotional moment. When we were released, that was exhilaration, happiness but at the same time sadness that we are released, we came to prison together, and we are leaving him behind," the 80-year-old said. "But we knew that once we were released that the day is not too far when he is going to join us."

Nobel laureate Archbishop



MANDELA and former wife Winnie, walk hand-in-hand with their raised clenched fists upon Mandela's release from Victor Verster prison, near Cape Town South Africa.

Desmond Tutu exhorted South Africans to use the day to remember the long road the country had travelled since.

Related article: Key events in recent SA history "The day Nelson Mandela walked free from Victor Verster Prison our collective spirit soared. It was a day that promised the beginning of the end of indignity."

But Tutu, widely hailed as the nation's conscience keeper, said though a lot had been achieved,

there was still more to be done. "If we really want to make a difference we must recapture the spirit of that day of Nelson Mandela's release ... We must not forget the past," he said.

The 91-year-old will take centre stage when he arrives in parliament around 7:00pm (1700 GMT), his only public commemoration of the day in 1990 when he emerged from 27 years behind bars.

South African President Jacob

Zuma will be looking to bask in the glow of the anniversary as he delivers his speech to a nation up in arms over the latest scandal over his personal life.

For the last 12 days, newspapers, radio and sidewalk chatter have centred on a four-month-old baby fathered by the 67-year-old president with the daughter of a top World Cup organiser who is not among the polygamist's three current wives nor his fiancée.

Zuma said on Saturday that

he "regretted" the pain that the lovechild scandal had caused the nation, but newspapers editorials have continued to denounce the president's behaviour, which critics say makes a mockery of South Africa's efforts to fight AIDS.

With Mandela sitting nearby, Zuma is expected to tap into the optimism of two decades ago, while giving a frank roadmap of the way forward in the year South Africa hosts the football World Cup.

### Burkina Faso to hold November presidential polls

BURKINA Faso will hold presidential elections on November 21 this year, the government announced yesterday.

"The first round for the election of the president ... has been fixed for Sunday, November 21," a statement said after a cabinet meeting. It said electoral lists would be compiled March 1-21.

President Blaise Compaore, who chaired the meeting, came to power in a 1987 coup in which his predecessor Thomas Sankara was killed. Compaore, 59, was then elected to the office in 1991, winning further mandates in 1998 and 2005.

Under the terms of the constitution, which was revised in 2002, the president should be elected once every five years and can serve two terms. Some

Compaore supporters have recently called for this limit to be scrapped.

"Limiting the presidential mandate is anti-democratic," the head of Compaore's Congress for Democracy and Progress (CDP) party said on Saturday.

Compaore has not yet indicated whether he will seek re-election.

Two opposition candidates have already put their names forward -- Benewende Sankara, the leader of the main opposition Union for the Renaissance/Sankarist Party, and Norbert Michel Tiendrebeogo of the Social Forces Front (FFS).

In the 2005 poll, Sankara came second with 4.88 percent of the vote while Tiendrebeogo was seventh with 1.61 percent.

### Gabonese opposition forms new party

LEADING Gabonese opposition politicians joined ranks yesterday to create a new party ahead of 2011 legislative elections. "This is an historic moment," the president of the newly created National Union (UN) party Zacharie Myboto told several hundred supporters in Libreville. "For the first time in our country, opposition parties have decided to come together for political change," Myboto added, describing the opposition's determination to build a unified Gabon.

The new party comprises three Gabonese opposition parties -- the Gabonese Union for Democracy and Development (UGDD) along with two smaller groupings, the African Development Movement (MAD) and the National Republican Rally (RNR).

### Black box data 'rules out sabotage' of Ethiopia jet

BLACK box data show sabotage cannot be blamed for the crash of an Ethiopian airliner that killed 90 people when it plunged into the sea off Beirut last month, a Lebanese minister said yesterday.

Transport Minister Ghazi Aridi said the conclusion was reached based on a preliminary report of technical information found in the flight data recorder following expert analysis in France.

The data "showed that all the aircraft's instruments functioned well until it crashed, which rejects the hypothesis of an act (of sabotage) involving an explosion," Aridi told a news conference at Beirut airport.

His comments came after the office of Information Minister Tareq Mitri issued a statement saying "there is absolutely no evidence

of an act of sabotage or a terrorist act." There have been conflicting reports as to whether the passenger jet exploded while airborne or after it hit the water.

The Lebanese government had already ruled out sabotage and pilot error as causes of the crash, but Ethiopian Airlines said on Wednesday that it could not reject any factor, including foul play.

Ethiopian Airlines Flight 409 plunged into the Mediterranean Sea shortly after takeoff from Beirut airport on January 25 during a fierce storm.

The Boeing 737-800 was bound for Addis Ababa with 83 passengers and seven crew on board. No survivors were found and searchers have been struggling to recover bodies as most victims are believed to be still strapped to their seats.

## International

## Sri Lankan police disperse pro-opposition protest

SRI Lankan police swinging batons dispersed a crowd yesterday protesting the detention of the defeated opposition presidential candidate, former army Chief Sarath Fonseka, who appealed to his supporters for calm.

Police arrested at least eight people, including a Buddhist monk, during the protest in Maharagama, a suburb of Colombo, according to an Associated Press photographer.

Military police arrested Fon-

seka on Monday on charges he plotted a coup while still in control of the armed forces.

Fonseka's followers say the move is revenge against him for daring to challenge President Mahinda Rajapaksa in last

month's election and is meant to prevent him from contesting April parliamentary elections.

A day after Fonseka was dragged from his office, the president dissolved parliament, setting the stage for April 8 polls, when

the ruling coalition is determined to cement its grip on power. Fonseka's wife Anoma said her husband told her to ask his supporters to "remain calm."

"His moral is very high, higher than what it was," she told reporters after visiting Fonseka at the naval base where he is being held.

On Wednesday, government backers hurled stones at supporters of Fonseka who were protesting his arrest in Colombo, sparking a clash that was broken up by police with tear gas. Six people including two policemen were injured. Fonseka's lawyers have filed an appeal against his detention, saying his rights were violated.

Rajapaksa and Fonseka were close allies in the government's victory last year against Tamil Tiger rebels, who fought for 25 years for an independent state. But Fonseka resigned after a fall-out and contested the presidency, losing to Rajapaksa by 17 percentage points.

Meanwhile, the United States urged Sri Lanka to protect the rights of opposition supporters and ensure the safety of journalists.

"The free expression of opinion and peaceful participation in the political process are fundamental democratic rights, which all citizens of Sri Lanka should enjoy," the U.S. Embassy said in a statement.

A reporter with a pro-opposition newspaper went missing days before the election and a newspaper editor has been detained under the country's wartime emergency laws.



SRI Lankan police officers detain an opposition protester during a protest in Maharagama, on the outskirts of the capital Colombo.

## Indonesia anti-graft official convicted in killing

INDONESIA'S former anti-graft chief was convicted of plotting the murder of a businessman and sentenced to 18 years in prison yesterday, in a case that has undermined the country's fight against corruption.

Prosecutors had demanded the death penalty for Antasari Azhar, a former head of the independent Corruption Eradication Commission, but the judge cited Azhar's politeness, dedication to the commission, and lack of a prior record in delivering the lighter sentence.

"The sentence is not intended as revenge, but to make the defendant aware of his mistakes," Judge Herri Swantoro said in South Jakarta District Court. Azhar, 56, said he would appeal.

Swantoro found Azhar guilty of plotting the March 15 killing of Nasrudin Zulkarnaen, director of pharmaceutical company PT Putra Rajawali Banjaran. He was shot through the window of his car as he left a golf course on the outskirts of Jakarta. "The defendant has been proven guilty of conspiring to plot a premeditated murder," Swantoro said.

Prosecutors say Zulkarnaen was blackmailing Azhar over an alleged sex-

ual encounter between Zulkarnaen's wife and Azhar. Azhar denied wrongdoing and described his arrest as a smear campaign in retaliation for his efforts to put high-ranking officials behind bars for corruption.

"I respect the verdict, but as a good citizen, give us a chance to seek justice," he told the court after being sentenced. "We will appeal."

Several dozen Azhar supporters erupted into a chorus of boos after the judge read the sentence, the conclusion of a four-month trial. Azhar showed little emotion, but hugged his two daughters before being led out of the courtroom.

The case attracted huge interest across the country, and the verdict was broadcast live on national television with the banner, "The end of the Antasari drama." Several hundred police stood guard and around 200 journalists jammed the courthouse.

In his two years as head of the anti-graft commission — better known as the KPK — Azhar oversaw a series of high-profile probes into government officials and institutions, including the father-in-law of one of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's sons.

## Afghan tribe takes first step in anti-Taliban pact

THE man accused of running drugs and abetting the Taliban sat on a bench in a room full of Afghan elders, glancing warily at the American diplomat and the Afghan police commander on either side of him.

The Americans had been planning to arrest 28-year-old Qari Rahmat, but held off in the hope that the leaders of his Shinwari tribe would persuade him to mend his ways.

The turnaround came this week, around a table laden with fruit and soft drinks, when Rahmat stood up and pledged fealty to the law and the Afghan constitution. He also denied having collaborated with the Taliban, but everyone seemed content to ignore the past so long as he was sincere about the future.

The scene that unfolded Tuesday, in front of US military commanders and a dozen bearded, shawl-draped elders, was the first evidence that the Shinwari tribe is making good on a pact signed by 170 elders last month to banish the Taliban from their corner of eastern Afghanistan.

The US pledged more than \$1 million to the tribe for development after the signing of the January agreement. Some may see it as a glimmer of hope that the Iraq experience of allying with tribes to fight

insurgents can be replicated in Afghanistan. But Rahmat's case is just the first since the signing of the pact, and even the Shinwari's pledge will be hard to copy elsewhere in Afghanistan. Many argue that the two countries are too different for analogies to be drawn.

"The way people in rural Afghanistan organize themselves is so different from rural Iraqi culture that calling them both 'tribes' is deceptive," says a September US Army report. "Tribes" in Afghanistan do not act as unified groups, as they have recently in Iraq."

It's also a controversial strategy, because President Hamid Karzai complains that too much foreign aid is bypassing his government and undermining its authority. But at least with the 600,000 Shinwaris in this small patch of Afghanistan, the approach appears to be working.

The tribal elders promised Rahmat that he wouldn't be arrested and will enter him in a government program to reconcile repentant Taliban — a key move that shows their willingness to work with the government.

If he breaks the rules, he'll be fined up to \$20,000 and "We'll burn his house down," said Usman, a Shinwari elder who like many Afghans goes by one name.

## International

### Former Uruguayan dictator sentenced to 30 years

FORMER dictator Juan Maria Bordaberry was sentenced to 30 years in prison for violating the constitution when he led a 1973 coup that began 12 years of dictatorship in Uruguay, the prosecutor said yesterday.

The 81-year-old Bordaberry is the second former Uruguayan dictator sentenced to a long prison term in the past four months, as the South American nation grapples with the 1973-85 dictatorship and its legacy of disappearances, torture and the exile of thousands of dissidents. In late October, ex-strongman Gregorio Alvarez was sentenced to 25 years.

Prosecutor Ana Maria Tellechea said yesterday that she had spoken with judge Mariana Motta, who informed her Bordaberry received a 30-year sentence — the maximum allowed under Uruguayan law. "Apparently the judge had the same interpretation that we had asked for in demanding a 30-year sentence for violating the constitution," Tellechea told The Associated Press. Bordaberry also faces charges for 11 homicides and forced disappearances of dissidents. Lawyers for Bordaberry have rejected the accusations against him.

Elected democratically in 1971, Bor-

daberry dissolved Congress and banned political parties the following year at the behest of military leaders who seized power outright in 1973. The military ousted Bordaberry in 1976, and Uruguay remained under the control of a right-wing dictatorship until 1985.

The former president-turned-dictator has been hospitalized for breathing troubles, leading a judge to let him remain under house arrest rather than be jailed during his prosecution. He has been in preventative detention since 2006. Bordaberry and his foreign minister, Juan Blanco, are the only civilians convicted or facing charges for alleged crimes committed during the dictatorship.

Ten members of the armed forces, including ex-dictator Alvarez, are in prison for human rights violations. Alvarez, Uruguay's final dictator, was convicted in connection with 37 homicides.

Prosecution of alleged human rights abuses during Uruguay's dictatorship accelerated when the small nation's first leftist president, Tabare Vazquez, took office in 2005. Bordaberry's son, Pedro, placed third in last November's presidential election that saw the candidate of the leftist governing party win.



FRENCH President Nicolas Sarkozy, right, shares a word with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreu, center, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel during an EU summit in Brussels.

### EU leaders offer Greece support, but no money

EUROPEAN Union leaders yesterday offered Greece moral support but no money to help it weather a debt crisis — vague assurances that didn't calm the market fear that has shaken the entire EU and undermined the shared euro currency.

The 16 countries that use the euro said only that they "will take determined and coordinated action, if needed, to safeguard financial stability in the euro as a whole."

But no money or loan guarantees were put on the table in the statement from a summit meeting in Brussels.

Markets appeared disappointed at not seeing a concrete backstop to ward off a potential default by Greece, which needs to borrow euro54 billion this year to cover its outsized budget deficit.

The Greek crisis is the leading edge of

the debt troubles that have hit governments in the developed world during the world's three years of economic turbulence, as they run up deficits bailing out banks and stimulating their economies.

A default would be a serious blow to Europe's monetary union, and fears that Athens might not be able to pay its debts have already led markets demanding higher borrowing costs for Greece.

There are also concerns that the contagion could spread to other financially wobbly countries, such as Portugal and Spain, and that other governments will have to pay more to borrow.

The leaders said Greece had not requested financial support and called on Athens to push through "in a rigorous and determined manner" its budget cuts that have already triggered protests and strikes — and to prepare bigger cuts if needed.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA  
OGUN-OSHUN RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
ALABATA ROAD, P.M.B 2115, ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE.

#### INVITATION FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL BIDS

- 1.0 INTRODUCTION:**  
Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority (O-ORBDA), a parastatal under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (FMA&WR) is desirous of executing some approved capital projects under its 2009 Budget Appropriation.
- 2.0 INVITATION:**  
In view of the above, registered and reputable Consultants and Contractors are hereby invited to submit both Technical and Financial bids for the execution of the project, as follows:  
**LOT A:** Design Review of Ede Headworks.  
**LOT B:** Construction of Centre Pivot Irrigation System with complete Accessories at Oke-odan.  
**LOT C:** Auxiliary Works on Oke-Odan Irrigation Scheme.
- 3.0 SCOPE OF WORKS**  
**LOTA :** Design Review of Water supply Infrastructures for Existing Dam and study on Rehabilitation needs of the Dam.  
**LOT B:** Construction of one unit of 45 hectares centre pivot irrigation system with complete accessories.  
**LOT C:** Site Clearing, Land leveling and access road.
- 4.0 REQUIREMENTS FROM CONSULTANTS/ CONTRACTORS**  
i Evidence of Legal Status of the Company(Certificate of Incorporation/Registration with CAC.  
ii Registration with relevant bodies such as COREN (Corporate Registration) for Consultants only.  
iii Company Profile and address of Business.  
iv Previous Experience on similar jobs.  
v Work Programme/ Service methodology and Organizational Chart( for Consultants only.)  
vi Project Personnel Compliment(List) with Curriculum Vitae(CV) and photocopies of certificates.  
vii Evidence of Registration with Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority.  
viii Evidence as manufacturer or accredited Agent/ Dealer in Nigeria( for Lot B)  
ix Current Tax Clearance Certificate.x 3 year Audited Report.  
xi Letter of Reference from a reputable Commercial Bank.

The tender documents are obtainable on the presentation of Bank tellers for the payment of non-refundable fee of N15, 000 for Lot A, N50,000.00 for Lot B and N25,000.00 for Lot C. Fees are payable to OORBDA account number: 0271301006703, Oceanic Bank International Plc, Ibara, Abeokuta.

- 5.0 SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:**  
Completed technical and financial documents should be submitted in four (4) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy per project - Microsoft Office (in a clearly labeled flash disk) packaged in separate sealed envelopes and marked TECHNICAL PROPOSAL OR FINANCIAL PROPOSAL. Both envelopes should then be enclosed in a third large envelope with the title of the project and Lot identification clearly written at the top right hand corner of the envelope, and addressed to:

The Managing Director,  
Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority,  
Alabata Road, P.M.B.2115, Abeokuta.  
To reach his office at room 2, O-ORBDA headquarters, Abeokuta not later than 4.00pm, Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.

- 6.0 ENQUIRIES**  
All enquiries relating to the submission of above stated proposals should be directed to: The Executive Director (Operations), O-ORBDA, 08033491900 or 08033479021

- 7.0 BID OPENING**  
The submitted bids shall be opened on Monday, 1st March, 2010 by 10.00am and all Consultants are mandated to be in attendance or send their representatives.

SIGNED:  
Managing Director.



## FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ZARIA.

P.M.B. 1041  
ZARIA – KADUNA STATE.

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ON CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND ICT CAPACITY

#### A. INTRODUCTION

The Federal College of Education, Zaria invites interested and reputable Consultants to express interest for Consultancy Services on its proposed upgrading of ICT Infrastructure and ICT Capacity Building which includes but not limited to; Provision of Bandwidth, LAN including wireless LAN, Computer Systems, Server System, data transfer software and training of personnel.

#### SCOPE OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The scope of the Consultancy Services shall include but not limited to the preparation of tender documents such as designs, bills of quantities and supervision of the execution of the contract.

All interested suitably qualified, experienced and reputable Consultants are to submit their expression of interest proposal which shall be rendered in English Language.

#### B. QUALIFYING CRITERIA.

Bidders are required to submit the following.

##### GENERAL

- i) Evidence of Incorporation or Business Name Registration
- ii) Evidence of Current Tax Clearance (last three years).
- iii) Evidence of VAT Registration and evidence of past VAT remittances
- iv) Evidence of current registration with relevant professional bodies.

##### TECHNICAL

- v) Verifiable evidence of having successfully provided Consultancy Services (designed/supervised) similar works in the past, names of client(s), location of projects, contract sum with the letters of engagement and photographs.
- vi) Company profile with names and qualifications of key technical and administrative personnel to be used (photocopies of CVs, Registration Certificates and Numbers will be required).
- vii) Name and addresses of Bankers and their recommendations
- viii) Any other relevant information that will be helpful in determining the Consultant's suitability for the work.

It is important to note that the College will verify claims of prospective Consultants and any false declaration/documentation will attract instant disqualification.

#### CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CONSULTANTS.

The Consultants shall be evaluated based on the documents submitted in (i) to viii above.

#### C. SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

The completed documents shall be forwarded to the address below in sealed enveloped. The envelope containing the documents should be clearly marked on top as EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES". The submission should be addressed and submitted to:

**The Registrar,  
Federal College of Education,  
Zaria.**

The submission must be made within 30 days from the date of this publication (i.e on or before 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010). Only short-listed firms will be contacted to proceed to the next stage of the process.

The College reserves the right to reject any or all the submissions.

**J.S. DANJUMA  
REGISTRAR.**



## NATIONAL TEACHERS' INSTITUTE, KADUNA

### ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the General Public, particularly the Year One Students of Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE), Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) and other registered programmes of the National Teachers' Institute, Kaduna, who have recently registered, that Tutorials/Lectures will commence on February 27, 2010, in all Study Centres across the country and for continuing Students, Tutorials/Lectures had already begun since January 29, 2010.

The Institute also wishes to inform its prospective students that application for Admission in to the Institute's programmes is now online. Scratch card(s) can be obtained at any branch of BankPHB nationwide.

**Announcer: Dr Aminu Ladan Sharehu**

**Director General/Chief Executive**

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN AN EXCELLENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

- ✓ Are you from the North-West, North-East or North-Central Geo-political Zone?
- ✓ Are you a University Graduate with at least SECOND CLASS UPPER in any field?
- ✓ Have you recently participated in and completed the NYSC Scheme?
- ✓ Can you prove your educational qualities via a written and oral screening process?
- ✓ Are you interested in charting a wonderful career in Nigeria's ever-challenging financial services industry?

If you answered YES to the above questions, then kindly e-mail your curriculum vitae in ms-word to:

**ismail@yhassociates-ng.com** OR submit by hand at:  
Suite A-13, First Floor, Umami Plaza, off Zaria Road,  
Opposite House of Assembly, Kano.

**Submissions received after 5.00pm, Thursday,  
February 18, 2010 will be rejected.**

# ABCON

ASSOCIATION OF BUREAUX DE CHANGE OPERATORS OF NIGERIA

## NOTICE OF RELOCATION

*This is to inform all members of the Association and the general public that the offices of the Association has been relocated to the official ABCON Houses recently acquired in Lagos and Abuja respectively as follow*

### LAGOS: NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

*Moved from*

No.19 Mojidi Street, off Toyin Street, Ikeja Lagos

*To*

**ABCON HOUSE, No. 4 Oluwaleyimu Street, by end of Unity Road, opp. Youth Sports Centre, Ikeja Lagos.**

*(Official commissioning holds today)*

### ABUJA OFFICE

*Moved from*

AP-B14, AMAC Plaza, Sultan Abubakar Way, Beside Heritage House, Wuse Zone 3, Abuja

*To*

**ABCON HOUSE, Block 20, 5th Avenue, Gwarimpa Estate, Abuja**

*(Official commissioning holds in March)*

*Signed*

**Alhaji Farouk Suleiman**  
President

**Dr. Emmanuel Balogun**  
1st Vice President



**NATIONAL BUSINESS AND TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD (NABTEB)**

P. M. B. 1747, Ikpoba Hill, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria

**MAY/JUNE 2010 NATIONAL BUSINESS CERTIFICATE (NBC) AND NATIONAL TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE (NTC) EXAMINATIONS**  
3RD MAY - 4TH JUNE, 2010

Registration Scratch Cards for the above - examinations, primarily for in-school candidates, are available for sale at the following selling points:

1. NABTEB ZONAL OFFICES IN ABUJA, BENIN CITY, ENUGU, KADUNA, LAGOS AND YOLA.
  2. NABTEB STATE OFFICES NATIONWIDE.
  3. DESIGNATED BRANCHES OF: FIRST BANK, UBA, ZENITH BANK, UNION BANK, SKYE BANK, SPRING BANK, GUARANTY TRUST BANK, UNITY BANK, PROSPERITY MICRO FINANCE BANK AND OKUTA MICRO FINANCE BANK.
  4. NABTEB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, IKPOBA HILL, BENIN CITY.
- The General Education Subjects and examinable Trades are as follows:

#### EXAMINABLE GENERAL EDUCATION SUBJECTS

SUBJECT CODE	SUBJECT TITLE	SUBJECT CODE	SUBJECT TITLE
001	English Language	005	Chemistry
002	Mathematics	006	Biology
003	Economics	007	Lit.-in-English
004	Physics	008	Info & Com. Tech.(ICT)

#### EXAMINABLE TRADES

TRADE CODE	NBTE CURRICULA TRADE TITLE	TRADE CODE	NBTE CURRICULA TRADE TITLE
010	Agric. Equip. & Impl. Mech. Works	210	Bricklaying, Blocklaying & Concreting
020	Motor Vehicle Mechanics Works	220	Carpentry & Joinery
030	Automobile Electrical Works	230	Furniture Making
040	Elect. Installation & Maint. Works	240	Machine Wood Working
050	Fabrication and Welding	250	Painting and Decorating
060	Mechanical Engineering Craft Practice	260	Plumbing and Pipe Fitting
070	Electronics Works	270	Draughtmanship Craft Practice
080	Refrigeration & Air conditioning Practice	<b>MISCELLANEOUS TRADES (NTC)</b>	
090	Vehicle Body Building	310	Cosmetology
100	Light Vehicle Repair Works	320	Men's Garment Making
110	Instrument Mechanics Works	330	Ladies' Garment Making
120	Appliance Maintenance and Repairs	340	Catering Craft Practice
130	Foundry Craft Practice	350	Leather Trades
150	Marine Engineering Craft	360	Printing Craft Practice
160	Ship Building Craft Practice	370	Textile Trades
170	Computer Craft Studies	380	Graphic Arts
180	Animal Husbandry	390	Ceramics
200	Fisheries	440	Tourism
400	Photographic Practice	<b>BUSINESS STUDIES (NBC)</b>	
		410	Secretarial Duties
		420	Book-Keeping
		430	Salesmanship

**EXAMINATION FEE:** All intending schools/colleges must obtain a Registration Scratch Card at the rate of N3,500.00 per candidate for General Education subjects and Trades without practicals and N4,000.00 per candidate for Trades with practicals or Shorthand. A result checking scratch card can also be purchased at N500.00 per candidate.

**REGISTRATION PERIOD:** Registration commences on Friday, 8th January, 2010 and ends on Wednesday 31st March, 2010.

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Colleges/Schools should follow the instructions at the back of the scratch card, log on to [registration.nabtebnigeria.org](http://registration.nabtebnigeria.org) then carefully study the Entry Guide, Examination Structure, Time-Table, List of Centres and Trades available at each Centre, as well as other relevant instructions.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION:

- a. Candidates who wish to offer any Trade that is not included in this advertisement may wish to enrol for the trade through any of the NABTEB approved centres in the Nov/Dec 2010 examination series.
- b. Only good quality coloured passport photographs with **red background** will be accepted. Any other background will not be accepted.
- c. Only reputable and standard Cyber Cafes are **highly recommended** for use as the Board will not be liable for registration errors committed by the Schools/Colleges.
- d. Candidates who lose their Scratch Card(s) will be required to purchase another card.

**SIGNED**  
Registrar/Chief Executive

# Notice to Oando Shareholders

Rights Circulars have been sent directly to shareholders by the registrars. **However Shareholders who are yet to receive their rights circular by now should contact or visit First Registrars liaison offices across Nigeria.**

**Head Office**  
Plot 2 Abebe Village Road,  
Iganmu, Lagos  
**Tel: 01- 7349745**  
**Tel: 08023162358**  
Contact: Muri Otun

**Kano Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria limited  
Behind First Bank Kano Main Branch  
#10 Lagos Street Kano, Kano State  
**Tel: 07028383017**  
Contact: Femi Oyelani

**Ibadan Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria limited  
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c/o 48 Molete Challenge Road, (2nd  
Floor), Opposite Texaco Filling  
Station, Ibadan, Oyo State  
**Tel: 07028383005**  
Contact: Michael Olaoye

**Port Harcourt Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria limited  
c/o First Bank of Nigeria PLC,  
22/24 Aba Road (2nd floor)  
Port Harcourt, Rivers State  
**Tel: 07028471251**  
Contact: Kunle Oyegunle

**Enugu Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria limited  
First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
21 Okpara Avenue, Enugu  
**Tel: 046: 500944**  
Contact: Isaac Medaiyeju

**Abuja Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria Limited  
3, Jos Street, (2nd Floor)  
Opposite Sharon Ultimate  
Area 3, Garki Abuja FCT  
**Tel: 09:6706140, 07028418635**  
Telefax: 092:341202  
Contact: Wunmi Senkoya (Mrs)

**Kaduna Liaison**  
First Registrars Nigeria limited  
c/o First Bank of Nigeria PLC,  
14 Bank Road, Kaduna (Main Branch)  
Kaduna State  
**Tel: 062:87612, 07028471130**  
Contact: Muyiwa Olabode

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Aba Main Branch**  
2 Asa Road, Aba  
Abia State  
**Tel: 08037734738**  
Contact: Chinedu Ndubuiro

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Calabar Main Branch**  
17 Calabar Road, Calabar  
Cross River State  
**Tel: 08035368997, 07027170557**  
Contact: Femi Dosu

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Nnebisi Road, Asaba**  
Delta State  
**Tel: 08062849488**  
Contact: Femi Komolafe

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Benin King's Square Branch**  
Edo State  
**Tel: 08058609669, 07029028098**  
Contact: Abiola Taiwo

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Owerri Main Branch**  
11/12 Assumpta Avenue  
Owerri, Imo State  
**Tel: 08084069449**  
Contact: Seun Fadipe

First Bank of Nigeria PLC  
**Abeokuta Branch**  
95 Obafemi Awolowo Road  
Abeokuta, Ogun State  
**Tel: 08028123301, 07029811117**  
Contact: Adetutu Muili

## Oando (Hotlines)

0706 263 85 30  
0812 340 59 22  
0805 666 10 00  
0805 666 90 00  
0805 666 55 00

0705 214 16 76  
0809 529 93 24  
0704 251 84 21

01 270 2400  
01 448 4500  
01 448 4700

(Ext: 6600, 6601)

Email: [rights@oandopl.com](mailto:rights@oandopl.com)

# BUSINESS

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FROM left: Chairman, Senate Committee on Banking Nkechi Nwogu, a director in Nigerian Export-Import Bank (NEXIM) Rotimi Adewumi, Managing Director of NEXIM Roberts Urija and President of ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) Christian Adovalandi at the signing of \$20m line of credit agreement between NEXIM and EBID in Abuja yesterday.

## NEXIM gets \$20m credit from ECOWAS Bank

By Idris Ahmed & Sunday Williams

NIGERIAN Export Import Bank (NEXIM) yesterday secured a Credit Line Agreement of \$20 million (about N2.9 billion) from the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) to facilitate trade link within the sub-region.

The agreement was signed between NEXIM Managing Director Robert U. Orya and EBID President Mr. Christian Adovalandi in Abuja.

Adovalandi said the amount would provide a medium to long term funds to purchase the needed raw materials to develop infrastructure within the West Africa countries.

He said the money would also make provision for short and medium term loan to facilitate trade inflows as well as to generate employment in the region, saying this will "contribute to the prospect of balance of payment."

He said the loan was granted to NEXIM base on sound financial analysis.

He said the loan would enable NEXIM to overcome challenges of opening up boarder constrains within the continent.

Managing Director of NEXIM said decline in the formal trade flows between West African countries have brought about dearth of trade statistical data for policy planning and formulation.

He said formal trade flows between Nigeria to other ECOWAS countries is particularly low.

He said: "Although some key stakeholders have also identified ignorance of the prospects of formal trade in the region and many other transactional bottlenecks as the basis for weakened trade in the region, permit me to say that the major problem is largely that of inadequate investment funds to finance and facilitate formal trade for prospective exporters and importers."

"I believe the time has come for Nigeria as a major player with leadership role in the ECOWAS region to develop and strengthen trade flows."

He said NEXIM has approved an initial take-off seed fund of N500 million for exporters to attract foreign capital inflow

and intra-regional integration.

Minister of state for Finance Remi Babalola said the ministry would support NEXIM to actualise its mandate and vision. He was represented by Mr. Winy Barry, a director in the ministry.

Yesterday, NEXIM and EBID also launched ECOWAS Trade Support Facility (ETSF) to boost export and import trade in the subregion.

ETSF was designed to provide short term financial accommodation to exporters in support of their trading activities in the West African sub-region.

Under this facility, unprocessed goods, agriculture produce, raw materials, packaging materials, industrial products (processed or semi processed) as well as finished goods wholly produced in members state are supported.

These goods must have a minimum of 60 per cent local raw materials content and value-added of at least 30 per cent of the ex-factory price of the finished goods with exception of armaments, ammunition and other military equipment, psychotropic drugs or narcotic.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE



**Arik Air**  
 PH-Abuja: 08.45, 1212.50, 17.00 (Mon-Fri), 08.45, 17.30 (Sat), 14.40, 17.30 (Sun); Abuja-PH: 07.15, 11.20, 15.30 (Mon-Fri), 07.15, 16.00 (Sat) 14.40, 17.30 (Sun); Lagos-Kano: 12.20pm (Mon-Fri/Sun)  
 Kano-Lagos: 02.35pm (Mon-Fri/Sun); Abuja-Kano: 03:35pm (Mon-Fri/Sun); Kano-Abuja: 05:20pm (Mon-Fri/Sun); Abuja-Gombe: 11:10am (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun); Gombe-Abuja: 12.30pm (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun); Lagos-Yola: Lag-Abj 04:50pm, via Abj-Yola 06:45pm (Mon-Fri/Sun); Yola-Lagos: Yola-Abj 08:40am, Abj-Lagos 10:20am (Mon-Fri/Sat); Lagos-Maid: Lag-Abj 03:50pm, via Abj-Maid 06:00pm (Mon-Fri/Sun); Maid-Lagos: Miud-Abj 07:30am, via Abj-Lag 09:15am (Mon-Fri/Sat); Abuja-Sokoto: 11:10am (Mon-Fri); Sokoto-Abuja: 12:50pm (Mon-Fri) Abuja-Akure 02:10pm (Mon, Wed and Fri); Akure-Abuja: 08:50am (Mon, Wed and Fri); Lagos-Kwara: 07:30am, (Mon-Fri) 07.30, 03:50pm Sat 08:00am, 11:45am Sun; Kwara-Lagos: 4:10pm (Mon-Fri), 01:10pm, 05:30pm Sat 09:45am, 05:00pm Sun  
 Abuja-Kwara: 03:25pm (Mon-Fri); Kwara-Abuja 01.30pm (Mon-Fri); Lagos-Jos: 09:05am (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun); Jos-Lagos: 11.00am (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun) ABV-QOW 02:30pm (Mon-Fri), 11:30am Sat 03:20pm Sun; Lagos-Kaduna: 10:20am, 04:10pm (Mon-Fri), 10.20 (Sat/Sun); Kaduna-Lagos: 12:10pm, 06:00pm (Mon-Fri), 12.10 (Sat/Sun); Lagos-Warr: 07:30am (Mon/Fri) 07:30am, 03:50pm (Sat), 08:00am, and 11:45am (Sun)

**Aero Contractors**  
 Lagos-Kad: 08.00am (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)  
 Kad-Lagos: 09.40am (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)  
 Lagos-Jos: 11.15am (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)  
 Jos-Lagos: 13.15pm (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)  
 Lagos-Abj: 06.50; 13.30; 16.30; 19.45 (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun); 12.30 (Sun) 16.45 (Sat). Abj-Lagos: 07.30; 13.30; 19.00 (Mon-Fri/Sat); 10.30, 14.30; 19.30 (Sun) 18.30 (Sat); Lagos-Ben: 07:45; 11:00; 15:30; (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun) 12.30; (Sun); 15.30 (Sat).

### Trust Index

Inflation	→ 12%
GDP	→ 6.90%
Budget	→ N3.1tr
External Reserves Acct	→ \$42.8bn
Excess Crude Acct	→ \$6.2bn
Poverty Ratio	→ 54.4%
Interest Ratio	→ 6%
Banks	→ 24
Oil Price	→ \$72 a barrel
Power Supply	→ 2,700MW
Oil output per day	→ 1.9mbd

CBN

### CBN EXCHANGE RATES

2/8/2010

	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
CFA	0.2976	0.3076	0.3176
DANISH KRONER	27.1445	27.2362	27.3279
EURO	202.16	202.8433	203.5265
POUNDS STERLING	230.4313	231.2101	231.9889
RIYAL	39.4507	39.584	39.7173
SDR	228.0495	228.8203	229.591
SWISS FRANC	137.7852	138.2509	138.7166
US DOLLAR	147.94	148.44	148.94
WAUA	229.9588	230.736	231.5132
YEN	1.6559	1.6615	1.6671

### BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

BUYING	
DOLLAR	.....N151
EURO	.....N210
POUNDS	.....N243
SELLING	
DOLLAR	.....N153
EURO	.....N213
POUNDS	.....N246

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

### Stock Market Index

Date: Thursday, February 11, 2010

Index:	23,130.44
Deals:	6,521
Volume:	410,774,121
Value:	N 3,384,223,251.26
Cap.:	N 5,571,023,603,838.14

## Business

# NNPC acquires tracking device for oil vessels

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE management of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has approved purchase and deployment of ultra modern vessel tracking device to enable it track ships and ocean liners conveying petroleum products to Nigeria.

The Corporation said the device will ensure a complete sanitization of the petroleum products supply and distribution chain in the country under the supervision of the newly created task force "NNPC War Room."

The War Room which is a special task force was created last week by the Group Managing Director of the NNPC Dr. Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo with a stern directive to end the perennial fuel supply and distribution challenge noticeable in some Nigerian cities especially Lagos and Abuja within seven days.

Throwing more light on the use of the device Mallam Farouk Ahmed, Executive Director Commercial, Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC), a subsidiary of the NNPC, explained that the device which has since been deployed to maximum benefit by the 'War Room', enables the Corporation to predict with exactitude when vessels would arrive and make contingency arrangement in case of any delay in arrival.

"It helps us to monitor the vessels from the loading port to the discharge port. We know the speed at which she is travelling,



MINISTER of Petroleum Resources Rilwan Lukman

the exact coordinate, where she is heading for and estimated time of arrival. We also know if she is stationary or has broken down or gone somewhere to take bunkers", Ahmed explained.

He also stated that the service which is being facilitated by Reu-

ters ensures that no supplier can mislead the NNPC on the status of in-coming vessels on the high sea.

A statement from the NNPC's spokesman, Dr Levi Ajuonuma said as part of efforts to sustain the steady flow of fuel to fillings, stations across the country the War

Room on Wednesday dispatched massive volume of fuels to the Lagos and Abuja areas as well as some other major cities across the country.

In Lagos and its environs a total of over 17.3 million litres of premium motor spirits was dispatched in 526 trucks. Abuja and its extended environs received over 8.9 million litres of fuel. Huge figures relative to the consumption levels were also recorded throughout the country.

More support came the way of the NNPC War Room with the declaration of solidarity by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) and the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG).

Speaking during a brief visit to the War Room, Comrade Babatunde Ogun, President of PENGASSAN described the War Room efforts as something which must be sustained to ensure a holistic sanitization of both the upstream and downstream sectors of the oil industry in Nigeria.

The National President of NUPENG Comrade Achese Igwe echoed the need to sustain and also consolidate on the gains of the interventionist task force.

"For us in NUPENG we believe in the strategies of the War Room. We are happy because the war room did not limit its dragnet to NNPC alone but also made use of informed ideas from other key stakeholders across the oil and gas industry. This spirit must be allowed to pervade the Industry", Igwe said.

## Investors say Shell frustrates gas to power projects

By Hamisu Muhammad

INVESTORS in the gas sector have accused Shell Petroleum Development Company of refusing them access to the gas fields for development.

The investors expressed disappointment when they visited the Minister of Petroleum Resources Dr Rilwan Lukman recently in his office, saying that the non-cooperative attitude of the Shell Petroleum Development Company and other major oil companies in allowing them access to gas fields within their areas of operation is frustrating.

The activities of these multinational oil companies, according to the investors, is constituting a major set-back to the effort of federal government at accelerating gas production for domestic power generation.

Speaking at the meeting in the Ministry of Petroleum in Abuja, the Executive Chairman, Petrolog Group, Vincent Ebuah said lack of cooperation from the international oil companies which were not allowing the gas investors access to the gas fields is delaying the project.

"We identified about 24 fields but we were only allowed access to four", he said.

In December 24, 2009, the Federal government entered into a memorandum of understanding with various companies interested in developing the gas sector with the intention of reaching final production agreement latest by March this year.

Responding to the investors' complain, the Minister of Petroleum Resources Dr Rilwan Lukman reiterated the commitment of the Federal Government to stop gas flaring at the nation's 187 oil flow stations through the vehicle of the accelerated Gas Development Projects.

Dr. Lukman said the "Actualization of the Accelerated Gas Development Projects" were conceived as a window to stop gas flaring on one hand, and on the other hand to provide feedstock for improved power generation and other industrial and economic uses.

While acknowledging the challenges the sector had faced in the immediate past and the success of the Amnesty programme, the Honourable Minister said, "The success of the programme had convinced us that with these accelerated Gas Development Projects, we can get more gas to be supplied for power generation and for our industries."

He stated further that, "the accelerated gas projects is backed by government and would materialise without prejudice to the gas Masterplan as they were designed as integrated and complementary to the gas Masterplan."

## Sanusi knocks BPE over inability to fix power sector

By Yunus Abdulhamid

GOVERNOR of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Sanusi Lamido Sanusi has criticised the management of the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) for its inability to fix the Nigeria power sector through deregulation and concessioning.

He however pledged to collaborate with the Bureau to carry out reforms in the various sectors of the economy.

The CBN boss said this when the management team of BPE led by its Director-General Dr. Chris-

topher Anyanwu paid a courtesy visit to the Governor on Wednesday in Abuja, a statement from the BPE spokesman Mr Chigbo Anichebe said.

He charged BPE to take full responsibility for its actions, pointing out that the failure of the Bureau to fix power in the country is impacting negatively on the organization and indeed, the nation's economy.

"If you are able to fix power in the country, you will endear yourself to Nigerians because power drives the economy and we at the CBN are willing to assist you

achieve the goal", the CBN Governor said.

Sanusi said that for the country to move forward "power must be deregulated and concessioned", noting that the huge amount of money expended by the government in the sector has not yielded the desired results.

According to him, banks were unwilling to grant lending in the sector because of the non-involvement of private investment "and you can't have economic growth in the hands of government or an opportunistic few."

BPE's boss told the CBN gover-

nor that the Bureau shares in the vision of his reforms in the banking sector.

Anyanwu said that the reforms in the banking sector had inspired confidence in depositors and that the financial sector is vital to the privatization programme.

He solicited the co-operation of the CBN in the privatization exercise, particularly the Nigeria Security Minting and Printing Company and NIPOST, adding that from time to time, the Bureau would hold consultations with the apex bank on the reform programme.

## NNPC, marketers dispatch 490 trucks of fuel to Lagos

By Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

THE Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation in conjunction with major oil marketers have dispatched over 490 truck-

loads of premium Motor Spirits, PMS into filling stations in Lagos and its immediate environs at the weekend.

Spokesman of the Corporation Levi Ajuonuma said in a state-

ment that over 218 trucks were dispatched from NNPC facilities and over 272 trucks by major marketers into fuel stations in Lagos on Tuesday.

According to him, in Abuja

the volume of petrol in filling stations was boosted with the dispersal of extra 224 trucks of PMS from the Suleja Depot to Abuja and its extended environs.

## Business/Finance

# Toxic assets to cost AMC N1 trillion

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE proposed Asset Management Company (AMC) will require N1 trillion to mop up the toxic assets in banks, the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Lamido Sanusi has said.

He said when fully established, the AMC would be able to realise N500 billion.

He spoke yesterday in Lagos at the Business Day conference on "banking reforms in Nigeria, what next after CBN intervention".

He indicated a possible categorisation of Nigerian banks according to their financial strengths from the present N25 billion mandatory capital base.

According to him the AMC would also serve as a recapitalisation process of the affected banks besides taking over the toxic assets. Sanusi re-iterated the CBN uncompromising stands on prudential policy, corporate governance and risk management in the banks.

He also indicated that guidelines on lending will be released March. This he attributed to CBN's commitment to the development of the real sector.

According to him, though consolidation was good, but going forward we would have specialised and categorised banks.

In his remarks, the Minister for Finance Remi Babalola called for the banking reforms to be extended to other financial services areas like insurance.

He lauded the reforms even as he called for more political prowess to be added to the reform initiative to succeed holistically.

He indicated that the capital market would also be overhauled soon but assured that it would be done in a way the economy would not be affected.

He tasked the CBN governor to produce a blueprint on its reform process and make it available to Nigerians so everyone can understand the vision and wisdom behind it.

The Nigerian Deposits Insurance Corporation (NDIC) boss Alhaji Umaru Ibrahim said NDIC is positioned to be able to pay depositors within 90 days after a bank is liquidated.

This however, he said would require the NDIC having a database of all depositors of banks adding that the law is also been looked at. He called on the CBN and NDIC to collaborate and resuscitate the CBN/NDIC committee on banking supervision as a panacea to stop further abuse in the banks.

He said the NDIC is also currently building capacity on deposit insurance for Islamic banking and Malaysia has been consulted for that. He advised banks against unnecessary risks.



CBN Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi

## First bank, GTB, Stanbic get 240m euros from EIB

By Idris Ahmed

FIRST Bank of Nigeria Plc, Guaranty Trust Bank and Stanbic IBTC on Wednesday received 240 million euros (about N48.4 billion) loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB).

The loan will be used to facilitate private and public private partnership infrastructure projects in the country, a statement from EIB said.

The loan was signed under the "Nigeria Framework Loan", which represents the largest single investment by the EIB. EIB is the long-term lending institution of the European Union.

According to the statement, "Nigeria has specific needs in infrastructure and the Nigeria Framework Loan will make a considerable contribution to improving infrastructure in the country."

"We look forward to working closely with three of the strongest banks in Nigeria to increase infrastructure finance in the country, following regulatory reforms and transformation of the banking sector."

The statement quoted Plutarchos Sakellaris, the European

Investment Bank Vice-President responsible for sub-Saharan Africa as saying that the three banks have maintained leadership role in governance, transparency and risk management.

Group Managing Director of First Bank Mr Bisi Onasanya said that the bank's tradition of firm governance, financial strength, conservative management and depth of expertise have equip the bank to rebuild trust in the industry and create a more stable financial sector.

"We will take all necessary steps to ensure the effective administration of the Nigeria Framework Loan infrastructure facility to enable its successful implementation", she was quoted.

According to the statement, Chief Executive Officer of Stanbic IBTC Chris Newson described the deal as "yet another indication of the bank's commitment to infrastructure development across Nigeria and compliments other existing sources of long term funding for the Bank."

"We are once again delighted to be working with the EIB and see this as a vote of confidence in the bank as well as Nigeria's long term potential."

"Nigeria Framework Loan", which represents the largest single investment by the EIB. EIB is the long-term lending institution of the European Union

## NAICOM settles N822m complaints in 2009

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) has said that it settled a total of 106 complaints involving N822 million in 2009.

A statement from NAICOM said that, the Complaint Bureau of NAICOM received a total of 298 complaints in 2009 compared to 357 in 2008. The statement was issued by NAICOM's spokesman Lucky Fiapa.

The decrease in the number of complaints is an indication that the level of complaints on unsettled claims is on the decline. It also shows that underwriters are improving in their claims settlement.

"It is also evident from the number of complaints handled by the Bureau that the insuring public is becoming aware of the role of NAICOM as the government agency responsible for insurance related matters and so insurance related complaints were forwarded to NAICOM accordingly", the statement said.

This accounted for the fairly large number of complaints received from individuals, corporate bodies and government establishments in 2009.

The statement said that NAICOM Insurance Company had the highest number of 64 settled claims involving the sum of N626 million.

On the average, the nature of complaints received in 2009 bordered on delay in settlements of claims, bond related issues and pension matters. This is similar to the cases handled in 2008.

## Bankers to brainstorm on credit administration, debt recovery

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

BANKERS and experts will converge in Lagos to examine and proffer solutions to credit administration, debt recovery and the skills needed to maintain standards that will guarantee stability and soundness of the financial.

The platform will be the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN)'s workshop on Credit Administration and Debt Recovery scheduled for February 17 and 18 at the Bankers' House, Lagos.

A statement from CIBN indicates that participants would be drawn from legal practitioners, Law enforcement agencies and other financial consultants.

The main objectives of the course are to equip participants with the basic and latest requirements in credit administration, debt recovery and the skills needed to maintain standards that will guarantee stability and soundness of the financial and allied sectors.

Some of the speakers include Dr. Biodun Adedipe, Managing Partner, B. Adedipe Associates, Mr. Anthony Esangbedo, Former Executive Director, Management Risk and Control of Union Bank of Nigeria Plc and Barrister Shirley Okonkwo, Senior Associate, Penuka Attorney and Solicitor.

In 2009, the European Investment Bank provided over 1.1 billion euros (USD 1.5bn) of funding to sub-Saharan Africa. The Bank provides a broad range of financing instruments including loans, guarantees and risk capital to Africa selecting projects that can deliver sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits.



# FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION

## FRSC: SCORING TOWARDS A VISION OF SAFE ROADS, FULLY

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2008/2009

#### CRASH DATA

- ➔ No of road crashes declined by 4.32%
- ➔ No of deaths declined by 10.52%
- ➔ No of people injured declined by 2.52%
- ➔ Abuja Emergency Ambulance Service Scheme rescued 658 casualties since it was introduced in Aug 2009

#### ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- ➔ No of offenders arrested increased by 39.56%
- ➔ No of offences booked increased by 3.79%
- ➔ Fines generated increased by 28.62% and crossed the 1billion naira mark.

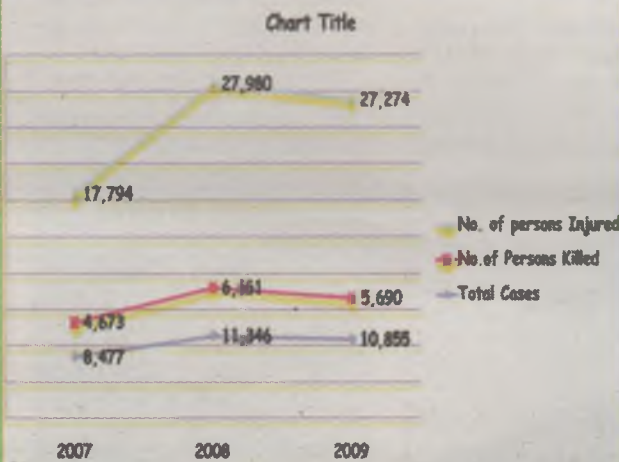
#### ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES

- ➔ Unit Commands increased from 126 in 2007 to 162 in 2009 the percentage is 28.57%
- ➔ No of registered operators under the RTSSS grew by 28.39% to 2,116 operators.
- ➔ Staff optimization completed with over 3,000 officers redeployed.
- ➔ FRSC corporate road map 90% completed.
- ➔ World Bank Safe Corridor project on course.

### ROAD TRAFFIC CRASH (2007 - 2009)

Year	Total Cases	No. of Persons Killed	No. of persons Injured
2007	8,477	4,673	17,794
2008	11,346	6,661	27,980
2009	10,855	5,690	27,274

### ROAD TRAFFIC CRASH (2007 - 2009)



Despite the increase in vehicular density, FRSC through sustained patrol operation has been reducing the rate of road carriage and its severity

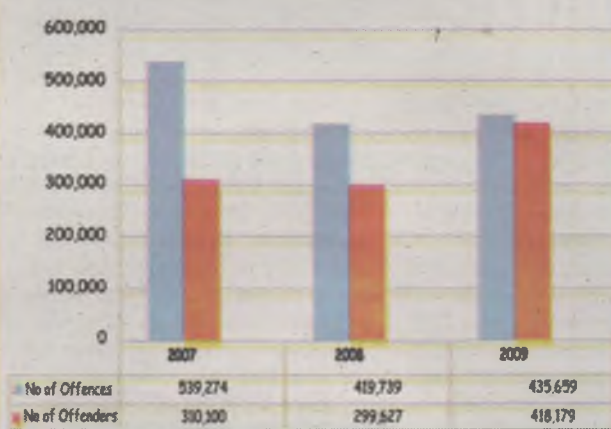
### OVERLOADING VIOLATION: SUMMARY OF ARRESTS BY GEO-POLITICAL ZONES (JAN - DEC 2009)

ZONES	TOTAL ARREST	% OF ARRESTS
NORTH - WEST	364	3.64%
NORTH - EAST	1021	10.12%
NORTH - CENTRAL	2113	21.15%
SOUTH - WEST	4143	41.48%
SOUTH - EAST	838	8.39%
SOUTH - SOUTH	1513	15.15%
TOTAL	9992	

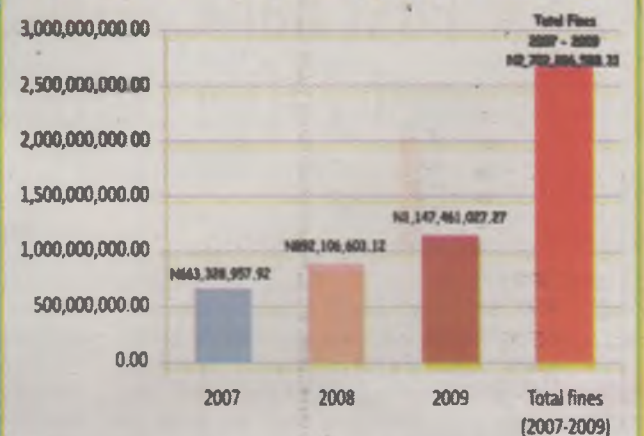
### ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW COMMANDS



### ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES



### FINES GENERATED (2007 - 2009)

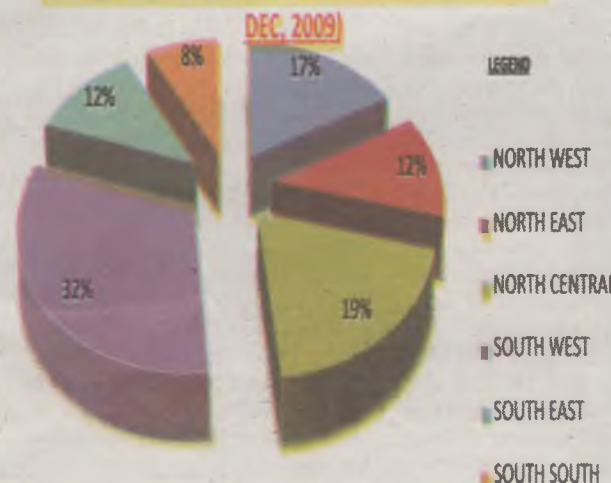


Intensified patrol activities resulted in FRSC generating total sum of N2,782,956,588.31 between January 2007 and December 2009. 28.62% increase in fines generation was recorded in 2009.

### SAFETY HELMET ENFORCEMENT IN THE SIX GEO-POLITICAL ZONES (JAN - DEC, 2009)

GEO. POLITICAL ZONES	TOTAL ARRESTS	% OF ARRESTS
NORTH WEST	26497	17.08%
NORTH EAST	18727	12.07%
NORTH CENTRAL	29937	19.30%
SOUTH WEST	49096	31.65%
SOUTH EAST	18432	11.88%
SOUTH SOUTH	12456	8.03%
TOTAL	155145	

### PERCENTAGE REPRESENTATION OF SAFETY HELMET ENFORCEMENT IN THE SIX GEO-POLITICAL ZONES (JAN - DEC, 2009)



### ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY STANDARDIZATION SCHEME (RTSSS)

Establishment of FRSC	First 10 months of operation	No. of registered fleet operators	No. of trucks with RTSSS	No. of trucks with RTSSS	No. of trucks with RTSSS	No. of trucks with RTSSS
11 Sept, 2007	Jan - Dec, 2009	2,116	307	457	69,921,167	390

- ➔ Road Traffic Safety Standardization Scheme (RTSSS) was created by Law through Section 115 of National Road Traffic Regulations (NRTR) 2004, made in pursuant to Sections 5 and 10 (10) of the FRSC (Establishment) Act, 2007.
- ➔ RTSSS, was formally launched by Vice President Goodluck Jonathan (GCON) on 11 Sept., 2007 and the Scheme provides for the establishment of safety units by all transport operators for purpose of entrenching professionalism, safe, efficient and convenient fleet transportation system in Nigeria.

# SAFETY CORPS CORE CARD VISION OF SAFER LIVES

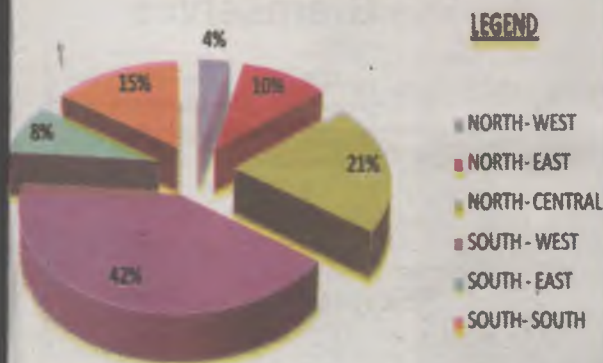
## WORLD BANK SAFE CORRIDOR PROJECT

- The Safe Corridor Project under the auspices of the World Bank is being pursued by FRSC in collaboration with the Road Sector Development Team and Arrive Alive Road Safety Initiative (AARSI).
- Road Safety Audit has been conducted on four roads:
  - ◆ Mokwa - Bida - Lambata - Suleja
  - ◆ Saniya - Rauchi - Gombe - Birni
  - ◆ Benin - Ifon - Akure - Ilesha
  - ◆ Enugu - Abakaliki - Oyoja Junction - Ikom - Akpan
  - ◆ In addition, Abuja - Kaduna dual carriage way is ongoing
- Procurement of operational equipment for Mokwa-Suleja corridor has been approved by the World Bank
- 4 new Commands have been established on the Mokwa-Suleja corridor.
- Project Manager paid for by Arrive Alive Road Safety Initiative has resumed since 11 Jan 2010.

## RESTORING THE INTEGRITY OF THE DRIVERS LICENCE

- Price Water House Coopers appointed as consultant.
- Technology selection concluded.
- Procurement process 90% concluded.
- New process expected to enhance efficiency.

### PERCENTAGE REPRESENTATION OF TOTAL WAR ON OVERLOADING (TOWOL) IN THE SIX GEO-POLITICAL ZONES (JAN - DEC, 2009)



### FRSC PERFORMANCE IN SERVICOM EVALUATION OF PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS (2007 - 2009)

YEAR	FRSC'S POSITION	NO OF STARS
2007	3 <sup>rd</sup>	☆☆
2008	2 <sup>nd</sup>	☆☆☆
2009	1 <sup>st</sup>	☆☆☆☆

- Service delivery a key issue.
- Process improvement across board ongoing.
- Expectation is to get five stars by Year 2010.

### EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE SCHEME

COMMENCEMENT OF ABUJA AMBULANCE PILOT SCHEME	PERIOD OF REPORT	NO OF RTC	NO KILLED	NO INJURED	NO OF CASUALTY RESCUED
10 August 2009	10 August to 31 December 2009	346	65	723	658

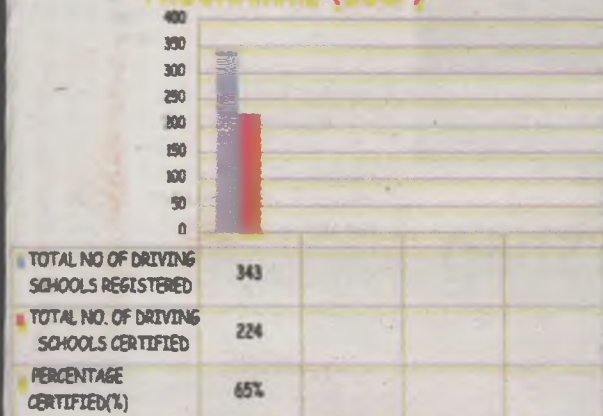
- Since the commencement of Abuja Ambulance Pilot Scheme in August 2009 till 31 December 2009, a total of 658 people were rescued.
- Based on the success of Abuja Ambulance Pilot Scheme, FRSC is scaling up the Emergency Ambulance Service Scheme to cover major corridors nationwide.

#### FRSC CALL CENTRE (For Enquiry & Report of Road Traffic Crash)

**CALL CENTRE NUMBER**  
 □ 0700-CALLFRSC  
 0700-22553772

**EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE NUMBER**  
 □ 08077690362

### DRIVING SCHOOL STANDARDIZATION PROGRAMME (DSSP)

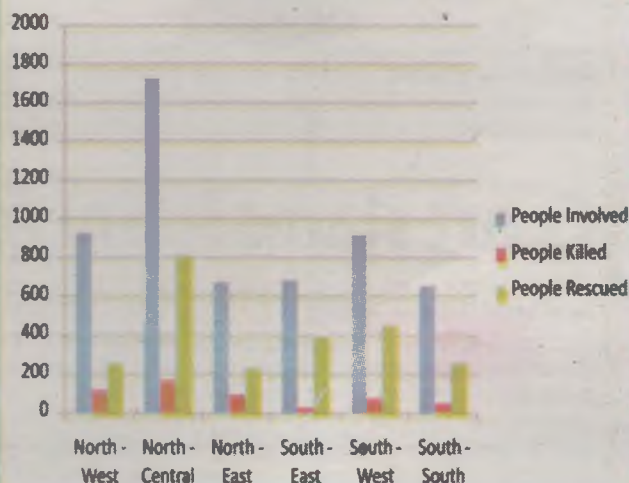


A list of certified Driving Schools have been published in National Dailies. Interactive sessions are being held with certified driving schools preparatory to final release of certificates for certified driving schools to operate.

### OPERATION ZERO (18 DEC 2009 - 10 JAN 2010)

Geo-political Zone	People Involved	People Killed	People Rescued
North - West	928	121	266
North - Central	1735	169	821
North - East	674	91	242
South - East	686	26	400
South - West	921	71	462
South - South	653	47	271
<b>Total</b>	<b>5997</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>2462</b>

### OPERATION ZERO (18 DEC 2009 - 10 JAN 2010)



## SAFETY ENGINEERING

- Safety Engineering Department established in Jan 2009
- 23 road traffic crashes investigated.
- 11 road audit conducted.
- 35 FRSC Officers trained as Accident Investigator by North Western University, USA.
- Federal Ministry of Works and FERMA responded to reports of Road Audit conducted by FRSC to effect road repairs.
- For more information visit [www.frsc.gov.ng/roadaudit.php](http://www.frsc.gov.ng/roadaudit.php)

## PROJECTIONS FOR 2010

- Achieve 50% reduction in Road Traffic Crash (RTC) fatality on 2009 data.
- Improve service delivery.
- Scale up ambulance rescue.
- Increase enforcement drive.
- Target young drivers for enlightenment.

## Business

# I'm investing on security to boost businesses - Namadi

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

GOVERNOR Mohammed Namadi Sambo of Kaduna state has said that his administration is investing heavily on security in a bid to create enabling environment for businesses to thrive well in the state.

Speaking during the commissioning of the Kaduna branch of

the Standard Chartered Bank, he said investment on security has started to yield result as investors are now trooping to the state following the conducive environment.

On assumption of office in 2007, the governor constituted a security outfit code named "operation yaki" comprising men of the Nigerian police, Army, Air

force, Civil defence corps and neighbourhood security watch.

"We have invested heavily on security and we will continue to because only when there is security that businesses will thrive well. We have started witnessing the inflow of investors and we will do everything to sustain the tempo", the governor whose speech was read by the deputy

governor, Mr. Partrick I. Yakowa said.

He urged the people of the state to continue to support the state government to enhance the social-economic statue of the masses through good governance.

He also reiterated the readiness of his administration to provide a conducive environ-

ment for all investors.

In his address earlier, the Managing Director of Standard Chartered Bank, Mr. Christopher Knight said the bank has so far invested over \$200 million in Nigeria and assured that the bank would continue to be dedicated to the acceleration of the development of the country by providing qualitative banking services.



THE Executive Secretary, Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), Engr. Mustafa Bello presenting a copy of Nigeria's investment guide to the project coordinator, African Business Databank Ltd, Mrs Ify Momife when she led their South African partners on a visit to NIPC recently.

## Cars of the future to power themselves

A car able to run solely on power generated from the material in its roof or door could offer a sustainable alternative to other eco-friendly motoring solutions, researchers say.

Scientists at Imperial College London are working with car manufacturer Volvo on a \$4.6 million project to develop a new material that could store and discharge electricity in future hybrid vehicles.

"The car of the future could be drawing power from its roof, its bonnet or even the door, thanks to our composite material," said Dr. Emile Greenhalgh, project coordinator from Imperial College London's Department of Aeronautics.

The prototype consists of carbon fibres and a glass fibre which allows the material to store and discharge large amounts of energy. When the device is plugged into a power supply, it creates a current like a normal battery would. Essentially the car acts as its own battery.

The material is a super capacitor, similar to those used in electrical circuits -- and only takes 10 to 15 seconds for it to be fully charged, according to the scientists.

"We are aiming to produce a 15 percent weight reduction," said Dr. Alexander Bismarck who works alongside Greenhalgh. "The structure would be lighter so that would mean you could drive further."

He predicted the weight reduction could improve the performance of future hybrid cars. "If we are able to reduce the overall weight of a car, it should be possible to increase its top speed and accelerate faster," said Bismarck.

He added that the material could, in future, be used in other objects. "You might have a mobile phone that is as thin as a credit card because it no longer needs a bulky battery, or a laptop that can draw energy from its casing."

The car of the future could be drawing power from its roof, its bonnet or even the door. (CNN)

## Court slams N.5m fine on importer of fake soap

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

A Federal High Court sitting in Kaduna yesterday ordered a merchant to pay a fine of N500,000 for importing fake soap into the country.

John Mbanude of No. 12 New Market Road Onitsha, Anambra was charged to court in 2003 by the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) for import-

ing fake Delta Medicated and Antiseptic Soap.

In a suit numbered FHC/KD/170C/08, the accused pleaded guilty but asked the court for leniency, while his legal counsel, Chucks Nwolisa also pleaded with the court to temper justice with mercy based on the fact that the accused was a first time offender.

While reading the judgment, the presiding judge, Justice Shu-

ibu argued that the importation of fake drugs was killing millions of Nigeria and because of that stringent measure needed to be adopted to serve as deterrent to others.

He stated that the law provides for punishment of a jail term of not less than 5 years and not more than 15 years or an option of fine of N500,000 and ordered the accused to pay only the fine, considering the time he

had spent on the case.

All counsel to the case endorsed the matter.

Public Relation Officer of the North West zone of NAFDAC, Jessica Okwuchi in an interview with our correspondent said "after laboratory analyses, the needed ingredients to make medicated soap were not included in its ingredient, which renders the product as fake."

## 600 Haitian farmers to access FAO support scheme

By Tina A. Hassan

ABOUT 600 hundred farmers in Haiti are to benefit from a support scheme put in place by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) as part of the recovery tool for the country after it was devastated by earthquake weeks ago.

According to reports coming from the body, irrigation canals

that were blocked because of the earthquake are now being cleared in an emergency attempt to rescue crops that are at the brink of perishing because the water channels were blocked and no water was flowing to the plants.

FAO said it is empowering the farmers by giving hand tools to farmer's association among the local farmers and more than 40

teams of farmers made up of 15 people have begun work in three locations.

This scheme is necessary because of the importance of agriculture to the country's recovery. Among the assistance received by the farmers are in the forms of finance, technical assistance, and heavy earthmoving equipment among others.

A 15-man team of the food body is expected to begin an accurate needs assessment of damages and make further plans for agriculture and food security.

The report says crops like beans and maize were just weeks from being harvested when the disaster struck and the effort being made to sustain agriculture would now save some of these crops.

# Business/International

## EU deal 'agreed' on Greece debt woes

EUROPEAN Union (EU) leaders have reached a deal on helping Greece tackle its debt crisis, EU President Herman Van Rompuy says.

He gave no further details, but all 27 EU leaders are now set to discuss it.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Greece "will not be left on its own, but there are rules and these rules must be adhered to".

It is an important signal to the markets that France and Germany are standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Greece, a BBC correspondent says.

Greece's debt crisis has put pressure on the euro, and it will dominate the EU summit now under way in Brussels.

There was an instant reaction on the markets, where traders welcomed news of the deal. Major European markets rebounded from earlier falls and the euro rose against the US dollar.

Mr Van Rompuy, the new President of the European Council, said the 16 eurozone countries "will take determined and coordinated action if needed to safeguard stability in the eurozone as a whole".

He also stressed that Greece had not asked for financial aid, and added that the EU was expecting "rigorous" action from the Greek government. The BBC's Dominic Hughes in Brussels says the details of the EU help for Greece may not emerge until Monday, when eurozone finance ministers will meet.

It is the first big test for Mr Van



EU President, Herman Van Rompuy

Rompuy, who wanted the summit to focus on a new strategy for jobs and growth - a blueprint for the next 10 years. But defending the euro is now a more pressing issue.

EU rules prevent the eurozone from collectively bailing out Greece, but the debt crisis has forced EU

leaders to seek ways to help nevertheless.

UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown stressed that "the discussions at the moment are within the euro area," when asked if UK taxpayers' money would be part of any EU aid. (BBC).

## Egypt sees GDP growth at 5.5%

EGYPT'S economy, buoyed by climbing exports, should grow by 5.5 percent in fiscal 2010/11 and attract \$10 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) as it recovers from the global economic crisis, a minister said.

The growth forecast matches the consensus of 15 independent economists polled by Reuters last month and is stronger than projections for any of the Gulf Arab states apart from Qatar and for neighbours Turkey and Israel.

"Factors contributing to this 5.5 percent growth are Suez Canal growth rates and the exports growth level going back to normal," Economic Development Minister Osman Mohamed

Osman told a news conference on Thursday.

Osman said the tourism industry, a major foreign currency earner for Egypt accounting for around 11 percent of its gross domestic product, had bounced back from troughs in late 2008 and early 2009.

"Tourism figures indicate that numbers of tourists, touristic nights and revenues have returned to levels from before the financial crisis," he said.

Egypt, while protected from the worst of the crisis, was hurt by a decline in tourism earnings, Suez Canal revenue and foreign investment. Growth fell to 4.7 percent last year after hav-

ing sped along for three years at around 7 percent.

Osman said investments in Egyptian industry totalled 13 billion Egyptian pounds in the six months to the end of 2009, with 80 percent of that coming from the private sector.

Non-oil exports added \$4.67 billion to Egypt's earnings in the last three months of 2009, up from \$3.72 billion in the same period of 2008, he said. The petroleum and mineral sector grew 5.6 percent in the quarter, he said without providing figures.

Egypt was targeting FDI of \$10 billion this fiscal year and the same amount in the next fiscal year, Osman said, indicating growing confidence in the ability to attract cash from abroad.

Earlier this month, Investment Minister Rachid Mohamed Rachid said the \$10 billion target for 2009/10 would be "a tough one" and that demand remained low in export markets such as Europe and the United States. (Reuters)

Factors contributing to this 5.5 percent growth are Suez Canal growth rates and the exports growth level going back to normal

## Air Mauritius posts Q3 profit of 3.3m euros

AIR Mauritius said yesterday it made a net profit of 3.3 million euros for the quarter ended December, compared with a 6.6 million euro loss in the same period the year before.

Air Mauritius said passenger numbers increased slightly in the quarter to 315,187 from 314,965 while loadings improved significantly to 82.9 percent of capacity from 73.9 percent in the same quarter of 2008.

The Indian Ocean island's national carrier said the results took into account total losses of 6.5 million euros due to fuel price hedging during the quarter.

The holiday island has suffered as the global slowdown buffets its

core European markets but Air Mauritius said it was increasing capacity on certain routes despite still challenging conditions due to volatile oil prices and a weakening euro against the dollar.

The airline said in the nine months ended December 31, it made a loss of 6.7 million euros, down from a 20.1 million euro loss in the corresponding period of 2008 after taking into account fuel price hedging.

It said before hedging the group recorded a profit of 25.3 million euros for the nine months ended December 31, up from 0.6 million euros in the same period the year before.

(Reuters)

## Ghana inflation to keep easing

GHANA'S inflation rate will continue to ease in the coming months thanks to tight fiscal policy, bolstering efforts to reduce business borrowing rates in one of West Africa's top economies, Deputy Finance Minister Seth Terkper said yesterday.

The world's second largest cocoa grower and Africa's No. 2 gold producer is eyeing 5.7 percent growth in 2010 while continuing to wrestle inflation toward a target below 10 percent from around 20 percent in 2009.

"This (downward) trend will continue for sometime and there are enough indications that interest rates will go down," Terkper told Reuters in an interview, adding some banks had already begun cutting their lending rates.

The Ghana Statistical Service announced Wednesday that year-on-year inflation dipped for the seventh consecutive month to 14.78 percent in January, after it got to a high of 20.7 in June last year.

Analysts expect the steep pull-back in inflation rates will pave the way for the Bank of Ghana's Monetary Policy Committee to cut the prime interest rate from the current 18 percent when it meets next week.

Under pressure from the International Monetary Fund to tame inflation, Ghana's central bank boosted the prime rate to a five-year high of 18.5 percent last winter, but made its first cut to the prime rate in nearly three years in November after inflation began to ease.

"We're doing fiscal consolidation and the central bank is playing a vital role in easing inflation and providing the right environment for businesses, especially the private sector to be able to afford the rates," Terkper said.

"Besides, the (central bank) Governor has given enough indication of his resolve to see interest rates go down and I believe the use of the prime rate is a key option available to it for realising this objective," Terkper added. (Reuters)

## Spanish economy remains in recession

THE Spanish economy shrank by 0.1 percent in the last three months of 2009, making it the last major economy still in recession.

INE, the national statistics agency, also said the country's gross domestic product had contracted by 3.1 percent compared with the same period a year before. Europe's fifth-largest economy has the highest rate of unemployment in the eurozone, hitting 19.5 percent in December.

For 2009 as a whole, INE said the Spanish economy contracted by 3.6 percent. "Unemployment is the greatest problem for the Spanish economy," said Professor Juan Jose Toribio, who is dean of the IESE Business School in Madrid.

"The government is trying to moderate it by bringing in policies to support domestic demand but this has failed at least in terms of creating unemployment." The Spanish government announced a 50bn euro austerity package, including a civil service hiring freeze, at the end of January. The contraction in

the Spanish economy in the final quarter of 2009 was not as severe as the 0.3 percent decline in the third quarter.

And on Wednesday, Spain's Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said the country was close to following other European nations out of recession.

But Ralph Solveen, an analyst with Commerzbank said: "These figures shows the Spanish economy is struggling to catch up with the European monetary union. 'Maybe there's a chance we'll see some positive quarter-on-quarter growth this year. Even so, Spain's economy will continue to remain behind the economies of its eurozone neighbours," he continued.

Spain's Socialist government has forecast a return to growth in the second half of this year.

However, the International Monetary Fund expects the economy to contract by 0.6 percent in 2010, compared with a predicted growth for the 16-nation eurozone of 1 percent. (BBC)

## Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Thursday, February 11, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)				
<b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>								
CAPITAL OIL PLC	2	0.54	30,000	16,800.00				
SECTORTOTALS	2		30,000	16,800.00				
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>								
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	17	1.02	2,734,437	2,789,125.74				
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	17	0.82	395,955	312,129.25				
PRESCO PLC	5	5.01	10,000	50,176.00				
SECTORTOTALS	39		3,140,392	3,151,430.99				
<b>AIR SERVICES</b>								
AIRLINE SERV. & LOGISTICS PLC	2	3.04	2,500	7,600.00				
NIG. AVIATION HANDLING COY PLC	134	8.59	586,420	5,028,890.36				
SECTORTOTALS	136		588,920	5,036,490.36				
<b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>								
DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC	29	0.50	2,808,460	1,404,230.00				
R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	13	5.70	179,322	1,022,542.35				
SECTORTOTALS	42		2,987,782	2,426,772.35				
<b>BANKING</b>								
ACCESS BANK PLC	238	9.45	22,886,479	214,740,729.51				
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	209	3.14	3,934,441	12,452,754.03				
DIAMOND BANK PLC	94	9.22	11,629,049	106,786,876.32				
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	12	5.50	767,100	4,219,050.00				
F/CITY MONUMENT BANK PLC	80	9.50	7,848,271	74,298,910.78				
FIDELITY BANK PLC	169	2.68	15,296,332	40,353,743.42				
FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	826	14.70	19,127,109	284,348,298.20				
FINBANK PLC	107	0.80	20,426,536	16,259,596.73				
GT BANK PLC	345	18.00	7,608,251	137,025,818.96				
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	56	8.68	1,391,117	12,740,549.26				
INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC	94	2.27	2,316,325	5,323,784.75				
OCEANIC BANK INTER. PLC	169	2.28	7,647,184	18,372,834.86				
BANK PHB PLC	184	1.97	9,008,841	18,128,125.55				
SKYE BANK PLC	151	7.45	16,719,050	123,422,745.21				
SPRING BANK PLC	7	1.24	29,185	34,438.30				
STERLING BANK PLC	79	1.76	7,709,484	13,541,601.45				
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	200	12.80	6,185,180	80,349,796.08				
UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	155	6.03	5,808,802	35,488,502.83				
UNITY BANK PLC	26	1.02	734,358	757,755.29				
WEMA BANK PLC	75	1.40	6,212,639	9,019,146.13				
ZENITH BANK PLC	216	15.62	54,395,647	865,591,125.41				
SECTORTOTALS	3,492		227,681,380	2,073,256,183.07				
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>								
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	90	16.15	4,589,923	73,782,930.85				
BENUE CEMENT COY PLC	30	50.00	2,672,062	133,624,625.23				
CEMENT CO. OF NORTHERN NIG. PLC	36	15.50	558,261	8,595,813.88				
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	39	35.00	790,763	27,619,944.55				
SECTORTOTALS	195		8,611,009	243,623,314.51				
<b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>								
BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC	3	3.36	3,300	11,616.00				
CHEMICAL & ALLIED PROD. PLC	3	26.60	43,614	1,157,985.78				
SECTORTOTALS	6		46,914	1,169,601.78				
<b>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</b>								
AFROMEDIA PLC	3	0.57	10,500	5,775.00				
COURTVILLE INVESTMENTS PLC	6	0.50	411,000	205,500.00				
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	15	2.52	615,530	1,554,346.60				
SECTORTOTALS	24		1,037,030	1,765,621.60				
<b>COMP. &amp; OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>								
INCR (NIGERIA) PLC	3	8.13	19,496	156,068.60				
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	2	0.63	24,000	14,400.00				
TRIPPLE GEE AND COY PLC	32	4.60	616,455	2,835,693.00				
SECTORTOTALS	37		659,951	3,006,161.60				
<b>CONGLOMERATES</b>								
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIGERIA) PLC	6	3.00	30,665	90,799.25				
JOHN HOLT PLC	4	9.28	5,590	49,303.80				
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	42	25.01	5,709,056	142,787,510.48				
TRANSN. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	9	0.50	401,050	200,525.00				
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	35	40.15	1,375,789	55,225,485.56				
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	63	25.00	852,331	21,315,046.59				
SECTORTOTALS	159		8,374,481	219,668,670.68				
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>								
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	24	5.13	632,088	3,280,606.44				
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	21	28.00	268,120	7,223,386.68				
MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC	6	0.50	53,825	26,912.50				
SECTORTOTALS	51		954,033	10,530,905.62				
<b>F/BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b>								
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	10	30.60	9,176	294,697.68				
BIG TREAT PLC	21	0.84	2,252,026	1,891,592.54				
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	64	14.79	300,246	4,377,019.98				
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	186	12.40	3,555,485	44,651,979.60				
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	75	15.25	1,415,456	21,535,232.54				
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	177	41.20	4,387,871	183,657,613.55				
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	7	6.12	27,000	171,117.00				
NATIONAL SALT COY NIG. PLC	52	6.36	872,909	5,639,280.85				
NIGERIAN BOTTLING COY PLC	28	27.50	587,413	16,226,559.06				
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	41	268.00	81,071	21,966,979.54				
NORTHERN NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	6	21.80	9,048	197,276.40				
TANTALIZERS PLC	31	0.94	3,100,700	2,790,642.00				
UTC NIGERIA PLC	2	0.78	761	593.58				
SECTORTOTALS	700		16,599,162	303,400,584.32				
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>								
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	7	1.17	108,720					
126,920.00								
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	34	2.09	712,360					
1,519,772.40								
GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONS. NIG. PLC	3	27.80	3,984					
105,217.44								
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	9	5.23	28,003	141,919.79				
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	1	12.28	12,000	140,040.00				
NEIMETH INTER. PHARM. PLC	15	1.49	522,987	779,250.63				
U/DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERV. PLC	12	0.64	1,301,000	848,290.00				
SECTORTOTALS	81		2,689,054	3,661,410.26				
<b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>								
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	4	1.29	300,000	387,000.00				
TOURIST COY OF NIGERIA PLC	1	5.28	23,000	121,440.00				
SECTORTOTALS	5		323,000	508,440.00				
<b>IND./DOMESTIC PRODUCTS</b>								
B. O. C. GASES NIGERIA PLC	3	12.18	1,786	20,681.88				
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIG. PLC	8	0.50	186,000	93,000.00				
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	39	5.01	514,033	2,583,980.72				
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	8	0.63	287,676	183,366.16				
SECTORTOTALS	58		989,495	2,881,028.76				
<b>INFORMATION &amp; COMM. TECH.</b>								
CHAMS PLC	17	0.70	1,276,800	894,240.00				
IHS NIGERIA PLC	2	4.03	6,350	24,320.50				
MAS TELECOM INNOVATION NIG. PLC	1	0.50	2,000	1,000.00				
STARCOMMS PLC	39	1.98	10,557,033	21,162,686.87				
SECTORTOTALS	59		11,842,183	22,082,247.37				
<b>INSURANCE</b>								
AICO INSURANCE PLC	178	1.12	6,182,944	6,995,246.45				
CONTINENTAL REINSURANCE PLC	22	1.00	11,499,140	10,946,838.60				
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE CO. PLC	15	0.54	628,388	334,584.52				
CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INSU. PLC	38	3.00	35,546,481	106,638,273.99				
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	3,000	1,500.00				
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	30	0.59	4,666,630	2,595,576.50				
GUARANTY TRUST ASSU. PLC	16	2.35	1,399,926	3,248,390.88				
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	9	0.50	526,000	263,000.00				
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSUR. PLC	1	0.50	8,500	4,250.00				
INT. ENERGY INSUR. COY PLC	52	0.58	5,660,148	3,253,639.84				
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	52	0.51	10,322,934	5,424,574.97				
LAW UNION & ROCK INSU. PLC	6	0.56	346,000	191,780.00				
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSUR. PLC	6	0.61	252,770	155,493.80				
N.E.M. INSURANCE CO. (NIG.) PLC	37	0.54	2,125,775	1,143,201.66				
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	18	0.74	1,695,040	1,234,278.40				
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	1	3.61	28,600	98,098.00				
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSUR. PLC	2	0.50	140,000	70,000.00				
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC	21	0.59	2,006,547	1,219,158.20				
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	4	0.83	250,420	208,336.00				
UNITY CAPITAL ASSUR. PLC	1	1.33	2,000	2,540.00				
INTERCONTINENTAL WAPIC INSUR. PLC	15	0.94	588,847	549,416.10				
SECTORTOTALS	525		83,880,090	144,578,177.91				
<b>MEDIA</b>								
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	78	0.78	2,707,900	2,111,952.00				
SECTORTOTALS	78		2,707,900	2,111,952.00				
<b>MORTGAGE COMPANIES</b>								
ASO SAVINGS & LOAN PLC	30	0.67	1,669,062	1,093,844.41				
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	4	0.50	250,000	125,000.00				
UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	47	0.95	7,726,852	7,336,779.31				
SECTORTOTALS	81		9,645,914	8,555,623.72				



## CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

# PAYMENTS SYSTEM VISION 2020

## EXPOSURE DRAFTS OF PAYMENTS SYSTEM GUIDELINES

The Central Bank of Nigeria in ensuring that all Stakeholders within the Nigerian Payments System are involved in the 'creation and development of Guidelines that will make the Nigerian Payments System "Nationally Utilized and Internationally recognized" hereby calls on all stakeholders to give their comments on the following Draft Guidelines and policy documents:

- i. Draft Guidelines on e-Payments of Salaries and Pensions
- ii. Draft Guidelines on e-payment of taxes
- iii. Draft Nigerian Uniform Bank Account Number Structure (NUBAN) proposal
- iv. Draft Recommended Standards for e-Payments of Government Suppliers
- v. Draft Payments System Bill
- vi. Draft (New) Nigerian Bankers Clearing House Rules

All the above Policy documents were the products of collaborative efforts of stakeholders and the Central Bank of Nigeria in order to ensure the robustness and effectiveness of the Nigerian Payments System in handling the transition from cash dominated economy.

The documents can be found on the CBN website following the link below:

<http://www.cenbank.org/documents/BODcirculars.asp>

Note: All responses are to be forwarded to the address below on or before Friday February 26<sup>th</sup> 2010

Director, Banking Operations Department  
Central Bank of Nigeria  
Head Office  
Central Business District  
Cadastral Zone  
Abuja FCT

e-Mail: [BODdeptmailing@cenbank.org](mailto:BODdeptmailing@cenbank.org)

*SIGNED:*  
**MANAGEMENT**



## NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY THE PRESIDENCY

NO. 8, ADETOKUNBO ADEMOLA CRESCENT, MAITAMA – ABUJA  
PMB 357, GARKI – ABUJA

### INVITATION TO TENDER

The National Emergency Management Agency is desirous of procuring **Rapid Intervention Vehicle (RIV) ERT Personnel and Equipment Vehicle** in order to enhance the performance of its responsibilities.

In view of the above, the Agency hereby invites qualified contractors to bid for the supply of the vehicle as specified below:

#### FEATURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

The RIV should be capable of serving as a First Incident Response Vehicle, and should consist of storage compartment, partitioning and hangers capable of being equipped with a wide range of Search and Rescue equipment.

The RIV should conform to NFPA Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus' most recent edition; and support equipment should be provided. The RIV should further conform to all federal and state motor vehicle laws and regulations without exception. The chassis required is a 2010 Ford Super Duty XL Crew Cab 4x4 conventional commercial production.

#### GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, WORKMANSHIP, QUALITY

The RIV should be designed and constructed with consideration for ease of operation and safety.

The RIV should be designed and the equipment mounted with due consideration to distribution of load between front and rear axles so all specified equipment, including the filled twin-agent extinguishing unit and the full compliment of personnel shall be carried without damage to the apparatus.

The exterior body construction shall be of 125" (3.175 mm) sheet – 5052 aluminum metal. Substructure shall be of T-6 6061 aluminum material. All structural welding shall be by an AWS certified welder.

#### APPROVAL DRAWINGS

Each bidder should attach along with its bid, a detailed CAD-generated drawing of the RIV.

#### F-550 4 DOORS 4X4 DIESEL

#### CHASSIS SPECIFICATIONS

Model Year: Ford, 2010  
Number of Cab Doors: 4  
Wheel base: 200"  
Cab to Axle: 84"  
Number of Axles: 2  
Gross Vehicle Weight Rating: 19,000#

#### ENGINE

Type & Model: Ford, Turbo Diesel, 6.4 Litre  
Number of Cylinders: 8  
Horsepower: 325 hp @ 3,000rpm  
Torque: 600 ft-lbs @ 2,000rpm  
Cooling: Heavy Duty

Exhaust: Right Side frame

#### TRANSMISSION

Type: Ford, Automatic  
Number of speeds Forward: 5  
Number of speeds Reverse: 1

#### FRONT AXLE

Model: Ford, 4-wheel Drive  
Rating: 7,000#  
Steering: Power-assisted w/tilt steering wheel  
Suspension: Solid mono-beam with leaf springs and stabilizer

Towering provision: Front

#### REAR AXLE

Model: Ford, Single speed with two speed transfer case

#### CAB EQUIPMENT

Mirrors: Extended type  
Windshield wipers: Electric  
Windshield washers: Standard  
Cab Glass: Tinted

#### CAB EXTERIOR

Hood & Fenders: Steel  
Cab Grille: Standard

#### CAB INTERIOR

Sun Visors: Dual  
Dome Light: Standard  
AM/FM with digital clock and two speakers  
Manual Windows and Door locks  
XL cab trim package

#### GAUGES & INSTRUMENTS

Speedometer  
Odometer  
Hour meter  
Engine oil pressure gauge  
Engine coolant temperature gauge  
Warning lights and alarms  
Voltmeter  
Tachometer

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Manuals

#### Additional Features

- Driver and passenger post-mounted spotlights
- SCBA cavity seats
- Class D portable extinguisher with mounting bracket
- Class BC Purple-K dry chemical portable extinguisher with mounting bracket
- Class ABC portable extinguisher with mounting bracket
- Remote pan and tilt infrared/thermal image video camera
- Rear fixed mount perimeter lights
- Locking rollup compartment doors
- Adjustable shelves and rollout trays
- LED emergency lighting package with siren (NFPA compliant)

#### TENDER CRITERIA

The letters of intent and tenders of interested companies should include the following:

- Company profile, including names phone numbers and e-mail addresses;
- Evidence of Incorporation;
- Tax Clearance Certificates for the last three years;
- Evidence of payment of non-refundable processing fee of N25,000.00 to the National Emergency Management Agency;

#### SUBMISSION OF LETTERS OF INTEREST/TENDERS

All letters of interest/tenders (with all the supporting documents) must be submitted in a properly sealed and secured envelope; and should be clearly indicated as "**TENDER(S) FOR THE SUPPLY OF NEMA RAPID INTERVENTION VEHICLE (RIV) ERT PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT VEHICLE**". Furthermore, all tenders must be submitted not later than **26<sup>th</sup> February 2010**, and should be addressed to:

The Director-General,  
National Emergency Management Agency,  
No. 8, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent,  
Maitama – Abuja.

Signed

Charles A. Agbo (PhD),  
Director (Planning, Research &  
Forecasting)

# DIGEST

## Stuttering is in the genes, scientists find

STUTTERING is less to do with nervousness and more to do with your genes, scientists have discovered, in a breakthrough that could lead to new drug treatments.

Around one per cent of the population suffer from a stutter at some time during their lives and it has been assumed it was a symptom of severe anxiety.

But now research has discovered three genes that appear to be linked to the condition.

The finding means that new drug treatments could be developed that switch off the genes involved and so remove the underlying cause.

The study, led by researchers at the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) in America, has identified three genes as a source of stuttering in volunteers in Pakistan, the United States, and England.

"For hundreds of years, the cause of stuttering has remained a mystery for researchers and health care professionals alike, not to mention people who stutter and their families," said Dr James Battey, director of the NIDCD.

"This is the first study to pinpoint specific gene mutations as the potential cause of stuttering, a disorder that affects three million Americans, and by doing so, might lead to a dramatic expansion in our options for treatment."

Stuttering is a speech disorder in which a person repeats or prolongs sounds, syllables, or words, disrupting the normal flow of speech. It can severely hinder communication and a person's quality of life. Most children who stutter will outgrow stuttering, although many do not. Current therapies for adults who stutter have focused on such strategies as reducing anxiety, regulating breathing and rate



RESEARCH has discovered three genes that appear to be linked to stuttering.

of speech, and using electronic devices to help improve fluency.

But as stuttering tends to run in families, researchers decided to look to see if there was a genetic component. They analysed the genes of 123 Pakistani individuals who stutter and 96 who did not. They then did the same for 270

stutterers in the US and England and 276 in the same countries that did not.

They identified three mutations in a specific gene which showed up in individuals who stutter but not those with fluent speech.

The genes found have also

been linked to some metabolic diseases and so treatments that affect them are already available.

They may be able to modify these drugs to help people with a stutter, concluded the study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

## Yes, the Internet does make you depressed



STALKING ex-boyfriends and former friends on social networking sites such as Facebook is becoming increasingly common

By Dr Pam Spurr

ANYBODY meeting my client Anna for the first time would be forgiven for thinking she has a perfect life. She is 29, slim, attractive, well-educated and rapidly climbing the career ladder as a solicitor with a dynamic City firm.

Yet her whole demeanour is nothing more than a well-constructed facade.

Rather than spending her evenings at the latest fashionable restaurant or gossiping over cocktails at a trendy wine bar, Anna instead spends up to five hours a

night on her laptop - obsessively tracking the lives of her ex-boyfriend, old friends and acquaintances and work colleagues.

When she isn't glued to Facebook, Friends Reunited or blogs, she is trawling through gossip websites.

At weekends, when Anna has more time on her hands, it's not unusual for her to devote seven-hour sessions to her voyeuristic monitoring of people she is convinced are all leading more exciting and fulfilling lives than she is.

So, when I saw the Daily Mail report last

week on new research linking addictive Internet use with depression, I wasn't in the least bit surprised.

The study found that spending too long online can expose a 'dark side'. Those who didn't previously suffer from depression were made to feel gloomy and vulnerable, and those who did often logged off feeling worse.

Sadly, it confirmed a growing trend I've witnessed first-hand over the past ten years in my work as a life coach and agony aunt.

Because, in line with this research from the University of Leeds, I too have discovered that people slip into the murky realms of 'chasing' after a life - of sorts - by surfing the Internet for longer and longer periods until it dominates their moods, behaviour and life. There appears to be a direct relationship between spending more time online and feeling less happy about life, as well as an increased risk of addiction to the Internet.

Let's be honest, though, when most of us think of the stereotypical sad and lonely person who gets addicted to surfing the net, we think of a geeky man who probably doesn't have refined social skills or a high 'desirability' rating. He seeks solace in vicarious thrills such as pornography or visiting tawdry chat rooms. But, in my experience, the people who are falling victim to Internet-led addiction and depression are smart, savvy, career women like Anna - and the damaging effects of spending increasing hours online are far more insidious than you can imagine.

Anna initially consulted me about a relationship issue - she'd been finding it hard to get over the man she called the 'love of her life', who'd broken up with her a year earlier. It soon became obvious to me that she was spending too much time on the Internet. She confessed that the more time she spent on social networking sites, the stronger her desire grew to keep up with how everyone else was spending their time.

With complete honesty, she said it seemed a darned sight more interesting and fun than what she was up to.

The irony was that she wasn't contacting these people but, instead, compulsively following them. Anna said she hadn't wanted to go out with friends because she feared she'd bore them by droning on about her break-up.

Unfortunately, by isolating herself, she compounded the root of the problem, further damaging her fragile self-confidence.

The further irony is that you can never trust the way people depict their social lives on such sites.

Yet someone vulnerable like Anna will fall for it hook, line, and sinker.

You might think it extraordinary that she wasn't actually contacting people she knew - choosing to simply watch their lives play out across the pages of a site.

But this fits in with the pattern of emotional detachment that many who spend too much time on the internet begin to feel: that they're no longer part of this vibrant community and are increasingly isolated from real life.

### Sign Language



Today must be the EIGHT day of the week

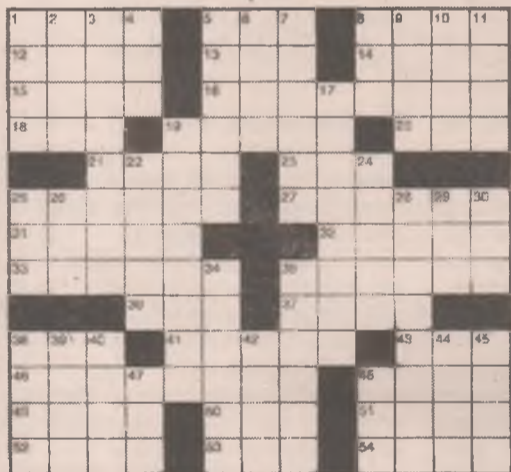
Photo location: Kennett Square, USA, by Joanne Fritz

Culled from www.signspotting.com

## EASY CROSSWORDS

- ACROSS**
- Candle core
  - Trucker's locale
  - Ann or Hatteras
  - March Madness org.
  - "Long, Long"
  - Moved smoothly
  - "Yesterday"
  - Yale's town (2 wds.)
  - Common connecting word
  - Rica
  - Light feather (2 wds.)
  - Spinach nutrient
  - Verb ending
  - Bed clothing
  - Bunker and Head
  - Modify
  - Commercial interruption
  - Cavity sites, sometimes
  - Exclusively
  - Bark
  - snappishly
  - Party-giver
  - Third letter
  - and dagger
  - Stop dime (2 wds.)
  - Van Gogh study (2 wds.)
  - Elevator pioneer
  - Hose color
  - Definite article
  - Clock part
  - Sound of delight
  - Junior, to Dad
  - Dog's nuisance
  - trademark (2 wds.)
  - 1880 alliance (abbr.)
  - Edison's middle name
  - Crusted dishes
  - Ferber or Best
  - Manual
  - Legal agreement
  - Cancel a loan
  - Young ladies
  - into (thrash)
  - Groom's response (2 wds.)
  - Abstain from alcohol
  - Actor Holbrook
  - Star's home
  - Squashing sounds
  - Like Bond's martini
  - Nibble
  - Every
  - Bronte's "Jane"
  - Eight, to Eduardo
  - Like Miss Congeniality
  - On a voyage
  - Seek damages
  - Not running

73



### Solution to Easy Crosswords

72

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

# SUDOKU

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

85

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

### Solution to Sudoku 84

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

# THE HOME FRONT

## In Today's Edition

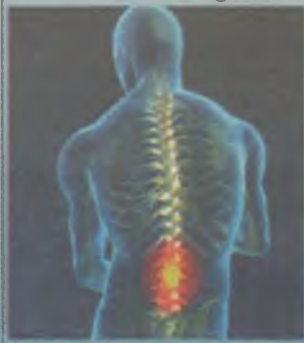
### Fragments

Those that have unlimited access to your house

Page 38

Health Interactive with Dr Aminu Magashi

Page 39



### FEATURE

Child upbringing: The dilemma of working mothers

Page 40



## Managing epilepsy

By Akor Ojoma and Maureen Onochie

**E**PILEPSY is a common chronic neurological disorder that is characterized by recurrent unprovoked seizures. Most of the time, these seizures are transient signs and they are symptoms of abnormal, excessive or synchronous neuronal activity in the brain.

A recent data survey revealed that about 50million people have epilepsy worldwide. 90% of this totality are people in developing countries. The disease is said to occur more amongst children and people over the age of 65 years and it is a disease that can occur at any time most of the time not with the knowledge of the carrier.

Just because someone has a seizure does not necessarily mean that person has epilepsy, though. Seizures can be triggered in anyone under certain conditions, such as life-threatening dehydration or high temperature. But when a person experiences repeated seizures for no obvious reason, that person is said to have epilepsy.

According to Dr Halima Bello, a Physician at the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Ilorin, epilepsy is classified in to 2 basic parts, the primary and secondary part. "The primary one is that

which one cannot find the cause to the disease. Some people who suffer from this type don't know where and how the disease came about. Sometimes, even after they are diagnosed a cause is still not found. For the secondary, there might seem to be a cause to how the disease was gotten. In the secondary type, it could be diagnosed that the disease was gotten through meningitis and some other ailments."

### Symptoms

A person having an epileptic seizure may lose consciousness or seem unaware of what's going on, make involuntary motions (movements the person has no control over, such as jerking or thrashing one or more parts of the body), or experience unusual feelings or sensations such as unexplained fear. After a seizure, he or she may feel tired, weak, or confused. In the words of Doctor Halima, "the main symptoms of epilepsy is convulsion and there are different types of convulsion which can attack a person. The popular one is the one with the shaky movement of the body while the other one is when the person just slumps just after moving the muscles. Convulsion is basically the symptom that comes at any time sometimes it comes with warning which is called an aura."

### Causes

There are various causes of the disease. For example, an attack might be triggered when reading and such epilepsy is called the primary reading epilepsy. Some are caused by a particular precipitants which causes seizures this one is also called the reflex epilepsy. The photosensitive epilepsy can be triggered by the flash of lights.

Another precipitants can trigger an epileptic seizure in patients who otherwise would be susceptible to spontaneous seizures. Catamenial epilepsy is that which is linked with women who have epilepsy which can be triggered by their menstrual cycle.

Others identified by medical experts which can make a person more likely to develop epilepsy include; a brain injury, such as from a car crash or bike accident, an infection or illness that affected the developing brain of a foetus during pregnancy, lack of oxygen to an infant's brain during childbirth, meningitis, encephalitis, or any other type of infection that affects the brain, brain tumours or strokes and poisoning, such as lead or alcohol poisoning.

### Is Epilepsy contagious?

A lot of people have always thought that epilepsy is an infectious disease. Some believe that if

the saliva which comes out from the mouth of the victim comes in contact with someone, the person becomes a carrier.

Epilepsy is not contagious. You can't contact it from someone who has it. Epilepsy is not passed down through families (inherited) in the same way that blue eyes or brown hair are. But a person who has a close relative with epilepsy has a slightly higher risk for epilepsy than somebody with no family history of seizures.

According to Dr Halima "Epilepsy is not an infection and cannot be contacted. The disease is not infectious but can run in the family because there may be genetic components to it although research has not yet confirmed it." She said the only part of the disease that can be avoided is the secondary part which has a cause. "Those that can be avoided are the ones that were contacted through infections like malaria in children, meningitis and brain tumour. When one has already contacted the disease, the only way to avoid the seizures is by constant use of prescribed drugs."

### Treatment

Epilepsy is usually managed with the use of medications that have been prescribed by physicians, neurologists and neurosurgeons. The need of a special diet can be used to manage the disease. Researchers have stressed that the need for differentiating between the generalized and partial seizures is very important so as to know how to administer treatment to the victims.

Dr Halima said the drugs used to cure or control epilepsy is not to be published so that people will not have to just go to chemist and buy and use them indiscriminately. "The only way to treat and control the disease is to constantly see a physician. Epilepsy is a disease which one can out grow over time." Although surgery can be recommended in very difficult cases because the disease cannot be treated with medications, it can only be controlled with the use of medications.

Dr Steven Dowshen, of KidsHealth.com website said Epilepsy sounds frightening, but managing it can be simple. "If you have epilepsy, follow your treatment plan. Get plenty of sleep. Eat right. And exercise to reduce stress and stay in shape. Some of the things friends can do to help someone who's having a seizure are; don't restrain or hold the person. Move objects, especially sharp or hard ones, away from the person. Stay with the person or make sure another friend or trusted person stays with him or her. Observe the event and be able to describe what happened before, during, and after the seizure. Do not place an object into the person's mouth during a seizure."



## Domestic violence on the increase in Nigeria – Survey

By Benjamin Auta

KATE was 22 year-old when she got married to Douglas and the marriage which was blessed with two children was short lived due to excessive beatings from her husband and other abuses.

Now 33 year-old, she is divorced from her husband and left to cater for her two children aged six and four respectively.

For her, the dilemma of taking care of two children is not a simple burden as she only works as a stylist in one of the beauty salons in town and the salary (more of a stipend) is nothing to write home about.

“Even though I take care of my children now and I am free from my former husband's constant brutality to me and my children, I still feel abused as most men who know that I am divorced still believed that they can buy me with their money,” she said.

Such cases abound in the country as the rate of violence against women either married or not has been on the increase as revealed in a survey in the country.

Statistics released by the National Population Commission in its final report of the National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) says women within the age bracket of 15 to 49 years especially in the South South are more prone to experiencing violence compared to women in other parts of the country.

The survey reveals that 52% of women in the South South are prone to violence as against 13% in the North West of the country, even though it did not give

reasons why the trend is on the increase in the southern states.

However some people spoken to about this ugly trend revealed that the nation's economy and the import of some foreign cultural practices might be responsible for the raise.

Mr. John Waziri, a sociologist said that the situation is basically linked with the economy of the country and importation of foreign culture in the country.

“You know that violence against women is not entirely a Nigerian culture even though we know that there are some laws and cultural beliefs which do not really encourage the woman to be properly recognized like their male counterparts in the country,” he said.

He said in the African tradition where the woman is not supposed to be seen or heard due to the belief that they are a weaker sex also encourages violence as the man feels he is superior to her in every ramification.

“In our country today, many women look for avenues to openly express themselves and this has caused so much conflict with their male counterparts because our society is male dominated,” he added.

On the domestic front, he said physical violence is mainly associated with the economic standing of the family. “It is a major problem because when a man cannot feed or cater for his family he becomes irrational in his doing.”

He said such cases are more in the rural areas when compared to the urban areas where the statistics are slightly less. This has been supported by the survey

which says that violence against women by their husbands/partners is more prevalent in the rural areas with 19% as against 18% in the urban areas.

On sexual violence, the survey also gave statistics of physical or sexual assault on women by their husbands or partners with the South South topping the chart with 39% as against the North West with 7%.

“We cannot really give reasons that are responsible for the high rate of violence against women in the South South when compared to other parts of the country; this might be because the other parts are not reported often enough. When you go through the length and breadth of the country however you will find several cases of violence against women,” he concluded.

The survey however showed in other matters like female circumcision that the South West and South East have the highest percentage of 53 while the North East has the least with 3%.

The report also added that of the overall 30% of women circumcised, 37% are in the urban areas while the rural areas have only 26%.

On maternal health, the survey said that 58% of women received antenatal care from skilled providers most commonly from midwives of nurses (30%) or a Doctor (23%).

It however scored women in the North West zone low, with 31% making up women who receive antenatal care from skilled providers as against 87% in the South East and South West zones of the country.

## FRAGMENTS

By Safiya I. Dantiye  
safiyadantiye@yahoo.com

### Those that have unlimited access to your house

**S**OME men believe so much in their close friends that they give them the go ahead to visit their houses even when they are not there, all in the spirit of friendship. This is not Islamic and is against many cultures; but because people feel that they have become civilized, it is alright for such liberties.

The so-called friends go and eat and spend time gisting with their friends' wife, which is dangerous, because some may eventually lead to inappropriate relationships and they might end up committing adultery. If such a husband finds out about the betrayal of his wife and his close friend, he becomes shocked and begins to cry 'betrayal', when he is to blame for setting the stage.

While it is not in all cases that such a betrayal takes place, some friends gossip about the husband to the wife and this causes quarrel between them. In one such case, whenever the husband travelled, the friend would go and incite the two wives against each other or against the husband. It was after sometime that other people intervened and the man prevented the friend from visiting the house.

However, the case of men making their houses open to their friends is not the only one where free comings and goings cause problems in the homes, especially where the mothers go to work leaving grown up children at home. They are left with nobody else at home like a house girl, an elderly aunt or a security man, assuming that since they are grown up, they don't need supervising. In such instances, the parents allow their sons' friends to have access to the house at any time, and the house becomes a meeting point of girlfriends and boyfriends.

One man was shocked when he came back home one afternoon and found girls in his sons' bedrooms. And in the case of having grown up daughters, such brothers' friends become overfriendly and can enter the daughters' bedrooms, follow them into the kitchen and only God knows what else.

Many people assume that if you have known a child since infancy, and they have become like your own children, there is nothing wrong to let them mingle with your children of the opposite sex when they become teenagers and even older. But as parents, this is exactly the age where we should pay attention to our children in order to prevent any untoward behaviour that we will later regret.

I remember when one elderly woman used to scold her granddaughter for being too friendly with a male cousin. She told her that she was no longer young, and therefore she should stop playing with him as they used to. In turn she also scolded the boy and advised him not to be getting too close to girls.

But then, some men are very strict and their grown up sons' friends stay outside the house and the sons meet them there. Or if the sons have their own living quarters they can visit them there, but definitely not mingle with females inside the house.

Some young men on the other hand distance themselves from such mingling as soon as they begin to grow up. There was a case where a woman was told that she was being sought for outside. She went out only to see her fifteen-year old nephew. She chided him for feeling 'grown up' to enter the house and greeted her.

When another woman expressed surprise when she saw how young men and women were sprawled in the living room of a friend and pointed out the danger posed to the friend's daughters, the friend was not happy. She said the young men were her son's friends who were like her sons.

Both cases of husband's friends and children's grown up friends having unlimited access to our homes should be checked, there has to be some limitations, more so where it involves people of the opposite sex.

**“If such a husband finds out about the betrayal of his wife and his close friend, he becomes shocked and begins to cry 'betrayal', when he is to blame for setting the stage**

# Health interactive

Write in confidence to [healthinteractive@hotmail.com](mailto:healthinteractive@hotmail.com); [www.healthinteractive.wordpress.com](http://www.healthinteractive.wordpress.com) or send a text message to 080-89972539 or P.O.Box 14807, Kano, Nigeria

## Advice by Dr Aminu Magashi

### What is ankylosing spondylitis?

I have been suffering from back ache for some time now. My doctor placed me on medication and informed me that I am suffering from Ankylosing Spondylitis. Please what is it, its risk factors, causes and presentation.

John B

Ankylosing spondylitis (pronounced ank-kih-low-sing spondill-eye-tiss), or AS, is a form of arthritis that primarily affects the spine, although other joints can become involved. It causes inflammation of the spinal joints (vertebrae) that can lead to severe, chronic pain and discomfort. In the most advanced cases (but not in all cases), this inflammation can lead to new bone formation on the spine, causing the spine to fuse in a fixed, immobile position, sometimes creating a forward-stooped posture. This forward curvature of the spine is called kyphosis.

AS can also cause inflammation, pain and stiffness in other areas of the body such as the shoulders, hips, ribs, heels and small joints of the hands and feet. Sometimes the eyes can become involved (known as Iritis or Uveitis), and rarely, the lungs and heart can be affected.

The hallmark feature of ankylosing spondylitis is the involvement of the sacroiliac (SI) joints during the progression of the disease, which are the joints at the base of the spine, where the spine joins the pelvis.

#### Is There a Cure?

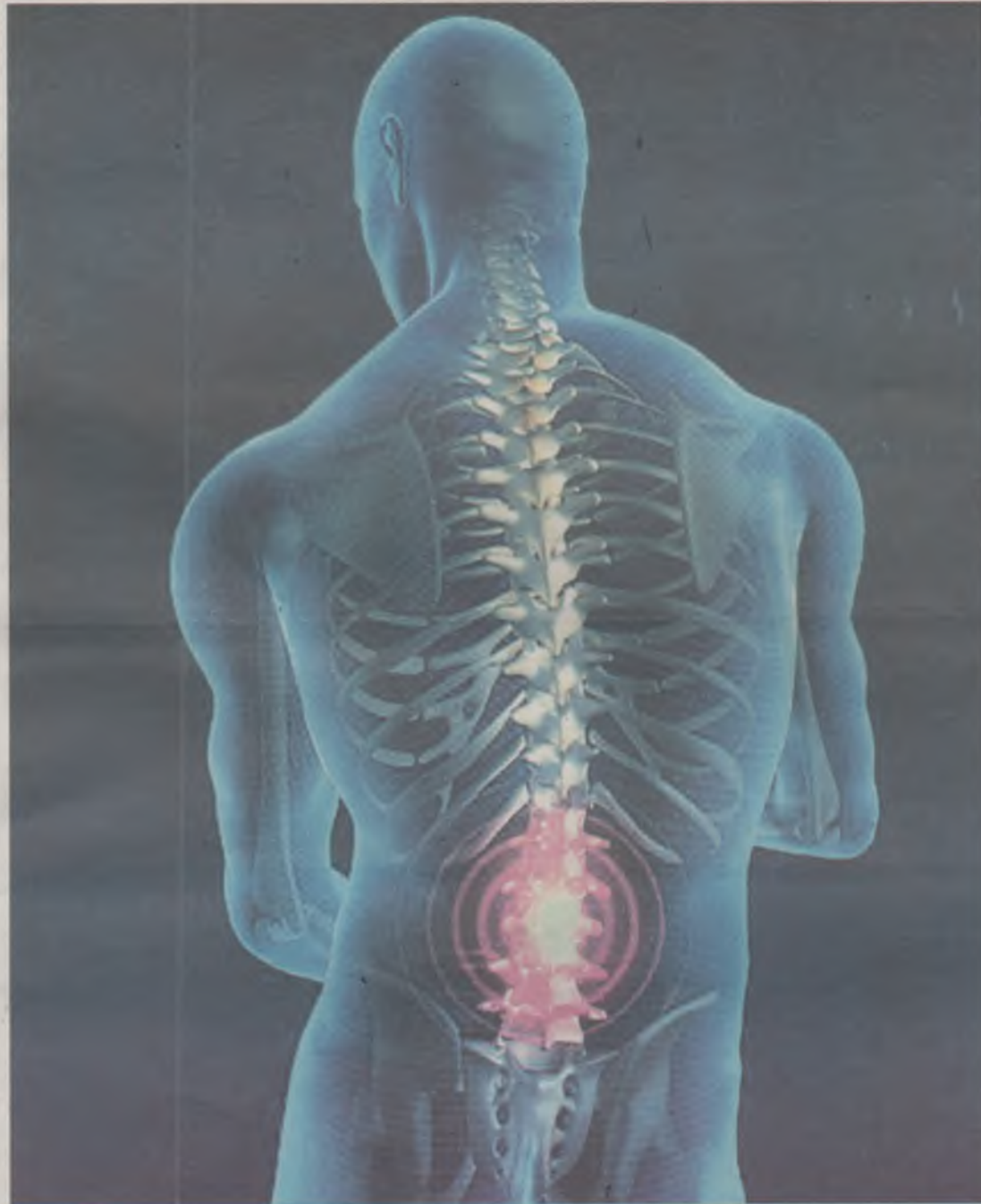
Currently, there is no known cure for AS, but there are treatments and medications available to reduce symptoms and manage the pain. Recent studies show that the new biologic medications can potentially slow or halt the disease progression in some people.

#### Causes of Ankylosing Spondylitis

Although the exact cause of AS is unknown, genetics play a key role in AS. Most individuals who have AS also have a gene that produces a "genetic marker" - in this case, a protein - called HLA-B27. This marker is found in over 95% of people in the caucasian population with AS (the association between ankylosing spondylitis and HLA-B27 varies greatly between ethnic and racial groups).

It is important to note, however, that you do not have to be HLA-B27 positive to have AS. Also, a majority of the people with this marker never contract ankylosing spondylitis.

Scientists suspect that other genes, along with a triggering environmental factor, such as a bacterial infection, are needed to trigger AS in susceptible people. HLA-B27 probably accounts for about 40% of the overall



risk, but then there are other genes working in concert with B27. There are probably five or six genes involved in susceptibility toward AS. It is thought that perhaps AS starts when the defenses of the intestines start breaking down and bacteria from the intestines pass into the bloodstream directly into the region where the sacroiliac joints are located.

#### Who is At Risk?

The risk factors that predispose a person to ankylosing spondylitis include:

1. Testing positive for the HLA-B27 marker
2. A family history of AS
3. Frequent gastrointestinal infections

Unlike other forms of arthritis and rheumatic diseases, general onset of AS commonly occurs in younger people, between the ages of 17-35. However, it can affect children and those who are much older. AS is more common in men, but occurs in women as well.

#### Disease Course/Prognosis

The severity of AS varies greatly from person to person and not everyone will experience the most serious complications or have spinal fusion. Some

will experience only intermittent back pain and discomfort, but others will experience severe pain and stiffness over multiple areas of the body for long periods of time. AS can be very debilitating, and in some cases, lead to disability.

Almost all cases of AS are characterized by acute, painful episodes (also known as "flares") followed by temporary periods of remission where symptoms subside.

It is important to know that Ankylosing Spondylitis is a chronic, or lifelong disease and that the severity of AS has nothing to do with age or gender. It can be just as severe in women and children as it is in men.

Remember that even if you have AS and are experiencing only mild symptoms, which you are able to manage quite well, it is important to see your rheumatologist once a year in order to detect and treat any underlying complications

#### Please save my marriage

I have been married for 6 months now and life has been hell for me. My male organ is very small and has

caused me embarrassment from my beloved wife. I feel diminished anytime we come to love making, although she has not complained verbally, I can see it from her face. Please what drugs should I take and advise accordingly. May the God almighty continue to support you in this thankless job of health work?

Bala H

I have over 25 questions in my mail inbox and text messages related to small male organ. By the below response, I am attending to all their concerns without writing the questions and the names of the senders.

Mr Bala and co, you actually may not need any drug to improve your sexual life. The more you use drugs, the more your system become dependent and worsens your situation.

The average erect penis is estimated to be somewhere around six inches in length. If you're among those who fall a bit short of this statistic, you may have concerns about size in relation to your sexual performance. While it's true that size can have its advantages, it's not really

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Although the exact cause of AS is unknown, genetics play a key role in AS. Most individuals who have AS also have a gene that produces a "genetic marker"

the length that matters -- it's the width. Additionally, women don't particularly enjoy having their cervixes rammed into, which often happens when a man is overly endowed. It may cause pain and discomfort.

There is nothing sexy and good about painful intercourse, and that's precisely what many women complain of when a man's penis is too large. Believe it or not, the right combination of foreplay and stimulation can make your wife to enjoy you just as having a large organ.

There are sexual positions that will help you as well as what happens before the actual act. Obviously, there's a great deal more to sex than just penetration, and most men fully recognize the benefits of foreplay. The man with a smaller-sized penis should take even greater advantage of this, prolonging foreplay until your wife is fully and completely aroused; the closer she is to orgasm at the start of actual penetration, the easier it will be for her to climax.

Foreplay should include anything and everything your wife enjoys. Kissing and caressing are always appreciated, so feel free to discuss with her what she wants and how she wants it.

#### Some of the sexual positions that help are:

1. She can place her head and shoulders on the pillow
2. She can lie flat on her belly with her legs closed.

While it's true that society tends to place a great deal of importance on size, the simple truth is that a penis of any size can bring a woman to orgasm, provided the man makes the most of what he has. Foreplay is what matters most.

# Child upbringing: The dilemma of working mothers

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

It is widely believed that a father traditionally provides for the family while the mother is the homemaker; this side has been experiencing changes over the years. Amongst her responsibilities as a homemaker, she is left with shouldering the moral responsibility of her growing child.

Today however this very important role has shifted to the hands of house helps or some other relative because the mother is always out there at her work place and therefore has very little or no time for the child. The Home Front sampled the opinions of some working mothers in Kano and children of such mothers alike to find out how they cope.

Fati Umar is a mother of two and a banker, both of her children spend most of their time with the nanny but she said she ensures that they have the best of child upbringing despite the fact that she spends just very few hours with them weekly. She said, "As a banker, my job is so demanding, I normally leave the house early and return late in the evening thereby leaving my kids in the hands of a nanny; but I ensure I provide for them all their needs and give them optimum love

"As a banker, my job is so demanding, I normally leave the house early and return late in the evening thereby leaving my kids in the hands of a nanny

during the little time I have to spend with them".

Another working mother and widow, Hadiza Abubakar shared her situation with this reporter. According to her she has no option other than to work and therefore had to send her youngest son to school before he turned two years old.

"I had no option than to enrol my little son in school even before he was two years old and this is because my work takes a greater part of my time and I don't feel comfortable leaving him in the hands of the nanny all day. I feel very guilty for not staying back to take care of him and his two elder sisters but I have no option because as a widow, I have to carter for their needs so here I am doing it not because I like it but for the pay," She said.

Zubaida Ibrahim on the other hand had to give up her career as a banker in order to pay more attention to her daughter. She opted for a fashion designing business where she has employed a number of young people that she manages at her own time.

According to her, "After my daughter

was born; I saw that I couldn't cope with the banking industry with such long and erratic hours. I didn't want to miss out on any special moments in her life. But at the same time, I didn't want to be a full-time mother because I really enjoyed working. Operating the tailoring centre was the best option and I enjoy doing it. I give enough to managing my business and at the same time have enough wonderful moments with my daughter".

While Zubaida abandoned her banking career for a private fashion designing business, Nabila Umar who is expecting her first baby anytime from now is left in the dilemma of whether to quit her job with one of the GSM service providers in order to have more time for her expected baby or to carry on with the job which might leave her with the option of having little time for the yet unborn child.

Speaking on her predicaments, she

said, "My dilemma is that I have always dreamt of giving the best to my kids just like my mum gave to us but with my present job, I don't think that is feasible. I am really in a fix because the maternity leave which I have already commenced is nothing to write home about and I have to make a decision before it ends".

She said: "While I am thinking of that, I am also thinking of who to entrust the little angel to. If I have to continue with my job, that means I'll have to leave the baby in the hands of a nanny which I wouldn't want to do. I also need to have some income in other to contribute to the family's financial needs especially since the arrival of the new baby means an automatic plus to the financial burden on the family. My greatest problem is that I am not business oriented and don't know who to



"I feel I am not giving him the best because I am supposed to be at home for him to check all that he is doing particularly at this puberty age

trust with business issues. I know I have to make time for the little child when he/she arrives. I just pray I make the best decision".

Hajriya Nana Shehu is an aged woman who is presently working with an NGO in Kano. Speaking on the issue of the child of a working mother, she said she might not be able to say much because she never experienced it. She only started work after her last born was in his senior secondary school.

"Honestly I might not be in the right position to talk about that but the fact is that the child of a young working mother might not have the best especially when her job is the demanding type. I am lucky I only started work when my last born was in his SS, just about to be in the University but even at that, I feel I am not giving him the best because I am supposed to be at home for him to check all that he is doing particularly at this puberty age," she said.

She said, "Most working mothers have no option than to work and so they cannot be blamed. They are managing their children the best way they can but really, the child must lack in some areas because he/she is at the mercy of a nanny or other family members".

The Home front also spoke to some children of the working class mothers. Hassan Ibrahim is 12 and happens to be a child of a working mother. He said, "My mother goes to work every morning just the same time we leave the house for school and returns while we are at Islammiyah School in the evening. I love it when it is weekend and she wouldn't go to work. We are all happier and have lots of fun with her," he said.

Well as much as many women do not feel comfortable leaving their children in the hands of nannies and in some instances even family members, these children usually have a story to tell based on their experiences with their care givers when their parents are away.

Aisha Faruk, a seven year old has this to say, "Aunty Fati beats me and abuse me when mummy goes to work. She said that is the way mummy treats her too. I want mummy to be staying at home so that Aunty Fati will not be beating me. No one beats my friend Khadija because her mother is always at home".

The logo for Unity Bank features the word "unity" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "u" is dark grey, "n" is green, and "ity" is dark grey. Below "unity" is the word "bank" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font, also in dark grey. The background of the advertisement is a light grey with a faint, repeating pattern of the word "unity" in a larger font size, creating a subtle texture.

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## News Extra

# Nelson Mandela's release in Winnie's words: 'He didn't know what awaited him'

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, admitted that the optimism of the day her then husband walked free has been clouded by political failures



WINNIE Mandela.

The woman at Nelson Mandela's side after his long imprisonment has spoken of the moment he stepped outside to face an expectant world.

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, seen by millions of people holding her then husband's hand in images on 11 February 1990, admitted that the sunny optimism of that day has been clouded by political failures.

Speaking to the *Guardian* in Johannesburg, Madikizela-Mandela described the future president's mood as he prepared to walk out of Victor Verster prison in Paarl, near Cape Town.

"It was great excitement," she said. "And he was human. He must have at a certain point been afraid, afraid of what he was coming out to after 27 years in prison, and having left in the 60s to come back to a society that expected so much of him at the age of over 70. I think he himself didn't know what awaited him outside."

Recalling the surge of public emotion, the 73-year-old added: "We were shocked at the response of the nation that at last we were going to be free. We knew from that day that he would lead us ... to freedom."

Nelson and Winnie married in 1958. They separated in April

1992, after details of her infidelity emerged, and divorced four years later. She restored her maiden name, Madikizela.

Unlike her universally admired ex-husband, she is a deeply divisive figure in South Africa. Under

apartheid she was convicted of kidnapping Stompie Moeketsi, 14, who was later found beaten to death in Soweto. Long after the dawn of democracy, she was convicted of more than 40 charges of fraud in 2003 - her prison sen-

tence replaced with a suspended term on appeal.

But Winnie is still revered for her leadership in the liberation struggle during which she endured harassment by the white authorities. An MP, she remains a star

of domestic politics, often introduced by ANC officials as "the mother of the nation".

Asked about the public reception for her and Nelson on 11 February 1990, she said: "Oh my goodness. Actually it was so difficult to return home. We took two days from Cape Town to reach Orlando [in Soweto, Johannesburg] because of the love of the masses of our country, who came out in their millions to the streets. There was an air of joy. We just knew then that the sacrifices of years ago had ultimately borne fruit."

"It's hard to interpret in words precisely how that felt. Here we were facing those millions and millions of the masses of the country who expected liberation."

But she acknowledged that many of those same masses, who expected to be lifted out of poverty, are still waiting. "We cannot pretend that it is all OK. We cannot pretend that we do not have problems. We do have problems but like any other liberation movement we will overcome."

Madikizela-Mandela added: "Democracy that is just 15 years old has achieved tremendous strides and we were learning in the process. We didn't know, for instance, that political freedom was not going to give us economic freedom and we would see our people back on the streets 15 years after we'd attained our democracy."

"We've seen what is happening all over the country, people demonstrating against the pace of delivery. We feel very guilty. We think much more could have been done in the 15 years and we also feel maybe somewhere along the line we need to go back to the drawing board and introspect, find out where exactly we've gone wrong, where we've placed emphasis on areas of struggle and neglected others. It is quite clear not all is well."

PIC: AFP



SOUTH Africa's first black president Nelson Mandela (first row left) flanked by his former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela celebrates the 20th anniversary of his release from prison with a private dinner party at his home with family, friends and comrades of the liberation struggle in Johannesburg. Standing from left are: former SABC head Dali Mpofu, Babalo Mdikane of the Heritage Council, Chief Executive of the council Sonwabile Mancotywa, businessmen Valli Moosa, Murphy Morobe and Cyril Ramaphosa, Mandela's grandson Luvuyo Mandela and businesswoman Hilda Ndude.

## News Extra

# José Mourinho and the mafia plot that never was

How tabloid reports of a plot to seize the Internazionale manager snowballed from a press cutting found by the carabinieri

“Mafia plot to kidnap Mourinho.” It may make a great headline, but in the age of the internet, is all as it seems in a rapidly changing news environment?

According to tabloid reports, the Italian police have just smashed a Mafia plot to kidnap

the Portuguese manager of Internazionale, his wife and two children. It is gripping stuff – except that the winding trail that leads back from today’s headlines ends not at the luxurious waterfront mansion of a Sicilian godfather but in a shabby caravan on a gypsy encampment at Grezzago,

near Milan.

That is where, seven days ago, officers of the Carabinieri seized two members of a gang who were reported to have been plotting to seize “the Special One”. Well, “gang” is one word to describe them, but “family” would do just as well.

The four-member gang – a husband and wife and their two grown-up sons – are accused of breaking into the houses of rich people in northern Italy.

“They’d take the number plates of big, expensive cars and go to the ACI [Italy’s equivalent of the AA or RAC] and trace the address of the owner. Then, when they were sure there was no one at home, they’d deactivate the alarm system and break in through a door or window,” Major Vito Di Gioia, who led the operation, said. He and his men found stolen goods worth some €500,000 (£440,000), including jewels and watches worth around €100,000 (£88,000).

Like any number of similar operations, this one would have passed unnoticed had not one of the Carabinieri found, in the prefab, a press cutting that referred to José Mourinho. “This was the only thing linking him to the operation,” said Di Gioia.

Last Saturday a local paper in Genoa, the *Corriere Mercantile*, reported that Mourinho’s home on Lake Como was among the suspected targets of a band of gypsies accused of burglary. Its dispatch was picked up and reported by the Italian news agency Ansa, but only one leading newspaper, Milan’s *Il Giorno*, bothered to publish the story.

But for the internet, no doubt, the affair would have died there and then. By Monday, however, it was all over the press in Mourinho’s native Portugal, and somewhere in its passage from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic the story became a lot more interesting.

“José Mourinho escapes Mafia attack,” declared *Correio da Manhã*. *A Bola* told its readers the gypsy band – “linked to the local mafia” – was “suspected of planning the kidnapping” of the Portuguese coach.

The Portuguese newspapers’ coverage excited not only their readers but also several Italian national dailies, whose journalists had passed over the original story. Citing “the Portuguese press” as its source, *Il Giornale* reported on Tuesday that the gang were “linked to the Italian mafia” and had been found in possession of “videos and photos” of Mourinho. *La Stampa* said some of the pho-

tos had been taken of the coach “even while he was at the wheel of his car, and in particular as he was leaving the pinetina [training ground]”.

By the time it reached the British press, both the kidnap plot and the mafia link had become fact – at least in the headlines. “Mafia



“MAFIA plot to kidnap José Mourinho foiled,” proclaimed the *Daily Mirror*. “Gang bid to kidnap Mourinho,” said the *Sun*.

plot to kidnap José Mourinho foiled,” proclaimed the *Daily Mirror*. “Gang bid to kidnap Mourinho,” said the *Sun*.

Disappointingly, Major Di Gioia was not prepared to play ball. “We are not aware of any link between these people and organised crime,” he said. Neither photos nor videos had been found on them, he added.

“These people are not kidnapers. They are just thieves and receivers of stolen goods,” the Major said.

Culled from *theguardian.co.uk*



JOSE Mourinho



**BUDGET OFFICE OF THE FEDERATION  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ABUJA**

The Budget Office of the Federation, Federal Ministry of Finance, will hold a Workshop with the theme;

**“Strengthening Budget Implementation for Enhanced Project Execution and Service Delivery”**

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010

**Venue:** Congress Hall, Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja

**Time:** 9.00 a.m. each day.

There will be presentations on key aspects of the budget implementation process as well as interactive sessions among participants.

Participants will be drawn from the National Assembly, Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Civil Society, the Media and other key Stakeholders.

**All invited participants and guests are to be seated by 8.45 a.m.**

*Signed*  
**Dr. Bright Okogu**  
Director-General

## News Extra



A Haiti boy on admission at a health post in Port-au-Prince

### Haiti earthquake: Conflicting death tolls lead to confusion

Fears that the government has lost track of dead as president and communications disagree publicly over official number

**H**aiti has issued wildly conflicting death tolls for the earthquake that devastated the country in January, adding to confusion about how many people died.

A day after the communications minister, Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue, raised the official death toll to 230,000, her office put out a statement quoting the country's president, Rene Preval, as saying 270,000 bodies had been hastily buried by the government following the earthquake.

A press officer withdrew the statement, saying there was an error, but reissued it within minutes. Soon afterwards the ministry said there had been a typographical error and the number should have been 170,000.

Even that didn't clear things up. In the late afternoon, Preval and Lassegue appeared together at the government's temporary headquarters. Preval, speaking English, told journalists that the number was 170,000, apparently referring to the number of bodies contained in mass graves.

Lassegue interrupted him in French, giving a number lower than she had given the previous day: "No, no, the official number is 210,000."

Preval dismissed her. "Oh, she doesn't know what she's talking about," he said, again in English.

Whatever the death toll, there is no doubt it is one of the highest in a modern disaster.

A third of Haiti's 9 million people were crowded into the chaotic capital, Port-au-Prince, when the quake struck just to the south-west a few minutes before 5pm on 12 January. Many were preparing to leave their offices or schools. Some 250,000 houses and 30,000 commercial buildings collapsed, according to government estimates, with people inside being crushed.

For days, people piled bodies by the side

of the road or left them half-buried under the rubble. Countless more remain under collapsed buildings, identified only by a pungent odour.

No foreign government or independent agency has issued its own death toll. Many agencies that usually can help estimate casualty numbers say they are too busy helping the living to keep track of the dead. And the joint taskforce in charge of the relief effort - foreign governments and militaries, UN agencies and Haitian government officials - quotes only the government death toll.

That toll has climbed from a precise 111,481 on 23 January to 150,000 on 24 January, before climbing to 212,000 last Saturday and 230,000 on Tuesday this week. Preval's count of 170,000 bodies buried in mass graves may represent only a piece of the toll - but nobody at his office was available to clarify.

It's common in major disasters to see large discrepancies in death tolls. Governments may use lower figures to save face, or higher figures to attract foreign aid. In Haiti's case, however, where the very institutions responsible for compiling information were themselves devastated, reaching a death toll is particularly difficult.

Even some officials express scepticism that the government is keeping count. "I personally think that a lot of information being given to the public by the government is estimates," said Haiti's chief epidemiologist, Dr Roc Magloire.

Many citizens are even more cynical, accusing the government of inflating the numbers to attract foreign aid and to take the spotlight off its own lacklustre response to the disaster.

"Nobody knows how they came up with the death count. There's no list of names. No list of who may still be trapped. No pictures of people they buried," said shop owner Jacques Desal, 45. "No one is telling us anything. They just want the aid."

*Culled from guardian.co.uk*

# PROPERTY

property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

## Yobe to lease its 3-star hotel

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe State yesterday declared that the new 3-star hotel built by the state government will be leased out to private operators for proper management and financial benefits.

The governor who visited the hotel site along Dama-

turu-Kano road was told by the engineers that works have reached over 98% completion and the project would be ready for commissioning soon.

Gaidam said interested bidders who would manage the hotel would be invited soon adding that the new edifice will not be handed over to the State Hotels Management Board.

The contract for the hotel was awarded over eight years

ago but was revoked two years ago and the government directed the state ministry of housing to evaluate and complete the project through direct labour.

Our correspondent who visited the hotel reports that civil and electrical engineering as well as plumbing works, Plaster of Paris (POP) and paintings have been completed.

## New Dubai residential property prices rise

RESIDENTIAL property prices in Dubai rose 0.7% in the final quarter of 2009, compared to the previous quarter, according to new real estate index for the emirate that is billed as a new benchmark for the industry.

The figures from the new Sales Price Index for Dubai (SPID), which has been launched by REIDIN.com in partnership with the Real Estate Regulatory Agency and Dubai Land Department, is aimed at providing the market with a series of indices and data sets that can help improve transparency across the market and help real estate professionals benchmark and analyse residential price trends.

According to the latest information, the price of villas rose by 2.6% during the fourth quarter but overall prices are down 19.7% in 2009 compared to the fourth quarter of 2008. Some of the 10 main districts covered by the index included Palm Jumeirah, where prices showed an increase of 2% quarter on quarter. However, the quarterly figures for both Emirates Hills and Jumeirah Lake Towers fell by 19% during the same period, the report shows.

'Ensuring the accuracy of market data and relevance to local market conditions is our top priority, which has prompted us to appoint an advisory committee, comprised of academicians and industry professionals from different emerging economies to monitor the quality of the indices,' explained Ahmet Kayhan, chief executive of REIDIN.com.

However, the quarterly figures for both Emirates Hills and Jumeirah Lake Towers fell by 19% during the same period, the report shows.



L-R World Bank Country Representative, Mr. Onno Ruhl, World Bank Sector Director for Roads Development, Ms Inger Anderson, with Works, Housing and Urban Development Minister, Dr. Hassan Muhammad Lawal during Ms Inger Andersen's courtesy visit on Tuesday at Mabushi, Abuja.

## 'Area Councils have no jurisdiction over FCT land'

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE Director, Development Control Department, (AMMC), Mr. Yahaya Yusuf has said that the Land Department of the Federal Capital Territory Administration is the only authority that can grant allocation of plots in the FCT.

Yahaya said this when the

Chief of Jiwa, HRH Idris Musa paid him a courtesy visit recently to present documents of residents who claimed to have legal title to their lands.

Idris urged the Department to exercise restraint in the removal of illegal structures in Saburi as it has been officially marked for building materials market and most of the residents are in pos-

session of relevant documents.

The Sarkin Jiwa, while presenting the documents for verification, expressed optimism that the outcome of the required verification should determined the structures to be removed.

Responding Yahaya Yusuf thanked the chief for the visit and pledged to carry out in-depth investigation on the submitted

documents in collaboration with relevant Departments.

He also [promised to implore the relevant Department to trace the origin of any fake document detected in order to deal with those involved, adding that his Department is ready to tread the path of caution in the course of her official duty and seek the cooperation of all concerned.

## FG establish girl child skill acquisition centre

From Aliyu m. Hamagam, Gombe

THE Federal Government in conjunction with the United Children emergency Fund (UNICEF) has concluded plans to embark on literacy campaign for girl child education in the nineteen northern states, the Minister of education, Hajia Aishatu jibir Dukku has said.

The minister spoke in Gombe at the commissioning ceremony of Girl child acquisition Center in Lafawo village of Akko Local

government Area, noting that about 60 percent of Nigerian women were illiterate.

According to her the plan for the construction of the center was conceived by a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) Center for Development and Partnership (CEDEP) and Japan government provided the funding of the project.

The skill acquisition center was proposed to give training on the sewing, knitting, dyeing, computer operation and a

host of many other craft work, Hajia Aishatu Jibir added that if the center was put to its optimal capacity utilization it would go along way of improving the social wellbeing of the womenfolk of the area.

In his remark, the Japan Ambassador, Mr. Toshitsugu Uesawa said over N 10 million was invested for the construction of the center that has two classrooms, equipped with training facilities for effective training toward a self reliant.

He further stated that the government of his country would ever remain committed to the development of education in Nigeria, saying investing in human development was one aspect that no nation would toyed with.

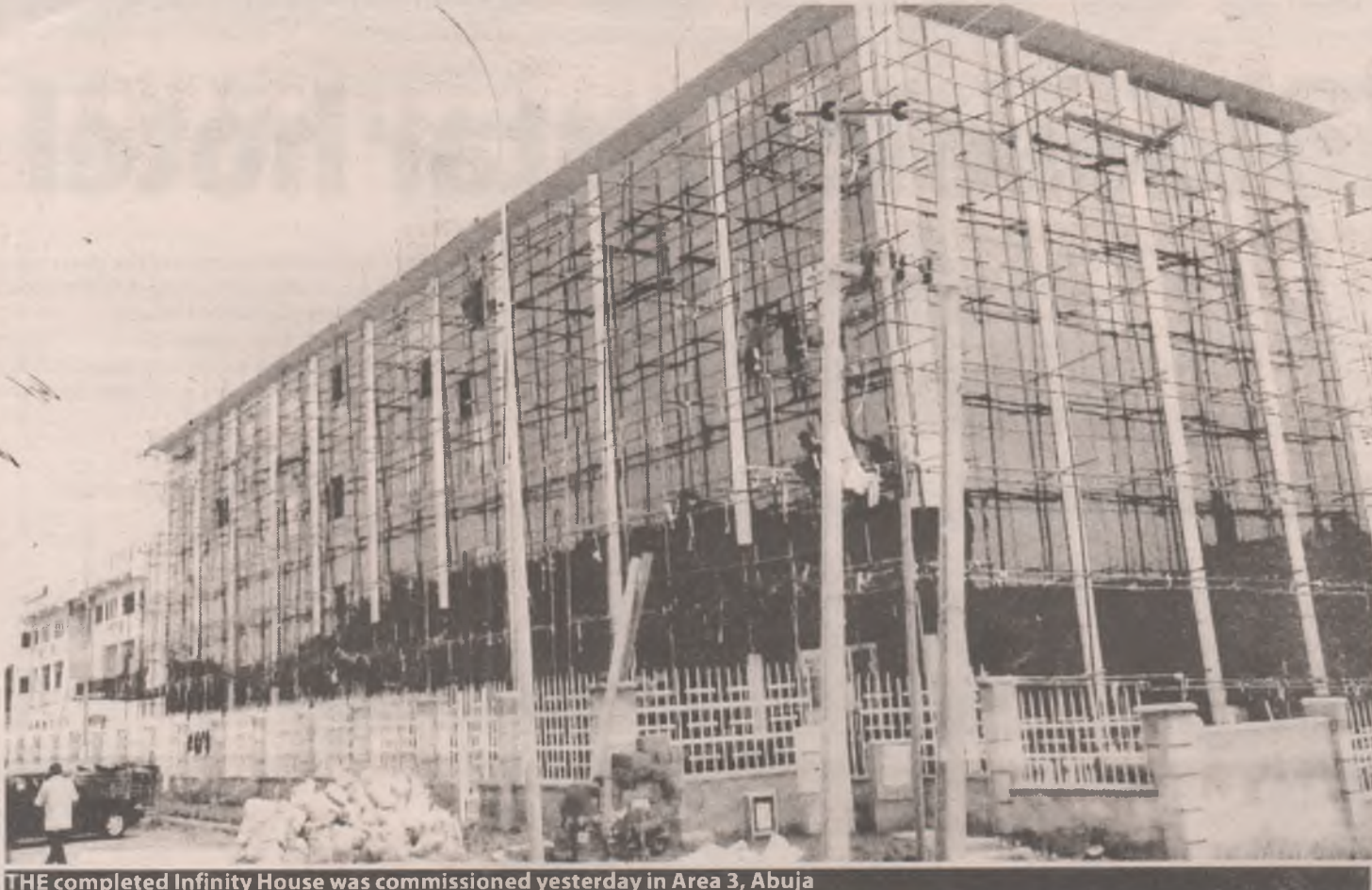
Uesawa opined that there were about 300 million children that could not access basic education in Africa, this according to him was an unacceptable, hence the decision of his country to invest toward equal opportunity for all. End.

## Property



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HOTLINE: 07041632079



THE completed Infinity House was commissioned yesterday in Area 3, Abuja

## Lack of awareness, bane of architects

—NIA

THE Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIA) in Abuja on Wednesday said that the major problem facing the profession was the lack of appreciation of and awareness about its activities.

Mr. Oka Amogu, the Public Relations Officer of the Institute, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the situation prevailed because most people did not have regard for intellectual works and so do not want to pay for it.

"They think they are dashing you money when they engage you and want to pay for your services.

"We want to educate the public because a lot of people don't even know what the architect does, when to engage him and when not to go to him.

"In the U.S and Britain, for instance, architects are really doing well as they practise their job with ease and they get more jobs due to the understanding and support of the society and make their lives better.

"Now, you need an architect when you want to re-arrange your shop to economise space and when an architect gives a professional touch to the interior of a house, it is normally different, it is normally better than when you do it yourself," he said.

According to him, architects in developed countries practise the profession with ease because people appreciate their worth and they get more jobs due to the understanding and support of the society.

"But you will be surprised that here even people who seem to have money, are mentally poor," Amogu said.

He said it was important for people to know that architects made the house and the environment friendlier for people to live in, adding that when people were happy with their environment the society benefitted. (NAN)

## FERMA to begin articulated vehicles parks scheme

THE Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) says it has concluded plans to provide permanent parking space for articulated vehicles in Kaduna to check the indiscriminate parking of such vehicles in the city.

It said it had meanwhile identi-

fied 78 locations of indiscriminate parking of long vehicles along the nation's high ways, a situation that had caused several road accidents leading to loss of lives.

The Chairman of FERMA's Road Service Committee, Alhaji Kassim Ibrahim disclosed this

during a courtesy call on Gov. Namadi Sambo of Kaduna State.

He said FERMA had proposed two parking spaces in Kaduna State at Tarfa and Mararaban Jos, under a pilot scheme.

Ibrahim appealed to the governor to make land available in

those areas to enable the agency to start the project.

Responding, Sambo said the state had already put in motion mechanisms for a lasting solution to the problem as many lives had been lost due to indiscriminate parking of such long vehicles.

## Ondo spends N1.5bn on rural development

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

IN furtherance of its commitment to rapid transformation of life at the community level, Ondo State government is expending one billion naira on community development this year.

This is aside from the sum of Four Hundred and eighty three million expended on the provisions of quick win projects in 80 communi-

ties in three local government councils last year.

The Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko disclosed this on Monday in Akure while declaring open a one week for the second phase of the Training

And Project Programme (TAP-PII) for 150 Community Change Agents. Apart from this, Mimiko revealed that the government is embarking on 150 projects at 10

projects per each of the renaming 15 local government areas under the 3is initiative while it will develop capacities in the initial 80 pilot communities in the second phase.

According to him the N483 million spent on community development in 2009 was a testimony of the resolve of his government to empower communities to take their destinies in their hands while the government will only provide

the enabling environment for the achievement of this goals.

Mimiko remarked that since the greatest challenge facing the society now is Youth unemployment, all stakeholders must look for ingenious ways to find jobs for the Youths in order to channel their energies to creative ventures rather than allowing them to become veritable tools in the hands of mischief makers.

## FG to partner World Bank on roads construction

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Hassan Muhammad Lawal, has said that the Federal Government will continue to work closely with the World Bank towards ensuring good road network in Nigeria.

He said this on Tuesday while receiv-

ing in audience, the World Bank Sector Director, Sustainable Development, Inger Andersen. The Minister, however, lamented that despite the fact that the Federal Government paid its counterpart funding in 2009, the World Bank policies and procedures for projects executions hampered the implementation of road projects in that year. He therefore urged for a review

of these procedures and policies in order to expedite action on the various road projects under the World Bank Road Assisted Programmes.

Earlier, the World Bank Sector Director, Sustainable Development, Inger Andersen stressed the importance the world bank attached to infrastructural development especially in the road sector and therefore

reiterated the support of the world bank to achieve sustainable growth and development of the country.

In the same vein, the World Bank Country Director in Nigeria, Onno Ruhl, further emphasized that the World Bank has a budget of Three Hundred and Twenty Million Dollars, (about Fifty Billion Naira) billion waiting to be used for roads development in Nigeria.

# CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513  
email: citynews@dailytrust.com

## Court orders psychiatric test on journalist

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 35-year-old journalist standing trial on a one-count charge of allegedly damaging a signpost that belongs to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) was on Wednesday ordered to be taken to a competent hospital for psychiatric examination by a magistrate court.

The journalist, Bright Ihejimba, who resides near the EFCC, along Ademola Adetokunbo Crescent, Wuse 2, Abuja, was accused of committing the offence this month.

Police prosecutor, Monday Akor, told the court that on February 3, 2010, one Faruk Umar of No 11, Naafuk Street, Wuse 2, Abuja, reported to the police that the accused intentionally damaged a sign board belonging to the EFCC.

"The accused intentionally damaged the sign board and committed an offence punishable under Section 329 of the Penal Code Law," the prosecutor stated.

When the charge was read to the accused, he denied the allegation and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

In her ruling, Magistrate Hadiza Shagari recommended that the accused be sent to a hospital for psychiatric examination to determine his level of mental stability.

"Because of the unusual way the accused is behaving in the court room, the court rules that the accused be taken to a psychiatric hospital to examine his mental status," the magistrate ruled and adjourned the case to February 19, 2010.

# Police prevent group from protesting to US Embassy

By Abubakar Yakubu

POLICEMEN in an armour personnel carrier yesterday morning prevented members of the Nigeria Unity Group from protesting to the United States' Embassy in Abuja over the inclusion of Nigeria as a terrorist country.

The policemen were led by Assistant Commissioners, Sunday Odukoya and Wilson, who stopped the group opposite the Ministry of Defence Headquarters.

The group's spokesperson, El Malik, however delivered his prepared speech on the road to a crowd that consisted of an American security official from the embassy.

Malik said it was wrong for Nigeria to be classified as a terrorist state because of the alleged crime of one person, who was educated in the United Kingdom.

"Because of one Nigerian, who schooled abroad, about 150 Nigerians have been classified as terrorists and we have heard of similar incidents happening in London without the country labelled as a terrorist state," he said.

Malik told the America Embassy official that Nigeria has law abiding citizens that are doing well in their professional callings



PIC: ABUBAKAR YAKUBU

NIGERIA Unity Group members protesting in Abuja yesterday.

abroad and called for the immediate removal of the country's name from the list of terrorist states in the world.

Also speaking, Mr Ejike Asiegbu, who led Nollywood actors on the protest, described as hurried, America's action in labelling Nigeria as a terrorist state.

"America should tell Nigerians why the country was labelled a terrorist state instead of giving credit to the suspect's father, who reported his son's unusual behaviour to American intelligence officers," he stated.

Mr Ejike called on Nigerians, especially members of the National Assembly and the act-

ing president of the country to condemn the action of America and insist that the country is delisted.

After the address, a petition was handed over to Mr John Myers, a security official from the United States Embassy, who promised to deliver it to the appropriate quarters.



ABUJA-BASED Islamic cleric Malam Muhammad Adam Alkali (middle) during a condolence visit to Ismail, an aide who lost his mother recently.

## NYCN commends NASS over Jonathan's leadership

By Oluto Samuel

THE National Youth Council of Nigeria yesterday commended the National Assembly for passing a resolution to make Vice-President, Goodluck Jonathan assume office as acting president of the country.

Leader of the council, Ambassador Dickson A.O. Akoh said before the intervention of the legislators, the country was head-

ing towards anarchy, adding that the resolutions of both chambers of the National Assembly have shown that Nigeria is capable of resolving its internal crises.

The group prayed for the speedy recovery of the president and said they have faith in the ability of Goodluck Jonathan to rule the country as well as embark on projects that will impact positively on the lives of Nigerians.

## PDP removes Bwari council's chairmanship flag bearer

By Hussein Yahaya

THE leadership of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has replaced Mr. Yohanna Peters with his closest rival Musa Dikko at the November 21 party primaries.

Mr Dikko will now fly the

party's flag in the April 10 chairmanship election in Bwari Area Council.

A statement by the Media Coordinator of the Musa Dikko Campaign Organisation, Manasseh Dangiwa, quoted a letter from the Party's National Legal

Adviser, Chief Olusola Oke (on behalf of the National Chairman, Chief Vincent Ogbulafor) as saying that the decision came on the heels of flurry of petitions calling for Peters' removal on the grounds of alleged proven cases of fraud and official misconduct,

adding that the development heightened the party's fears of losing out either at the elections or at the election petition tribunal.

According to the statement, the letter from the party dated February 8, 2010 revealed that there was

evidence that the candidate was promoted to GL 08 in the service of the National Assembly in 2007, while he was holding appointment as a Supervisory Councillor in Bwari Area Council, a situation it said negated public service rules and thus, fraudulent.

# Pipeline explosion causes pandemonium at Gada-Biyu

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

RESIDENTS of Gada-Biyu community in Kwali Area Council were on Wednesday afternoon thrown into pandemonium when a petroleum pipeline caught fire after it was allegedly vandalised during the night.

A witness told City News that

the fire started at 1:12 pm and might have been as a result of a pipeline vandalised during the night by vandals, who scooped crude oil that spilled into a bush, which later exploded.

Our reporter who visited the scene observed the entire community enveloped with thick smoke after an explosion from

the damaged pipe.

Motorists coming from Gwagwalada and Lokoja axis were forced to park at a distance due to the thick smoke that made visibility difficult through the road.

Firemen and officials of the civil defence corps stood helplessly as a result of the gravity

of the fire.

A civil defence official said they received information about the incident and immediately alerted security personnel of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation at Awawa village, before they were mobilised to the scene.

He said the vandals scooped

crude oil and left the oil to flow after finishing, which spilled into a nearby farm that was burning and led to an explosion.

"We have impounded trucks used by such vandals and yet they still continue to vandalise oil pipelines," the officer lamented.

## Abaji GGSS holds inter-house sports competition

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

GOVERNMENT Girls Secondary School (GGSS), Abaji, Wednesday held its 19th annual inter-house sport competition in which Green House emerged the overall winner with 156 points.

Blue House came second, Red House took third.

Principal of school, Hajiya Zainab Mohammed Ari, said sporting activities among talented students will go a long way in boosting their morals and physical conditions, adding that good talents can easily be identified to represent the school, FCT and the country in general.

The principal thanked the FCTA administration, education secretary as well as the Secondary Education Board for their efforts in face-lifting the school through landscaping, controlling erosion in its premises and renovation of school buildings.

She appealed to the FCT Education Secretariat to sink an additional bore-hole in the school premises in order to serve the teeming population of students in the school.

Other requests by the principal were the renovation of the school's fence, multi-purpose hall, dining hall and the school's kitchen.

Speaking earlier, FCT Chairperson of the Secondary Education Board, Hajiya Ramatu Awwal Ibrahim, who was represented by Rifkat Chidawa, commended the principal and the school's management for their effort in organising the competition.

She observed that the students of the school have a focus and advised that the participation of students in sporting activities will enhance them to excel in their academics.



STUDENTS and staff of Green House collecting the winning trophy during the inter-house sports event organised by Government Girls Secondary School Abaji, Wednesday.

## ...As GSS Mabushi solicits for sporting equipment

By Hussein Yahaya

THE Principal of Government Secondary School, Mabushi, Abuja, Alhaji Aliyu Ibrahim Kperogi, yesterday appealed to corporate organisations, sports loving Nigerians and wealthy individuals to assist the school in the area of sporting equipment.

The principal, who made the appeal at the school's fifth inter-house sports competition, said the call has become necessary in view of the importance of sports in the education sector.

"Sports are an integral part of the school's curriculum, which has not only academic value but also moral, physi-

cal and emotional values, as it builds the totality of an individual," he declared.

Kperogi specifically called for the provision of badminton equipment, volley ball and basketball courts as well as grazing the school's football pitch.

He said even though the FCT Education Secretariat is doing its best for schools in the territory, government should not be left alone to shoulder the enormous responsibilities of funding the education sector.

Earlier, the FCT Director of the Directorate of Road Traffic Services, who was represented by Alhaji Abdulhamid Aliyu, stressed the importance of physical fitness to effective

learning and urged the students to always take part in sporting activities.

The Chairman of the School's Parents Teachers Associations, Mr. Sunday Nku, commended the present management team of the school for maintaining brilliant academic standard and called on relevant authorities to assist in fencing the school to ensure adequate security for both the students and school's property.

Highlights of the event was a sporting competition between houses in the school in which Red House polled 124 points to emerge the overall winners, while Yellow and blue came second and third respectively.

## Family Worship Centre empowers 580 widows

By Maureen Onochie

ABUJA Family Worship Centre has so far distributed N10.4 million to about 580 widows.

This was disclosed by the Missions Coordinator of the centre, Regina Nuhu, who said the programme is meant to help widows of pastors, who lost their lives, especially during conflicts, so that they can cater for their upkeep and orphaned children.

According to her, the centre spent N8 million on the programme last year and got close to 100 percent pay back rate which encouraged the start of another set in 2010.

"We didn't give the beneficiaries equal amount as it was done accord-

ing to their request," she disclosed.

She said some of recipients requested for as low as N5,000, while some collected N250,000 or N200,000, depending on their business proposal as well as ability to pay back the loan.

The mission's coordinator also revealed that the loan recipients have been formed into cooperatives with leaders appointed from amongst them.

She noted that for the past 15 years, the centre had been assisting widows with stipends for their upkeep and school fees for their children until last year when it was decided to develop an entrepreneurial programme for women, adding that the loans are to be paid back with 10% interest.

PIC: ABUBAKAR SADIQ ISAH

## Inside Politics

# 2010: For Anambra, it's a new dawn

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Awka

FEBRUARY 6, 2011 governorship election in Anambra State has come and gone leaving many Nigerians with the thinking that even in areas thought to be violence prone, elections can be conducted in a free and fair manner once the will to do so is there. Observers have concluded that the election is so far the most peaceful and one devoid of manipulations and irregularities in Anambra State since 1999. Indeed many more went as far as to say that the election should serve as a reference point for other states in the 2011 general elections.

The free atmosphere in which the election took place demonstrated high level of maturity by both the electorate and contestants. For sure, the outcome has put to shame some cynics who initially thought Anambra state would be turned into war theatre.

During and after the election, there were no loss of lives and property as the case in some states in the recent times. Though there were minor cases of protests against the voters' register which was said to have omitted many names in some polling units, the election has been hailed as successful in many quarters.

By Thursday 4th February 2010, all sensitive materials including result sheets had arrived at the headquarters of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Awka, the state capital, via Enugu International Air Port. The distribution of the materials at the INEC headquarters started as early as 8.00 am on Friday 5th and few hours later, movement of the materials to their various zones and Local Government Councils commenced.

But the process was not entirely without hitches. Some party agents who joined the Resident Electoral Commissioner for Anambra and Commissioners from other states to the airport had complained on getting to the INEC headquarters in Awka about alleged loss of 3 pallets out of the 16 that came with them from the airport. They said that the number of pallets that was taken down to Awka was not what INEC made available. But Daily Trust learnt that the matter was settled after INEC had given explanation on the matter.

In preparation for the election, police men numbering about 23,000 were deployed to all parts of the state to provide security to both the electoral officials and the ballot boxes to avoid being snatched away by thugs. Other security agencies whose number could not be ascertained were also on hand to help ensure a successful election. They include the Army, Nigeria Security and Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC). Both INEC office and the State Headquarters of Police in Awka were heavily guarded. Many said that the massive security presence was intimidating.

Also, owing to the restriction order placed on people by the police, the whole roads across the state, and streets within towns were deserted. In fact the huge security presence across the state had scared many people from coming out to exercise their franchise. Many voters resorted to staying at home to avoid the harassment of the security men on duty.

The election last Saturday started very late at many polling units owing to late arrival of materials. At Achalla in Awka North LGA where Daily Trust visited around 9.47 am, accreditation was yet to commence. The electoral officer of the council Mrs. Tongo said that the materials and INEC staff were ready to move but there were no security to accompany them to their various



GOVERNOR Peter Obi



PROFESSOR Maurice Iwu

centres. It was the same situation at Aniocha and Oyi councils. However, Daily Trust noticed that in few areas, voting started on time.

One notable phenomenon in the election was the mass disfranchisement of illegible voters. Many voters who went to polling centres to exercise their civic duty were denied the opportunity as their names could not be found in the voters register. Many of them who were desperate to be part of the history of that peaceful election ran to INEC office for clarifications, but it was effort in futility.

The situation generated serious public outcry even among the candidates. Mr. Peter Obi who was later declared winner of the election had joined other contestants to raise alarm after he visited 7 areas and discovered that a lot of names were missing in the voters' register.

The PDP candidate Prof. Chukwuma Soludo and his Action Congress (AC) counterpart Dr. Chris Ngige also raised their voices concerning the situation. Ngige was the first to discover that his name was not in the register. When he started shouting, his name was quickly included by INEC. He also raised alarm to the fact that the name of the former Vice President of Nigeria Dr. Alex Ekwueme and his 97 years old father were missing from the register.

Notwithstanding the problems that trailed the exercise, however, a winner eventually emerged in the person of the incumbent governor, Mr. Peter Obi. He scored 97,843 votes according to the result declared by INEC. Dr. Ngige and Prof. Soludo came second and third respectively after scoring 60,204 and 59,355 in that order. According to INEC Obi took the lead in 15 local government areas to satisfy the constitutional requirement of vote spread. The councils are Ihiala, Awka North, Njikoka, Orumba South, Orumba North, Awka South, Onitsha South, Anyaelum, Idemili North, Anambra South, Anambra West, Onitsha North, Aguata, Ogbaru, Ekwusigo.

Though the outcome of the election received wide acceptance and commendation, it also generated pockets of condemnations, especially by some contestants who earlier complained of the level of disfranchisement that attended the polls.

As soon as the result was declared, Chris Ngige criticized it on alleged massive irregularities, such as disfranchisement. He also alleged violence and snatching of ballot boxes by some politicians in a few areas. He accused both INEC

and the governor Obi of manipulating the process to deny 90% of Anambra people from voting.

Ngige rejected the result instantly and insisted on going to court. He alleged that in Onitsha North, it took the intervention of Inspector General of Police to stop some marauding policemen who had stormed the Holy Trinity Basilica Onitsha voting centre to cart away ballot boxes.

Interestingly however, some of Obi's opponents conceded defeat and even paid courtesy visit on Obi to declare their support for his government. Prof. Soludo of the PDP felicitated with Obi on his victory at the polls and blamed PDP's loss on 'a high-level conspiracy by some interested persons to stop him [Soludo] from becoming the next governor of Anambra State'.

According to him INEC as the umpire never hid its hostility towards preventing him from winning. He said that what happened on 6th February signified ominous clouds for the country's democracy and another dangerous dimension to the rigging process in election. He noted that the voters' register was fraudulently manipulated to exclude thousands of voters who had valid voters cards.

National Chairman of All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) Chief Victor Umeh who witnessed the announcement of the result at the INEC office described it as victory for democracy. According to him, what Nigeria needs to succeed as country is to always ensure credible elections, which his party has always advocated.

By and large, no one appears to deny the fact that last Saturday's governorship election in Anambra State was less controversial than the ones previously held in 1999 and 2003. In 2003, the election was marred by violence and subsequently rigged with impunity, which is why many observers are of the opinion that in spite of the shortcomings of this election, the people of Anambra should be commended for ensuring that election was devoid of violence.

With the election over, what is expected of the people of Anambra, especially the aspirants is to forget the past and rally round Mr. Peter Obi to drive the administration of the state in the interest of the people. Aspirants should as well accept the olive branch extended to them by the governor to join him to move the state to higher height. The idea of distracting the attention government by violent means among others will certainly not help matters. For Anambra, let it be a new dawn like the election portrayed.

## Iwu faults NLC over Anambra election comment

By Abbas Jimoh

CHAIRMAN of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Prof. Maurice Iwu, yesterday in Abuja said comments credited to the President of Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Abdulwahed Omar, over the Anambra governorship election is unfortunate.

He said that it is wrong for Omar to call for his sack or resignation over the election that has been widely applauded, more so that NLC officially and publicly endorsed one of the candidates who eventually lost the election to Governor Peter Obi.

Omar was quoted to have said that Anambra election indicated that the current INEC leadership under Prof. Iwu is incapable of organising a proper free and fair election on a national scale.

Iwu, who spoke through his Chief Press Secretary (CPS), Andy Ezeani, said Omar's comment was prompted by the loss of his candidate.

## N/Assembly resolution, danger to democracy – CSOs

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

CIVIL Society Organisations (CSO) has said that unless urgent steps are taken by the Federal Executive Council to perfect the legal process of uplifting Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to the position of Acting President in line with the provision of Section 144 of the constitution, the action of the National Assembly portends serious danger to the future of the democratic process of the country.

In a communiqué issued at the end of an emergency meeting in Abuja Wednesday and signed by Dr. Otiye Igbuzor of the Africa Centre for Leadership Strategy and Development, the CSOs noted that the resolution of the National Assembly was illegal as it did not conform to Section 144 of the constitution.

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONSULTANTS OF NIGERIA.

The general public is hereby notified that the above named association 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. Mr. Oyedele Oyedotun
2. Mrs Ebi Obaro
3. Mrs Oladunni Fatuga
4. Mr Olugbenga Ogunbode

### Aims and objectives

1. To advice and counsel students who want to study overseas.
2. To facilitate placement of qualified student in credible institutes abroad
3. To promote the image and credibility of Education consultants in Nigeria

Any objection(s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, (CAC) Plot, 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days of this publication.

Signed: **Kola Oyedotun Esq**  
Solicitor & Advocate.

## REDEEMED CONGREGATION MINISTRY

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### Trustees are:

1. Prophetess Rachael Peter Enoch
2. Evangelist Godwin Peter Enoch
3. Evangelist Janet Jacob
4. Deacon Bright Bassey
5. Celestine Amos

### Aims and Objectives

1. To preach the Gospel
2. To teach & Train Evangelist

Any objection(s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, (CAC) Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days of this publication.

### Lex Justicia Associates

Suite C3 Halima Plaza  
Area 11 Garki Abuja  
08023441133

## FISH FARM ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Chief Chinyelugo Maunce Ebo -President
2. Chief Patrick Adebayo -Vice President
3. Akin Olusina Sec
4. Abdullahi Muazu -Fin. Sec
5. Dave Ogwu -Treasure
6. F.F. Adegemi
7. Dr. (Mrs) Sarah Nnadzwa Jibril
8. Ighota Ovie Mans
9. Ali. Ado Datti
10. Opara Blessing Blossom

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure the development of fish farming in Nigeria
2. To assist the govt in producing food for the nation and also create awareness for export opportunities

Any objection(s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, (CAC) Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days of this publication.

## WAZOBIA WOMEN UNITED ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act NO. 1 of 1990.

### The Trustees are:

1. Hajia Kande Garba Kwai -President
2. Hajia Nimota Abdul
3. Hajia Aisha Hassan
4. Hajia Awa Mohammed
5. Mrs. Ayuba Aweyatu
6. Charity G. Umar
7. Loveth Ibrahim
8. Maimunatu Abubakar
9. Maureen Okoli -Secretary
10. Sahadat Alhassan

### Aims and Objectives

1. To promote the unity of Nigerian women
2. To join hands with the government in National Development
3. To promote the advancement of democracy, justice and equity in Nigeria

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja, within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: **BARRISTER KOLAWOLE**

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public that the original certificate of occupancy NO. BA/1610 held by ALHAJI AHMED MUSE is here by missing. Any person that comes across it should please contact that deed Registrar ministry of lands and survey Bauchi or G.HASSAN&CO. NO,2 BANK ROAD BAUCHI TEL; 080-36092099

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the General Public of the loss of the Original land Documents No. MZTP/LA/303 located at Nyanya village with Right of Occupancy No. FCT/M/MZTP/303 belonging to Mallam Mohammed Hamisu.

All efforts made to trace the said document proved abortive.

If found, please return to the nearest police station or the above named.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public that the original of all my credentials are missing, and all efforts to trace them has proved abortive they are:- FSLG, GCE O'L Cert, FGC Enugu Testimonial, DIP, and B,SC (Hons) Acctg (ABU Zaria), IJMB result, NYSC, ICAN Regri, ICAN Exemption, Employment, Promotion, Confirmation, Deployment & Release letters and other documents. If found, please call 08035906294, 07032975456 or return to the nearest police station.

Signed: **DAKO, ABEJE JOSHJUA.**

## LOSS OF LAND ALLOCATION PAPER

This is to notify the general public of the lost of original offer of term of grant/conveyance of approval of plot No. E186 about 1200sqm in Mpape 11 Layout bearing Ichedi Awe. All effort made to trace it proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original offer of the terms of Grant/Conveyance dated 10/11/2004 in respect of Plot No.261 of about 1000sqm located in Nyanya Phase 1 Extension Layout issued by Abuja Municipal Area Council and Original Re-certification Letter Issued by AGIS on the said land issued to **Oyemakinwa Lawrence Gbenga** is declared missing. If found, contact the nearest police station.

## FOUNDATION FOR ENHANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### The Trustees are:

1. Chidi Mokeme President
2. Lola Ibrahim-Oje-Secretary
3. Kadaria Ahmed Member

### Aims & Objectives

1. For educational development generally
2. And for good governance and sustainability

Any objection(s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, (CAC) Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days of this publication.

## BARUWA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Community 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. Bro. Ahmed Akinkunmi Agbeti Chairman
2. Bro. Shikriyah Babatunde Selem
3. Alhaji Khalid Abiodun Baruwa
4. Bro. Aliu Adegboyega Haruna
5. Bro. Abdul Waas Bidmaasi The Community Imam

### Aims and Objectives:

1. To worship Allah (SWT) according to the Qur'aan and the Sunnah;
  2. To serve as a unifying pedestal for all Muslims irrespective of status, race, gender, or colour in the Community in particular and the entire universe in general;
  3. To engage in other programmes that will benefit the Muslim Jama'ah;
  4. To encourage members of the Jama'ah towards the study and practice of Islam in accordance with Islamic tenets;
  5. To safeguard, uphold and propagate the teaching of Islam in the Community in particular and the entire universe in general;
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to The Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days (twenty-eight) of the date of publication.

Signed: **Rafiat Haruna (Mrs.) (Solicitor)**

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly **TOCHUKWU BLESSING IROHA**, now wish to be known as **TOCHUKWU BLESSING CHUCKWU** for the general public to note.

I, formerly known as **MISS JUSTINA NWUKA AGBO** now wish to be known as **MRS JUSTINA NWUKA NWATU**

I, formerly **FATIMA WADA ABDULLAHI** now wish to be known as **FATIMAH MUAZU AHMAD** for the general public to know.

I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS MARGARET-LEONIE UTANDE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. MARGARET-LEONIE DUREKE**. All former documents remain valid. Financial Institutions and general public please take note.

I, formerly known as **OLUMIDE CHARLSE KUROLOJA** now **OLUMIDE CHARLSE OLAWALE**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **HADIZA VICTORIA ARUNA** now wish to be known as **HADIZA VICTORIA ADEDOKUN**. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank and general public to note.

I, **MISS BUKOLA ZARIYAT SAADU** now wish to be address as **MRS BUKOLA ZARIYAT ALIYU**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **RALIAT OGUN** now wish to be known as **IDOWU RODIYAT OLAJIDE**. General public take note.

I formerly known as **MISS NAOMI THEODORA DIMLONG**, wish to be known as **MRS. NAOMI LOUIS ANYANWU**. All former documents remain valid. NESCO Nigeria Ltd Bukuru Plateau State, and general public should take note.

I former **MISS OLUFUNKE OWA** now wish to be known as **MRS. OLUFUNKE YAYOCK ZANKAN**. Former documents remain valid. FCT UBE, UNIABUJA, FCT COE ZUBA and public take note.

I formally known as **ZAINAB ALIYU GARBA**, now wish to be **MRS ZAINAB ALIYU MUSTAPHA**. All former documents remain valid, general public to note.

Formerly, **MR. OBADIAH WAEJIM AYIBASAE** now wish to be known as **MR. AYIBASEE SHANPAM IRASE**. Former documents. The general public please note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MISS MADONNA N. SHIDALI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MADONNA N. AINIKA**. Former documents remains valid. ABU Zaria, NYSC and General public to note.

I, formerly known as **MRS JOY EGIMOYE CHUKWUKA**, now wish to be called **MRS. JOY ANAETO EJIMONYE CHUKWUKA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### WOMEN AND YOUTH AWARENESS EMPOWERMENT NETWORK s.k.a WOYAEEN

This is to inform the general public that the above named organization has applied for registration to the Corporate Affairs Commission under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Mrs. Rakiya U. Shonekan
2. Engineer Mohammed Lawal
3. Hajija Seratu Iya Aliyu
4. Arc. Olawande Shonekan
5. Hajija Aisha Oantoro
6. Mrs. N. Bajoga Audu
7. Mr Harande Khalifa Sulaman
8. Hadiza K. Miner (Esq)

#### AIMS & OBJECTIVES

1. To enhance ideals and create democratic awareness of Women and Youth development in all facets of life
2. To canvass for Women and Youth's socio-economic and political empowerment in Nigeria and the African continent.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Shehu-Miner & Associates (Maradun Chambers)

## AS-HABUL KISAI FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for incorporation under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990. The Trustees are:

- |                         |   |                     |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 Al-amin Muhammad Dadi | - | President           |
| 2 Hayatu Muhammad       | - | Secretary           |
| 3 Ismail Babangida      | - | Financial Secretary |
| 4 Isah Muhammad Dadi    | - | Publicity Secretary |
| 5 Yusuf Usman Abdullahi | - | Auditor             |

The main objects of the Foundation are:

#### Aims and objectives

- 1 To cater for the needy, orphans and the sick among Nigerian population
- 2 To provide training in vocational and small-scale acquisition to the youth and children
- 3 To work towards creating unity among all Muslim groups and in Nigeria and beyond

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja, within 28 days of this publication

Signed: Ismail Babangida -Secretary.

## VICTORIOUS WOMEN CHARITY FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

#### Trustees

1. Nikki Ngozi Modie Nwaefulu
2. Ogechukwu Modie
3. Gladys Ada Modie
4. Nonye Modie

#### Aims and Objectives

1. To support the less privileged children in our society in grooming future leaders for our society
2. To create and establish vocational centres to support women and the less privileged children in our society
3. To help in the provision of basic social amenities for women and the less privileged children in our society
4. To introduce and establish a charity purse for the support of orphan and other less privileged children in our society

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja, within 28 days of this publication.

## ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL TAILORS OF ONDO STATE.

This is to inform the general public that the above named body has applied for registration to the Corporate Affairs Commission under Part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

#### The Trustees are:

1. Pastor Abiodun Joseph Olatunji
2. Mrs. Grace Olaniyan
3. Mr Maunuf Aremu
4. Mrs Fadoke Adesida
5. Elder John Oyeninde

#### Aims and objectives:

1. To cater for the welfare and well being of its members.
2. To improve the standard of tailoring in Ondo State
3. To embark on public enlightenment campaign and sensitisation of the need to dress decently.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Dete Ibikunle Esq

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public of the lost of original Original C of O of a Landed Property at Mararaba, Driver's License, International Passport with No.A00261788, Bank Booklets for the following Banks: Intercontinental, Oceanic, GT Bank, Fin Bank, Aso Savings & Loans all belonging to Ryan Dang, 'F' of Plot 138 Weineke Biggs Close, Utako Abuja. All effort made to trace it proved abortive. If found please return to the above addressed or the nearest police station.

## NYAKO'S AWARENESS MOBILIZATION SCHEME

This is to inform the general public that the above named trustee has applied to corporate affairs commission for registration under part c of companies and allied matters act no. 1 1990.

#### The names of the trustees are:

- |                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Alhassan Muhammad Goni    | Chairman  |
| 2. Bakari Muhammad Yerima    | Member    |
| 3. Umar Abdurrahman          | Member    |
| 4. Marafa Muhammad           | Member    |
| 5. Kawu Usman                | Member    |
| 6. Gambo Muhammad Shallangwa | Member    |
| 7. Rabiu Audu                | Member    |
| 8. Mustapha Khaleel          | Member    |
| 9. Saqiu Usman Ahmed         | Member    |
| 10. Abubakar Abbo            | Secretary |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To create awareness for the need of developing project
2. To mobilized Adamawa youths for the need to stay away from drugs abuse
3. To create room on how Adamawa youths will have enhancement for skill acquiring

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the registrar corporate affairs commission no 420 Tigris crescents off Aguiyi Ironsi Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight days from the date of this publication.

Signed: Secretary

## ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED CONTRACTORS IN KADUNA STATE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matter Act 1990.

#### The Trustees are:

- |                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Ah. Samaha Sarki Gandu      | - Chairman  |
| 2. Mai. Dalhatu Abubakar       | - Secretary |
| 3. Major Bityaminu M. Mohammed | - Member    |
| 4. Chief Chrs Ikuchukwu        | - Member    |
| 5. Mr. M. J. Suleman           | - Member    |
| 6. Hajija Maryam Yahaya        | - Member    |
| 7. Ahaji Bawa Musa Mamman      | - Member    |

#### Aims and Objectives:

1. To bring the various contractors in Kaduna state in order to foster unity, peace progress and rapid development in Kaduna state
2. To provide an effective channel of communication between the community of contractors in Kaduna state and the government at all levels
3. To protect the individual and collective interest of all contractors in Kaduna state

Any objective(s) to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission plot 565 Ndola Square, off Michael Okpara Street, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 198 Garki FCT, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: A.A. Sadiq Marafa Esq., Solicitor

## MARAYU DA ZAWARAWA FOUNDATION OF NIGERIA

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, 1990.

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE

- |                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Mohammed Auwalu Maigida Rano | Chairman  |
| 2. Sha'ibu Mamza                |           |
| 3. Alh. Ado Usman Dodo          | Secretary |
| 4. Mohammed Sani Gwarzo         |           |
| 5. Alh. Mohammed Garba Dorayi   |           |
| 6. Naziru Sabo Ibrahim          |           |
| 7. Isma'ila Baba Rano           |           |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

It's intended to locate and register orphans and widows from all over the nation, source and distribute aids and assistance to them for their education and livelihood. Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.m.b 198, Maitama Abuja Within 28 Day Of This Publication.

SIGNED: Mohammed Auwalu Maigida Rano

## ABDULLAHI BAYERO FOUNDATION

Notice is hereby given to the general public that above named Association is applying registration under part 'C' of the Companies And Allied Matters Act 1990

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE

- |                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Ambassador Ado Sa'usi  | 2. Ahaji Tijani Hashim           |
| 3. Ahaji Ibrahim El-yakub | 4. Ahaji Idris Bayero            |
| 5. Ahaji Salisu Bayero    | 6. Ahaji Sarki Abdulhadi Ibrahim |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a forum for social interaction and co-operation among the members
2. To promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of kano state and the nation.
3. To ensure equal treatment in social, economic and commercial matters in kano state.
4. To promote unity, solidarity, co-operation and religious tolerance for permanent peace and tranquility in kano state and the nation.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs commission plot 420, Tigris crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed By: Shu'ibu Muz'zu Esq. SHUA'IBU MU'ZU & ASSOCIATES Solicitors plot 5, Zoo Road, Kano. Mobile: 07031133575, 08029765385

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly MRS USMAN LAMI RAMOTU, now wish to be addressed as MISS ABDULLAHI LAMI. All former documents remain valid. Federal Poly Idah and general public to take note.

I formerly Known as ZAINAB ALIYU GARBA now wish to be called MRS ZAINAB ALIYU MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly Known as MISS NDUKWU CORDELIA ADAUGO now wish to be called MRS IDENYI CORDELIA ADAUGO. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly GAMBO HUSSAIN AHMAD now wish to be called MOHAMMAD ABDULLAHI MOHAMMAD HADEJIA. GUNDUMA HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD JIGAWA STATE. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I formerly Known as BUNMI VICTORIA ILORI now wish to be addressed as BUNMI VICTORIA ALEX.. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly Known as MISS NDUKWU CORDELIA ADAUGO now wish to be called MRS IDENYI CORDELIA ADAUGO. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS DAISY UJIRI ONAKPOYA, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS DAISY UJIRI BROWN. All former documents remain valid. FINBANK Plc and the general public take note.

I, formerly RUBY HABIBAT SADIQ now wish to be known as MRS RUBY JOHN OJIMA OGBAJE. All former documents remain valid. FCT Water Board and general public take note.

I, JOHN MOSES OGBAJE now wish to be also known as JOHN OJIMA MOSES OGBAJE. All documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS NWORAH ROSELINE IFEYINWA, now wish to be known as MRS WAHIBERG ROSELINE IFEYINWA. Former documents remain valid.

I, MISS ANYAWE JANE JOSEPH, now wish to be called MRS ANYAWE JANE NAFINJI. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS CHINENYE SHERRAH NNEJI now wish to be known as MRS CHINENYE SHERRAH OKOYE. All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

I, formerly known as OHANAGA GENEVIVE AKUDO now wish to be known as MRS AMAZIRO GENEVIVE AKUDO. All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ESTHER OZICHI ONUMOH now wish to be known as MRS BENJAMIN OVAIOZA ESTHER. School of Health Idak and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as COMFORT ANYUABAGA henceforth wish to be known as MRS COMFORT ANYUABAGA MUSA. Former documents remain valid.

ALWAYS ADVERTISE WITH DAILY TRUST

## 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 desirable to isolate oneself at times of tribulation

By Sheikh Muhammed Salih Al-Munajjid

THIS hadeeth was narrated by al-Bukhaari in a number of places in his Saheeh, such as (7088) Kitaab al-Fitan, where he narrated that Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri (may Allah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Soon there will come a time when the best wealth a Muslim will have will be sheep which he will take to the mountaintops and places where rain falls, fleeing for the sake of his religious commitment from tribulation." And Muslim narrated a similar hadeeth in his Saheeh (1888), also from Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri (may Allah be pleased with him), which says that a man came to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) and said, "Which of the people is best?" He said, "A man who strives in jihad for the sake of Allah with his wealth and his self." He asked, "Then who?" He said, "A believer in a mountain pass who worships Allaah and leaves the people alone."

The word sha'af [in the second hadeeth] means a mountaintop. The word shi'b [in the first hadeeth] means a gap or pass between two mountains. Al-Nawawi said in Sharh Saheeh Muslim (13/34): "This does not mean the mountain pass itself, rather what is referred to is being alone and isolating oneself. A mountain pass is mentioned as a metaphor because it is usually devoid of people."

The hadeeth indicates that it is preferable to isolate oneself from people and

not mix with them in cases where a Muslim fears for his religious commitment because of widespread tribulation, where if he mixes with people he cannot be sure that his religious commitment will be safe and that he will not apostatize or deviate from the truth, or fall into shirk or abandon the basic principles and pillars of Islam, and so on.

Al-Haafiz ibn Hajar said in al-Fath (13/42): "This report indicates that isolation is preferable in the case of one who fears for his religious commitment."

Al-Sindi said in his footnotes on al-Nasaa'i (8/124): "This shows that it is permissible to isolate oneself, indeed it is preferable at times of tribulation."

In the second hadeeth quoted above the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) mentioned the believer who isolates himself second in virtue only to the mujaahid who fights for the sake of Allah. Al-Haafiz said in al-Fath (6/6): "The believer who isolates himself is second in virtue only to the mujaahid because the one who mixes with people cannot guarantee that he will not commit sin, and these sins may be greater in number than the hasanaat (rewards for good deeds) that he gains as a result of mixing with people. But being isolated is regarded as preferable only in cases where there is tribulation."

As for isolating oneself at times other than times of tribulation when a Muslim fears for his religious commitment, the scholars differed in their views in this case. The majority said that mixing with people

is preferable to withdrawing from them, and they quoted several texts as evidence for that, including the following:

1 - That this was the way of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the Prophets before him (peace be upon them), and the majority of the Sahaabah (may Allah be pleased with them) (Sharh Muslim by al-Nawawi, 13/34).

2 - The report narrated by al-Tirmidhi (5207) and Ibn Maajah (4032), which says that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "The believer who mixes with people and patiently bears their annoyance will have a greater reward than the believer who does not mix with people and patiently bears their annoyance." (Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Tirmidhi, 2035).

Al-Sindi said in his footnote on Ibn Maajah (2/493): "This hadeeth indicates that the one who is patient and mixes with people is better than the one who isolates himself."

Al-San'aani said in Subul al-Salaam (4/416): "This indicates that mixing with people whereby one enjoins what is good and forbids what is evil and deals with them in a good manner is better than keeping away from them and not putting up with mixing with them."

3 - The report narrated by al-Tirmidhi (1574) from Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: "One of the Companions of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon

him) came upon a mountain pass where there was a small spring of fresh water, which delighted him because it was so good. He said, 'What if I were to withdraw from the people and settle in this mountain pass? But I will not do it until I seek the permission of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).' So he mentioned it to the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who said: 'Do not do that, for if any one of you remains striving for the sake of Allah, it is better than praying in His House for seventy years. Do you not want Allah to forgive you and admit you to Paradise? Fight in Allah's cause. He who fights in Allah's cause as long as the time between two milkings of a she-camel will be assured of Paradise.'" (It was classed as hasan by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Tirmidhi, 1348).

The benefits that the Muslim gains by mixing with people for legitimate shar'i purposes, include establishing the rituals of Islam, increasing the number of the Muslims, spreading all kinds of goodness among them by helping and aiding them etc., attending Jumu'ah (Friday) prayers and prayers in congregation, attending funerals, visiting the sick, attending dhikr circles, etc. (Fath al-Baari, 13/43); Sharh Muslim by al-Nawawi, 13/34).

And Allah is the Source of strength. And Allah knows best. May Allah bless our Prophet Muhammad and all his family and companions, and grant them peace.

## Muslim group denounces arrest of Nigerians in Malaysia

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Nigerian Muslims Network (NMN) has condemned the arrest of two Nigerians undergoing their PhD programme in Malaysia by that country's security agencies.

The group said "the arrested persons are known for their calmness and peaceful conducts and have been living in Malaysia since 2006 contrary to media reports that they were new in the country."

A statement jointly signed by Ibrahim Taiwo Abdulkadir and Muhammad Salihu, chairman and secretary of NMN Publicity and Current Affairs Committee called on the Malaysian government to follow the rule of law in releasing the two detainees and other seven Muslims arrested, wondering why no case has been established against them.

"The Malaysian Police has denied the Nigerian High Commission in Malaysia the access to the two students despite many attempts. The Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of the case rather visited the office of the Nigerian High Commission in Malaysia to brief the mission about the matter. Interestingly, some Malaysian human right groups/NGOs have been allowed



**DR. Abdulateef Adegbite**  
Secretary General Supreme  
Council for Islamic Affairs in  
Nigeria

access to have discussion with all the detainees," it said.

The group said that the arrests which were major news headline worldwide came on the heels of agitation by human rights activists and lawyers within Malaysia and beyond to abolish the draconian law called the Internal Security Act (ISA).

It said, "We in the NMN believe in peace and rule of law. The authorities in Malaysia have fed the whole world with false information regarding the activities of those arrested. The media, on its part, has continuously assumed the position of a launching pad of Islamophobia. The detainees should be released without further delay."

## ASK YOUR IMAM

**I love my husband very much and he loves me, but I am quick-tempered and sharp-tongued (I am harsh with my husband and his family) because he is too busy to pay any attention to me, my daughter and the house altogether. My question is: how can I change? I do not want to make him angry, I want to respect him. Help me. I am quick-tempered, and I want a solution that will give me relief and let me live happily with my husband and daughter. Please note that I do not feel that I am married or am a wife or the mother of a daughter and a housewife who is running a home. There is a big vacuum in my life.**

What you have mentioned about your love for your husband, which is the basis for married life, is a good start and a solid foundation for solving the differences that exist between you, in sha Allah.

Show your husband this love in real terms, by showing you care about him. Change your attitude towards him, change yourself, your appearance, your house, make a real change.

Perhaps he is bored of routine and the rhythm of daily life in which there is no change.

Try to attract his attention to you, your house and your daughter in all the ways that you can, but beware of complaining or showing that you are unhappy about some of his private affairs because that would be an obstacle to reaching an understanding between you.

Adopt the etiquette of Islam and beware of being hot-tempered, because the Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) advised against getting angry.

Al-Bukhaari (6116) narrated from Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that a man said to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him): Advise me. He said: "Do not get angry." He repeated it several times, saying: "Do not get angry."

We are also enjoined to guard our tongues. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said when he was advising Mu'aadh (may Allaah be pleased with him): "Restrain this," i.e., your tongue. I said: O Messenger of Allah, will we be called to account for what we say? He said: "May your mother be bereft of you, O Mu'aadh! Will people be thrown in Hell on their faces or their noses for anything other than the harvest of their tongues?" Narrated by al-Tirmidhi; classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in Silsilat al-Ahaadeeth al-Saheehah (772).

What you have mentioned about your being hot-tempered and sharp-tongued are things that lead to destruction and destroy the basis of family life.

Perhaps these are the reason why your husband has turned away from you. Perhaps he finds with this family and other people the respect and good manners that he does not find with you, and that has made him resort to what he is doing.

So try to change the way you behave and control yourself. Turn to Allah and pray that you and he be guided and develop a good attitude and proper etiquette, for Allah is Ever-Near, Most Responsive.

I ask Allah, may He be glorified and exalted, to bring you together and may He help you and you to do that which He loves and which pleases Him. And Allaah knows best.

# SPORT

FIFA probe  
ex-Pillars  
coach's claims

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**NIGERIA'S** befuddled football administrators cannot distinguish between a world class coach and a foreign coach as the original list of five coaches has insidiously expanded to 10 over the past few days.

## Toppmoeller joins Nigeria jostle

By Ismaila Lere, with Agency reports

FORMER Germany international, Klaus Toppmoeller who last managed Georgia between 2006 and 2008 has become the latest coach to signify interest in the Super Eagles coaching job.

Toppmoeller, who once coached Austin Jay Jay Okocha at Eintracht Frankfurt, could be among the coaches expected to be in London on Thursday next week to meet with officials of the Nigeria Football Federation.

A certain Allele Celestine, a Nigerian based in Germany who said he's acting on behalf of the coach disclosed to Complete Sports that the interest of Toppmoeller is making the round in Germany.

"German coach, Klaus Toppmoeller is available and willing to start work immediately as the coach of the Nigeria national team," he disclosed.

Alele further disclosed that the former Georgia boss can be in Nigeria as early as this weekend if

he gets the NFF's greenlight.

Meanwhile, former England manager Sven Goran Eriksson's bid to become the next Eagles coach has been turned down after his application was rejected by the Nigeria Football Federation, NFF.

Eriksson, a Swede, was England's first foreign manager between 2001 and 2006. He led the Three Lions to two World Cup finals but was asked to step down after the 2006 World Cup in June. He later took up a manage-

rial duty at Manchester City. Presently, he is Director of Football at Notts County.

Goran Eriksson had reportedly turned in his papers to the consultant appointed by the Glass House to shop for a World Cup coach for the Super Eagles.

It was further learnt that the consultant in turn informed the Nigerian authorities of Eriksson's intentions but the Federation was not favourably disposed to have him listed for the job.

"The consultant informed us

(NFF) that Eriksson was interested in the Super Eagles manager's job", an NFF source informed Complete Sport on Wednesday.

"It is part of our agreement with the consultant that he must inform us of whoever wants to apply for the job.

"And in view of this understanding, he told us about Eriksson and that he has turned in his application.

"But his candidature was turned down by the NFF," the source said.

## Only long time plan can save our football –Amunike

By Ibraheem A. Fatai

RECRUITING a competent foreign technical adviser to handle the Super Eagles is not the best solution for Nigerian football.

Making this assertion yesterday in a telephone chat with Trustsports, former Eagles left winger, Emmanuel Amunike, said there has to be a long time plan put in place by the NFF before Nigerian football can reclaim its lost glory.

Bemoaning the downhill slide of football in Nigeria in recent times, Amunike attributed the problem to shortsightedness of the administrators, who, according to him, always look for immediate success without thinking of the future.

"Hiring the best coach in the world may not put an end to the problems of our football in Nigeria. For instance some people are saying we should hire the Egyptian coach on short time basis, which will see him

lead our team to South Africa. What happens after the World Cup? The coach goes back to his country and we start another hunt for a coach all over again. Is that the way to make football grow?"

"There is a need for us to look beyond the next World cup, if we want the best for our football. Nigeria does not need a coach that will spend just four months with our team and disappear thereafter. If we are very serious about the future of our

football, we should look for a coach who has a long time plan to develop our football from the grassroots like Clemens Westerhof did.

"Any coach that is ready to work here in Nigeria and watch our local league with a view to discovering future talents should be the one to be employed by the NFF. Great football countries always make long time plans and that is why they are better than us," former Barcelona winger said.

Amunike maintained that some of the players donning the white-green jerseys of the Super Eagles are either too ageing or out of form to be invited for major tournaments, admitting that sticking to such players for long will continue to be counterproductive.

"If we are very serious with ourselves, it is very clear that the time between now and June is too short for any foreign coach to perform wonders in South Africa," he declared.

## NFF invites PTF to screen coaches

THE panel that will interview short listed coaches for the job of technical adviser to the Super Eagles will include at least two members of the Presidential Task Force, NFF technical committee chairman, Chief Taiwo Ogunjobi, has said.

He stated in a chat with *brilafm.net* that, since the PTF will pick the bills for the incoming technical adviser, it is only constructive that they should play a part of the screening process and offer advice when necessary.

"Now that we want to interview would-be technical advisers, we want everybody to partake.

"We are even going to invite one or two people from the PTF to be part of us, the technical committee, which I am going to head.

"We want them to be part of the committee that will interview the would-be technical advisers.

"PTF have to be part of it because government is going to fund the technical adviser that we are bringing. So, we want them to be part of it. They need to be there to listen and advise," Ogunjobi submitted.

## Elephant Girls retain 2009 squad

AHEAD of the first phase of the 2010 Nigerian Female Basketball Premier League in Kano, defending champions, First Bank Basketball Club's coach, Adewunmi Aderemi said he is not changing his team from last season.

The Elephant Girls handler said in an interview with *brilafm.net* that he will replace only two of his outgoing players, who are going on transfers to other clubs.

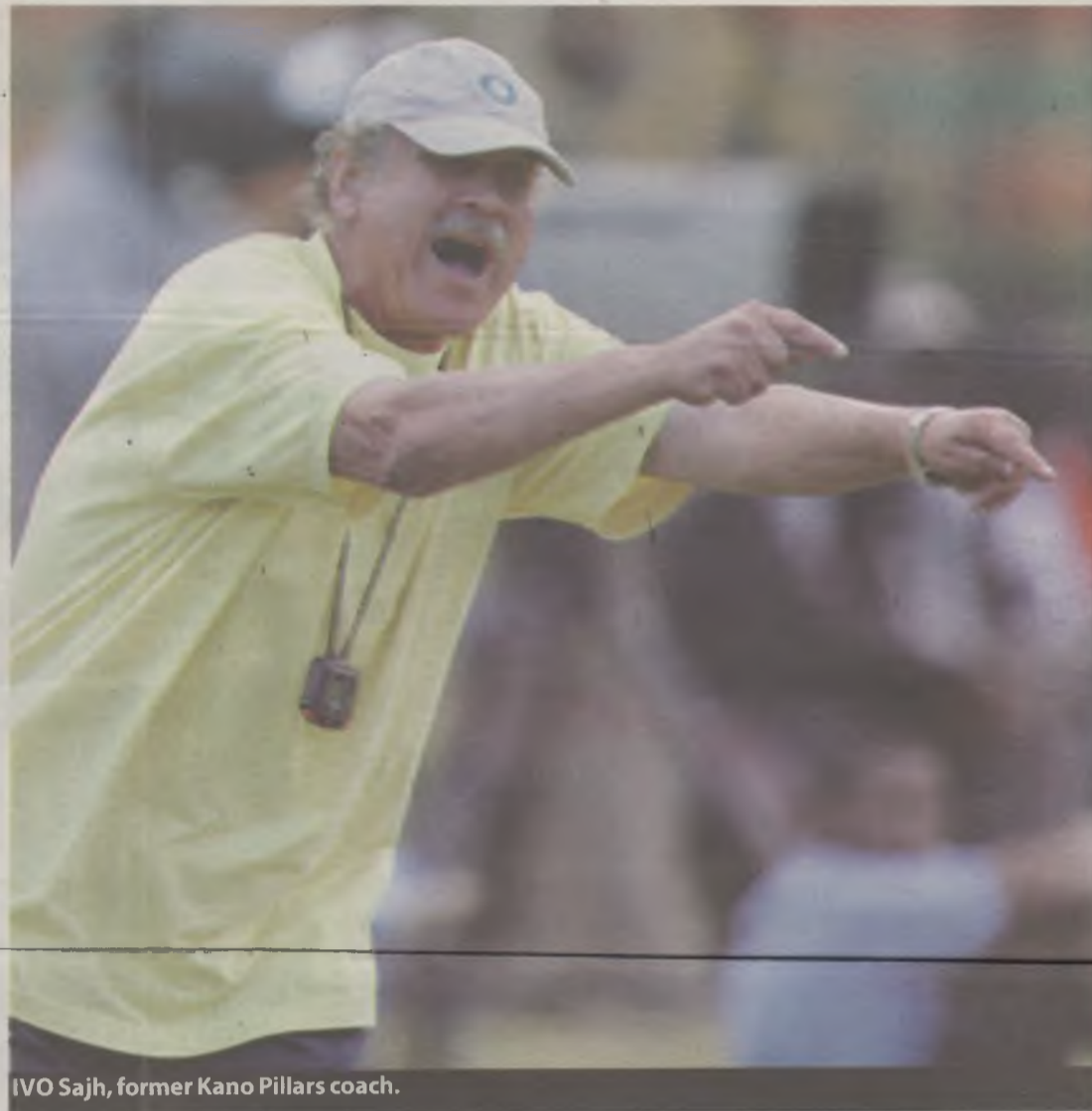
"You don't change a winning team in any organization. You don't change a winning team. We have a team that has been winning the league for so many years.

"That same team came and won the African club championship. If we change anyone in the team, it will mean we don't know what we are doing," her stated.

Aderemi went on to boast that The Elephant Girls have the best crop of Nigerian female basketballers of the moment and believes they can make the best with the same set of players this term.

"As far as I am concerned, the ones that won the league and the African championship are the best we have in the country right now. So, we decided to retain them.

"We are only replacing two players that will not be in the team this year," he expatiated.



Ivo Sajh, former Kano Pillars coach.

# FIFA probe ex-Pillars coach's claims

WORLD soccer governing body FIFA have contacted the Nigeria Football Federation over the compensation claim presented by former Kano Pillars coach, Ivo Sajh, against the Nigerian club over a breach of contract.

"FIFA have taken up my case with the NFF," said Slovenian coach Sajh, who is demanding for about \$87,000 being outstanding payments from Pillars.

"I have received a copy of a letter dated January 15, which asked the NFF to get Pillars own side of the story."

Late last year, Sajh dragged Kano Pillars to FIFA, over a breach of contract while demand-

ing a full compensation as stipulated in his one-year contract with the Nigerian club.

Sajh's claim is made up of his salaries till June 2010, when his contract was to expire, as well as the balance of his signing-on fee, other allowances and expenses.

The 56-year-old coach has argued that he did not resign his job after he was suspended until further notice in early October for what the club management termed as "unguarded and uncomplimentary utterances."

Pillars lifted the suspension on the coach in November, but by then he had returned to his

native land because he said he did not wish to run foul of Nigerian law as his visa had expired and he did not have work and residence permits.

"I left Nigeria because I was without feeding, work and residence permits, without salaries and my visa had not been extended. It was impossible to stay in Kano. I was in a dangerous situation where at any time immigration police could arrest me and send me to prison," Sajh explained.

The Slovenian coach led Pillars to the semi-final of the 2009 CAF Champions League in only their debut appearance.

## NPL election: 15 candidates obtain forms

By Orkula Shaagee

AS the Nigeria Premier League (NPL) Electoral Committee closes its doors against the submission of nomination forms for the coming election into the Board of the league governing body today, fifteen candidates as at yesterday obtained forms to contest in the coming election fixed for 3rd March 2010 in Abuja.

Trustsports gathered from the Electoral Committee secretariat yesterday that out of the fifteen candidates, four are vying for the chairmanship position of the board.

The candidates include

incumbent Chairman Chief Oyuki Jackson Obaseki, Chairman of the Bayelsa United FC Chief Victor Rumson Baribote, SA to the Ondo State Governor on Sports Akin Akinbobola and former NRA President Dr. Sam Sam Jaja.

Current NPL Vice Chairman Alhaji Shehu Garba Gusau is the only candidate seeking election for the Vice Chairman position, while Davidson Owumi and Kaduna State Commissioner for Inter-Governmental Affairs Abdullaziz Mohammed are running for the position of Chairman of Chairmen.

Also seeking re-election into

the board are the Chairman of Mighty Jets FC, Mallam Suleiman Kwande, former Commissioner of sports Enugu State, Barrister Ray Nnaji, former Wikki Tourist of Bauchi Chairman Alhaji Abdullahi Danbaba and Mr. Joe Amene.

Other candidates for the board position include; former member of the Interim Management Committee of the NPL, Elder Bode Oyewole, Vice Chairman Kwara United FC, Alhaji Abdulrasaq Owolabi, General Coordinator Gombe United and SA to Gombe State Governor on Sports, Mallam Farouk Yarma Adamu, and Retired Brigadier General Emma Okaro.

## NFF invites 34 to Eagles Team B

THE Nigeria Football Federation has called to camp 34 players on the domestic scene to fight for shirts in the Super Eagles Team B that will confront Niger Republic in an African Nations Championship qualifier next month.

There are goalkeepers Austin Brown (Heartland FC), Bassey Akpan (Bayelsa United), Sunday Onuminya (Zamfara United) and Segun Oluwaniyi (3SC), defenders Chibuzor Okonkwo (Bayelsa United), James Ekosa, Suswan Terna (Lobi Stars), Cletus James (OUK), Mutiu Adegoke (Dolphin), Tijani Adamu (Gombe United), Obadaki Halilu (Rancher Bees), Azubuike Akwekwu (Warri Wolves), Linus Adams (Kaduna United), Ike ThankGod (Heartland FC), midfielders Thank-God Ahamefule, Joan Aodogu (Sharks), Aliu Abdulrazak (Tornadoes), Alhaji Kwairanga (Gombe), James Moses (Sunshine), Gabriel Reuben (Eny-

Ejike Uzoenyi (Rangers), Fengor Ogude (Warri Wolves), Lawan Mohamed (Rancher Bees), Isiaka Olawale (Kwara United) and Ahmed Musa (Kano Pillars), and strikers Olaitan Otubanjo (U-17), Osamudiamen Idehen (Enyimba), Sheriff Isa (Kano Pillars), Babale Ibrahim (Sunshine), Kabiru Sanusi (Kwara United), Uche Nwafor (3SC), Kayode Abiodun (Gateway) and Terry Envoh (U-17).

The Super Eagles Team B will play an African Nations Championship qualifier against their Niger counterparts in Niamey on March 14, with the return leg coming up in Nigeria on March 27.

The second edition of the African Nations Championship finals will hold in Sudan next year. Caf instituted the competition for wholly footballers playing in their country's domestic league, and the inaugural edition took place in Cote d'Ivoire last year with DR Congo emerging winners.

## Nigeria to finalise Durban training camp

FOLLOWING up on their aim to make an impressive appearance at the World Cup in June, officials of the Nigeria Football Federation are expected to conclude plans for their training site on Friday in Durban, South Africa.

"We will be in Durban to finalise on where we will be camping during the World Cup in June. We could not do so the first time we visited Durban because the hotel was still under construction," NFF official Taiwo Ogunjobi told MTNFootball.com.

"This hotel is approved by FIFA and once we inspect the facility and it meets our needs, we will then sign an agreement with the FIFA representatives, who are already there waiting for us."

# Silent Woods gets tonight deadline for return

TIGER Woods has still not indicated to the PGA Tour that he will be returning to golf for next week's WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship in Tucson.

The world number one, not seen in public since crashing his plane in the early hours of November 27, has until 10pm on Friday (British time) to either commit to the event or continue his self-imposed exile.

Woods has been on an indefinite break after lurid stories about his private life hit the headlines and he was reported to have attended a sex clinic in Mississippi as part of his bid to save his marriage.

Not even his former neighbour and close friend Mark

Not even his former neighbour and close friend Mark O'Meara has spoken to him since the shocking scandal erupted

O'Meara has spoken to him since the shocking scandal erupted and there have been no hints from his management company about a date for his comeback.

Accenture are one of the sponsors who have dropped Woods from their advertising and it would surprise most people if he chooses their tournament.

Much more likely, it seems, is either the CA Championship in Miami on March 11-14 or Arnold Palmer Invitational in Orlando two weeks later, although the latest rumours are of him possibly appearing first at the unofficial and private - Tavistock Cup match in his home course Isleworth in Florida on March 22-23.

That is an annual made-for-television affair between the star-studded club members of Isle-



KEEPING quiet... World Match play organisers have set Tiger Woods until Friday to decide if he will compete at their event.

Reuters

worth and Lake Nona and Woods has played every year since the inaugural event in 2004.

All this assumes that the father-of-two, no longer revered the way he was

All this assumes that the father-of-two, no longer revered the way he was and almost certain to have a rough ride from some fans on his Tour return, wants to play The Masters in April and because of that wants to have at least one tournament under his belt going to Augusta.

That is just guesswork and if Woods is still absent come the first major of the year then the odds on a whole season without him will drop dramatically.



DECISION time... Tiger Woods is expected to return next month - not next week.

## Giggs blow as Man. U star fractured his arm

MANCHESTER United winger Ryan Giggs fractured his right arm in last night's Barclays Premier League game at Aston Villa and will be out for four weeks.

Giggs will be out of action for four weeks after suffering the injury in a collision with Steve Sidwell during the second half of the 1-1 draw and left Villa Park with his arm in a sling.

Manager Sir Alex Ferguson

revealed the 36-year-old had been sent for an x-ray and hoped the news would be good.

Instead, the Old Trafford outfit have confirmed Giggs will be sidelined for a period that includes both legs of the Champions League last-16 clash with AC Milan plus the Carling Cup final with Villa at Wembley on February 28.

Apart from those high-profile

fixtures, Giggs will also miss Premier League games against Everton, West Ham and Wolves.

It is a huge blow to Ferguson, given Giggs' vast experience that includes 11 title-winning campaigns.

Arguably the winger has been performing to a more consistent level than ever before and has been rewarded for his longevity with a growing number of individual

awards, including the BBC sports personality of the year.

The injury casts a dark cloud over what had been a fine performance from United.

The one casualty was Portugal wide man, Nani, who was red-carded for a foul on Stiliyan Petrov that forced his team to play the final hour with only 10 men and also means the player will miss the Carling Cup final as part of a

## Leonardo: Inter draw gives Milan hope

AC Milan coach Leonardo said on Thursday that his side still has a chance of winning the Serie A title following Inter Milan's 1-1 draw at Parma on Wednesday.

Milan host Udinese on Friday night in a ground-breaking move in the Italian football calendar, with the match having been brought forward to give Milan an extra day's rest ahead of their Champions League clash against Manchester United next week.

In the league they sit 11 points behind leaders Inter but with a game in hand and the Brazilian coach believes those dropped points in Parma have given his team a boost.

"We can't deny that Inter's draw at Parma last night has given us the chance to close the gap a bit," he said.

"Right now we're coming into an important period in the season. We're coming into it off the back of a defeat and two draws (in the league) and we have to gain points for the road ahead."

Milan picked up just two points out of a possible nine in their last three matches and saw Inter's lead go from six to 11 points.

AC Milan also dropped to third as AS Roma, who have not been beaten in 19 matches in all competitions, replaced them in second.

"We're also concerned about Roma. The giallorossi are on a great run of results," added the Brazilian.

"However, every team has had a bad patch during the season, even Roma did when they were getting results that put them in a (lowly) position in the table that they didn't deserve.

"Now it's up to us to rediscover a rich vein of form and then the results will follow"

It really is a case of now or never for Milan whose whole season could rest on their next few matches.

Having been dumped out of the Coppa Italia by Udinese last month -- their third defeat in a row to the northerners -- they now have only the title and the Champions League to play for.

"This is a crucial period of our season, both in the league where we have to achieve a certain position, and in the Champions League which is now down to the business end," said Leonardo.

"Maybe this is the most important month of our season but I always take each day as it comes.

"Right now we have to think about tomorrow and the match against Udinese and to leave aside everything else."

Another worry facing Leonardo is his star Brazilian striker Ronaldinho and how the former Barcelona player will react to having been left out of Brazil coach Dunga's latest international squad, which seems to have put his very participation at June's World Cup in South Africa in jeopardy.

## GUEST COLUMNIST

### By Casmir Boluwatife

# Comparing Reps, Senate's positions on acting presidency

**O**n February 9, 2010, the two chambers of the National Assembly passed a much expected resolution to empower Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to become the Acting President of Nigeria, following the absence from the country of President Umaru Yar'Adua for over 70 days and looming constitutional and political crises.

The imminent danger to the ship of the state was effectively averted by the House of Representatives and the Senate, following the inability to activate section 145 of the 1999 constitution by the president before he travelled out to Saudi Arabia on medical ground. But in arriving at their separate resolutions, the two chambers took different route, while agreeing that the destination they sought is in the national interest, peace, stability and good governance of Nigeria.

It will be recalled that in earlier measure, the senate had passed a resolution requiring the president to transmit a letter notifying the National Assembly of his illness based on section 145 of the constitution. The House of Representatives had previously rejected a similar motion on the ground that the Vice President could act as President based on existing provisions of the constitution and extant court judgments and he has so been acting. It however passed another resolution to send a delegation to visit President Yar'Adua in Saudi Arabia as a goodwill gesture as well as "discuss issues of national importance", including details of the latest developments.

Now that the two chambers have arrived at the same destination, obviously a lot of matters may arise on the different routes used. While the Senate took an adapted mode of transmission in the President's recent *BBC Hausa Service* interview to be equal to compliance with section 145, the House of Representatives took the position of judicial interpretation of section 5(1) and section 148(1) to arrive at the same conclusion. Whether either or indeed both methods, is a question that is may still be tested in the courts in days and weeks to come.

As it is, a raging debate is already underway on whether the position of the Senate is appropriate under the circumstance. Given that the issue is political to save the country from a possible truncation of its democracy, a lot could be overlooked in terms of constitution and legalities. But that is why one is in support of the alternative route taken by the House of Representatives, which hinged its own resolution on sections of the constitution and judicial interpretation on it. As it is, there are already indications that the senate's reliance on BBC report as meaning transmission according to section 145 is questionable and debatable, with some legal luminaries already indicating interest in challenging the resolution for its legalities or otherwise.

Such probability could have been avoided if the Senate had relied on judicial interpretation, like the House of Representatives did. The House, whose resolution to confer power on the Vice President to become Acting President was hotly debated in two executive (close) sessions within a sitting lasting three hours, hinged the resolution that followed on section 5 (1) and 148(1) of the 1999 con-

stitution, which Justice Daniel Abutu of the Federal High Court interpreted as follows "It is hereby declared that by the provisions of section 5(1) and 148(1) of the 1999 constitution, the Vice President can, on the basis of assignment or delegation by the President to him of executive powers of the President under the constitution, exercise the executive powers vested in the President under the constitution in the absence of the President" adding that "It is further declared that the Vice President can on the basis of the delegation or assignment to him by the President of the President executive powers under the constitution, lawfully discharge any or all of the functions of the President in the interest of peace, order, and good governance, pending when the President returns to assume duty."

It is noteworthy that the House of Representatives in its resolution actually included the issue of "peace, order and good governance" as rationale in addition to the constitution and judicial interpretation as stated above as informing and guiding its stand. And, as the Speaker of the House, Dimeji Bankole has always stressed, sticking to the rule of law, constitution and judicial pronouncement in navigating the political minefield that the nation found itself, should be an overriding requirement.

So while the two chambers of the National Assembly did the right thing to resolve the political logjam that threatened the stability of the country, the stand of the House appears to be the more realistic and enduring one; and it is not only based on the constitution, but on judicial interpretation of the constitution as well. And the resolution was arrived at democratically as the matter was put it to a vote even after agreement had been reached by the whole House during two executive sessions to deliberate on the matter. As it is, all are agreed that the nation must move forward in the absence of the president for who everyone is wishing quick recovery from his illness, while effort is concentrated in amending the constitution. The House of Representatives has already commenced this

process with a bill for an amendment of Section 145, introduced by Ismaila Kawu (ANPP, Kano) and 33 others. The bill which was given accelerated hearing because of the situation we found ourselves in, has passed second reading and was committed for committee will ensure that the Vice president or deputy governors of states will automatically assume office as acting president or acting governor after 21 days of absence of the substantive officeholders. The House committee handling the bill was given three weeks to submit its report for plenary to pass the bill which is intended to form part of the constitution review this year. The Yar'adua saga has opened a lot of gray areas of the constitution that now have to be addressed. Faced with similar situation some years, or centuries, down the road in the development of our country, our leaders would have learnt how to deal with it.

*Boluwatife contributed this piece from 32 Iwo Road, Ibadan.*

(Editor's note: Adamu Adamu is on short break.)

## SPORTS REPORT



ISSA Hayatou CAF President

### CAF postpones 2009 Africa Footballer of the Year Award

**T**he African Footballer of the Year 2009 awards night\* has been moved to Accra, Ghana and rescheduled to take place on Thursday, March 11, 2010.

According to Cafonline the change of date is also to ensure the attendance of all nominees pencilled in for honours. It will be the second time the annual event has been staged

in the Ghanaian capital, after the previous occasion in March 2007. It was initially scheduled for the Senegalese capital Dakar.

The ceremony, dubbed Glo-CAF 2009 Awards Night is being contested by African superstars - Ivorian striker Didier Drogba, compatriot Yaya Toure, Ghana's Michael Essien, Samuel Eto'o of Cameroon and Malian Seydou Keita.



KOBE Bryant

### Kobe-less Lakers end Jazz's streak

**R**est up, Kobe. The Lakers are faring just fine without you. Kobe Bryant sat out his third straight game and his teammates responded with their third consecutive win without their injured superstar, beating Utah 96-81 Wednesday night and ending the Jazz's nine-game winning streak.

"This is a good team no matter who's in or who's out of the lineup," said Lamar Odom, who had 25 points and 11 rebounds for Los Angeles. "We've got a lot of guys that can play."

Pau Gasol had 22 points, 19 rebounds and five blocks and Jordan Farmar added 18 points for Los Angeles, which enters the All-Star break with the best record in the Western Conference at 41-13. The Lakers beat the Jazz 96-81.

